

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY – 08 DECEMBER 2015

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

EAST HERTS HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY: UPDATE ON INTEGRATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report

- To update Members on the integration of Public Health across the Council Departments one year on from the October 2014 Health and Wellbeing Panel meeting

RECOMMENDATION FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY :

That:

(A)	the progress of integrating the public health agenda into core services of Community Safety and Health Services, Planning and Development Manager, Environmental and Leisure Services and Housing be supported
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1.0 Background

On October 16 2013 the Council approved its second Public Health Strategy, the East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018. The new strategy combines the public health wellbeing, prevention and protection principles of the first East Herts Public Health Strategy alongside the life course approach linked with the central aspects of environmental, social, health economic and population factors. This strategy seeks to mainstream the public health role within the Council and its partners, recognising the contribution and joint working by different services (both inter-departmental and external). It will enable us to deliver projects and partnership approaches that contribute to the areas highlighted as being of greater importance to East Herts residents, based on statistical data that is available.

1.1 In seeking to mainstreaming public health across the Council, six months on from the adoption of the East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018, the Health and Wellbeing panel

chose the October 2014 meeting to assess the extent of public health integration across different departments. Heads of Service from Community Safety and Health Services, Development Management and Planning, Environmental Services and Housing responded to a series of questions and presented information how their Department was integrating public health into its service delivery. This was demonstrated through overall health and wellbeing strategic focus alongside specific examples of projects or areas that delivered or connected with health and wellbeing influence.

2.0 Report

The information presented in October 2014 has been captured and is presented below in the first column. Heads of Service were asked to reflect on the extent of integration one year ago, and further review any significant public health progression since; including additional strategic development or new areas of contribution. The updated content is reflected in the second column.

East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

- 1 Healthy children starting off well
- 2 Empowering children, young people and adults to achieve their life potential
- 3 Creating health and work together
- 4 Promoting positive health and wellbeing life quality for all
- 5 Healthy places and sustainable communities
- 6 Pro-active health prevention

<p>Integration of Public Health Delivery at October 2014 HWP</p>	<p>Update on Public Health Progress at December 2015</p>
<p>Community Safety and Health Services</p> <p>HWB of EH Residents – essential Council role</p> <p>Licensing Policy > public health capacity and influence high (could be legal challenge involved)</p> <p>Work to help those suffering with Dementia</p> <p>Community Cab Scheme, BHCVS Accreditation and Assessment in progress</p> <p>Private rented and social housing: From approximately 200 enquiries relating to housing around 50% of these related to Damp and Mould.</p>	<p>3 Creating health and work together</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Statement of licensing policy has been completed in a draft format which has raised a significant number of questions by the reviewing Barrister. Document needs to be refined with more work and by reference to empirical data and reviewed again before it will be in fit state to be considered. This is a slow burning project which whilst considered important does not have any priority or resource behind it. <p>4 Promoting positive health and wellbeing life quality for all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New project started in partnership with CrossRoads Care North Herts aimed at supporting individuals with dementia and their families. It works by providing simple adaptations to their home environment to assist in maintaining their independent living and enhance their wellbeing. • The pilot took place but the scheme did not take off. The accreditation was to be conducted by Herts Regional college who were unable to meet the requirements of BHVSC and EHC <p>5 Healthy places and sustainable communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant proportion of housing requests are from social housing tenants. The balance may change due to new legislation on retaliatory eviction. • A new draft Housing and Health Strategy currently being consulted on.

<p>Food Hygiene Infectious Disease control, Private Water supplies.</p> <p>Energy Efficiency, Air Quality and Pollution Need with planning and licensing to establish cumulative (HWB and Evidence) affect.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFG process being reviewed Countywide. • Reactive and proactive investigations / interventions undertaken to ensure risks to the health of the residents and those visiting or working in East Herts is protected. New risk assessments on private water supplies have identified a number of issues which would pose a significant risk to those consuming water, as a result we are working with the supply owners to help them implement the best remedial work. • East Herts Council has contributed to the development of the Hertfordshire Air Quality Strategy. • As a component part of this East Herts will be setting up a Particulate Monitor specifically for particulates less than 2.5 microns in diameter.
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Planning and Development Management

- Guidance on National Policy and Planning Framework presentation – application of HWB influence and adaptation
- H and S cross connections
- Purpose of Service-assessment against HWB Priorities –
- *Measurement Framework for tracking and evaluating Service progression – single example perhaps
- Planning have a fully developed and informed infrastructure District Plan, from this scope/scale of development can be linked to proportionate infrastructure.
- Current situation – many aspects to consider and balance in any series of planning decisions in relation to HWB which interconnect
- Pressure for development
- Sustainability is key
- Decision of Policy makers including Planning inspectorate is to reference range of considerations

5 Healthy Places and Sustainable Communities

- Policy position in planning terms is largely unchanged.
- No new national policy of significance has been released and the NPPF (March 2012) remains in place. The Councils District Plan – which sets out future planning policies – remains in preparation with the intention that the next stage in preparation – with the release of the pre-submission draft – will be reached in Spring 2016.
- In the interim, the development management team continues to deal with development proposals against the background policy objectives of enabling sustainable development, securing appropriate and sufficient infrastructure and seeking to deliver adequate new development to meet housing, employment and other needs of communities. There remains a continuing need however to respond to a range of competing issues and priorities when reaching development management decisions.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need with planning and licensing to establish cumulative (HWB and Evidence) affect. • Option to use policies to inform evidence base around usage rates and applying legislative classes 	
<p>Environmental and Leisure Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleansing/waste collection services (Public protection) • Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Influence • Appropriate standard / attractiveness > increase usage of Parks and enjoyment of green space • 120 parks and open spaces – 45 larger coverage amenities including early years provision • All age provision – directly and indirectly managed • MUGA’s Multi-use-games-areas > informal recreation • Adventure Play capacity • Organised Recreation facilitated also 	<p>2 Empowering children, young people and adults to achieve their life potential</p> <p>Continuing to encourage more people, regardless of age or ability, to become more physically active in the parks and open spaces of East Herts</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing the volunteer lead Health Walks programme. • Creation of signed walking routes e.g. Foxholes and Bishop’s Stortford. • Installing trim trail / fitness style equipment in public open spaces e.g. Grange Paddocks • Continuing to improve the play equipment within the council play areas e.g. more physically challenging play equipment proposed for The Bourne. • Encouraging and supporting leisure provider to develop use of outside areas; e.g. Moonlight Walk and The Relay Run at Hartham and other outreach initiatives with schools and local charities. • Development of 3G all-weather pitches (e.g. Hartham Common) to widen the sports offering to different groups of

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult/Older people – innovation approaches including fitness/trim trail installations • Geocaching/Orienteering • Boot camps • Get Park Active – 2014 saw highest level of customer base interaction across age profile in excess of 1100 families and children, adults attended. • Leisure SLM provision > formal provision in Gym and Swim classes and Exercise referral/cardiac 	<p>residents and customers including; offering football to all ages; walking football initiatives for older people; girl's football development.</p> <p>4 Promoting positive health and wellbeing life quality for all, by:</p> <p>Encouraging more people to access to greenspace, including those with disabilities, to improve both physical and mental health and wellbeing. Improving access to and within the parks and open spaces of East Herts. Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of new gates at The Bourne play site to make access easier. • Completion of the Foxholes circular walking route and creation of a leaflet to promote. • Working with external providers to expand 'Boot Camp' style outdoor exercise. <p>5 Healthy places and sustainable communities</p> <p>Continuing to engage with local communities to promote use of greenspace, and the use of sports and leisure facilities. Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of Groups established for major parks. Recently expanded to develop 'Friends of Group' at Hartham Common and extending the role of Southern Country Park group to include other parks in Bishop's Stortford. • Get Park Active community events run annually in Southern Country Park and Pishiobury Park. • Free swim sessions for disabled users and carers at Hartham and Grange Paddocks leisure centres.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free summer swims to all enrolled on Everyone Active swim school, young and old.• Working with Amateur Swimming Association to develop and provide an effective school swimming programme.• SLM awarded 'ASA Facility Operator of the Year'• Developing new leisure management contract, reviewing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The current provision and sustainability of leisure facilities• Articulation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy through the new leisure management contract.• Undertaking a Non-User Survey of Leisure Facilities to provide an insight into the barriers that exist to participation. <p>Continued promotion of waste and recycling services, and assisted services available to enable people to live in healthy and sustainable communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assisted waste collection services• Working with Health Service providers – sharps box collection service
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<p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice based lettings • Individual accommodation > always guided by provision and relation to community/familial impact • Clear Assessment and Provision procedure in place (with recognition of staying in local environment for individual/family matched to available housing options for individual) • Bishop’s Stortford – acknowledged that shortage of stock housing in BS 	<p>1 Healthy children starting off well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopted Housing Register and Allocations Policy that clearly prioritising applicants by housing need reflecting issues such as impact of healthy from current accommodation, insecurity of tenure (secure accommodation has positive impact on wellbeing and life chances particularly for children). <p>2 Empowering children, young people and adults to achieve their life potential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and Choice based lettings system and procedures do prioritise connection to district and also has procedures for recognising ties to local communities within the district for applicants. <p>5 Healthy places and sustainable communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General shortage of affordable homes across the district (across all tenures) but Bishop’s Stortford is particularly acute. <p>4 Promoting positive health and wellbeing life quality for all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of welfare reform changes be to be implemented when the welfare and Work Bill becomes Act is likely to be significant on residents particularly those on low incomes who are often high of indices for healthy, wordlessness, literacy etc.
<p>Overall Summary of emerging themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of current HWB wider influence and momentum • Need to establish wider cross connections within Councils and across County between 	

Councils e.g. Leisure provision and delivery and connecting Sports and Physical Activity with injuries and specialist professionals with Sports medicine expertise

- Recognition that existing provision and pressures create underlying climate and environment in which HWB has to be embedded and mainstreamed into e.g. housing stock in specific locations could be in short supply or pressure and power of developers in relation to development
- Support for whole system approach and national lobbying for increased influence and delivery in public health at local level
- Countywide approach to the management of those living with Long Term Conditions (LTC)
- Cultural change aspect – people and communities taking responsibility for themselves – scope for local projects tailored to local solutions e.g. acknowledging the role of economics and profit margins, making more efficient use of local monies.
- Pro-activeness in way

<p>which Councils and partners seize opportunities and role of corporate/social responsibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition that people and health are social issues so there needs to be a wider thinking and understanding of the health determinants and factors that influence people's lives and communities 	
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2.1 It is proposed that the next public health update be reported on a two yearly basis, October 2017.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

- East Herts Public Health Strategy ([link](#))
- East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018 ([link](#))

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