

**15 November 2023**

**Agenda Item:4**

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board of the publication of the 2023 Director of Public Health (DPH) Annual Report and seek the commitment of the Board to its recommendations.

#### **Information**

##### **Background**

2. The purpose of the DPH Annual Report is to raise awareness and understanding of local health issues, highlight areas of specific concern, and to make recommendations for change. The content and structure of the Report is decided locally. The 2023 DPH Annual Report focuses on the topic of severe multiple disadvantage (SMD).
3. SMD is a way of describing the lived experience of people whose current circumstances have been strongly shaped by deprivation, trauma, and abuse – often leading to experiences of a combination of homelessness, mental ill-health, domestic abuse and sexual violence, harmful use of drugs and alcohol, and perhaps also contact with the criminal justice system.
4. The aim of the Report is two-fold. Firstly, it is to highlight some of the obstacles and challenges for people with lived experience of SMD, the achievement and courage of people overcoming those, and the hope it holds out to others making a similar journey. Secondly, it is to bring fresh focus to the actions organisations must take to strengthen support for people facing these challenges.
5. A supplementary aim of the Report has been to develop our capacity in co-production. Around Nottinghamshire and in the Public Health division, health, care and other services addressing all kinds of need can be identified which are co-designed with people with lived experience. This results in arrangements which deliver better outcomes and experiences for the people who use them. But establishing this way of working routinely and consistently is a journey along which the Public Health division is still travelling.
6. Therefore, as well as being critical to ensuring its relevance and integrity, co-production of the Report has been an opportunity for the Public Health team to develop capacity in this area.

The willingness of people to give their time, experience and insights have helped on that journey. Thanks is given to all those who have contributed by participating on video, behind the scenes, in focus group discussions, in teasing out and refining key recommendations, or in steering the selection of graphic work for the written document, and in numerous other ways.

7. The Report is presented in the form of a series of videos because this format allows the voices of lived experience to be heard more clearly and some of these will be showcased to Board members at the meeting. The Report will then be published following the Board meeting on the Nottinghamshire County Council website at this link: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dph-annual-report/>.
8. The Report is supplemented by a short document which includes information on the scale of SMD in Nottinghamshire, the co-production approach taken, services in Nottinghamshire for those experiencing SMD, and a glossary of terms. This is provided in **Appendix 1**.
9. Looking at health and wellbeing more generally, the written document also includes an appendix which summarises health and wellbeing in Nottinghamshire, with a brief commentary on excess mortality, health inequalities and trends.

## **Summary of the Recommendations**

10. Working with people with lived experience, five key recommendations have been identified. The overall goal of these is for organisations across Nottinghamshire to sustain positive change for people with lived experience of SMD:
  - a. Organisations in Nottinghamshire with responsibility for housing should collaborate to develop joined up, sustainable, long-term housing solutions which include appropriate support for people with experience of severe multiple disadvantage.
  - b. Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board should sponsor the development of a framework which health and care organisations and other public services in Nottinghamshire can use to implement trauma-informed care.
  - c. Services for people experiencing severe multiple disadvantage should make arrangements to ensure that a person's story is appropriately shared with other services supporting that individual, to enable integrated working.
  - d. Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board should sponsor work to co-produce guidance for partner organisations about the use of strengths-based, recovery-oriented language.
  - e. There are two parts to the final recommendation:
    - i. Nottinghamshire County Council should help to create a network of relevant co-production groups which other services can draw on, so that the influence of people with lived experience of SMD and other issues can be sustained and strengthened across a range of commissioned services.
    - ii. In addition, our partner organisations in the Integrated Care System should ensure that the service plans of directors and their leads address how co-production involving

people with severe multiple disadvantage is embedded in service development planning and is sustainable for those involved.

### **Implementation of the Recommendations**

11. The Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider how it can support and implement the DPH Annual Report recommendations directed at the Board. Board members are also individually encouraged to actively plan how these recommendations can be taken forward within their own organisations. Further guidance on taking forward each recommendation is available, on request, from Public Health.
12. The DPH Annual Report contains recommendations that require engagement from partners wider than those represented at Health and Wellbeing Board. Board members are encouraged to use their influence with such partners to ensure the Report and its recommendations have the widest possible reach.

### **Other Options Considered**

13. To not bring the Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board. This was discounted as this would miss the opportunity for the Report to be formally shared with the Board. In addition, this would not allow Board members the opportunity to agree to contribute towards implementing the recommendations contained within the Report.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

14. Preparation of the DPH Annual Report is a statutory duty of the Director of Public Health. Although this is an independent Report, it is the responsibility of the County Council to publish it. This year's Report aligns with the ambitions and priorities of the Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026, in particular Ambition Four, which is to keep our communities safe and healthy and states: 'We will support people who are marginalised in our communities to ensure they are safe from harm and their needs are met'. This report provides the opportunity for the Health and Wellbeing Board to receive the DPH Annual Report, contribute to implementing the recommendations, promote the Report amongst stakeholders, and reiterate the partnership commitment to action on Ambition Four of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

15. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

16. There are none arising from this report.

### **Implications in relation to the NHS Constitution**

17. In line with the values of the NHS Constitution, the DPH Annual Report highlights work undertaken across organisational boundaries to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of the County's population. The recommendations within the Annual Report are not just for the Council, but for other agencies, including the Integrated Care System (ICS).

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked:

- 1) To receive and comment on the 2023 DPH Annual Report.
- 2) To agree to contribute towards implementing the recommendations contained within the 2023 Report, where applicable. More specifically, this means:
  - a) Health and Wellbeing Board agree to sponsor the development of a framework which health and care organisations and other public services in Nottinghamshire can use to implement trauma-informed care.
  - b) Health and Wellbeing Board agree to sponsor work to co-produce guidance for partner organisations about the use of strengths-based, recovery-oriented language.
- 3) To agree to support the implementation of the recommendations with partners other than those represented at Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 4) To agree to schedule a Health and Wellbeing Board workshop for Nottinghamshire County Council and partners to offer a response to the recommendations identified in the DPH Annual Report.

**Jonathan Gribbin**  
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**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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### **Constitutional Comments (GMG 26/10/23)**

18. This report falls within the remit of the Board for consideration (see Section 7, Part 2, paragraph 14 of the Council's Constitution at page 120).

### **Financial Comments (DG 27/10/23)**

19. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All