

18 September 2017

Community, Health and Housing Committee

Health and Wellbeing Update

Report of: *Elaine Hanlon, Principal Environmental Health Officer*

Wards Affected: *All*

This report is: *Public*

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The report is to update members on the work regarding health and wellbeing within Brentwood. It is timely to do this as there has been progress in key areas, the priorities for action have been amended and a significant level of funding has been allocated to key projects. The previous lead officer has left the Authority and a new commitment is required in terms of officer resource for this area of work.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 **That the progress of the Health and Wellbeing Board be noted.**
- 2.2 **To agree that the Committee appoint Elaine Hanlon, Principal Environmental Health Officer as Lead Officer for Health and Wellbeing**
- 2.3 **That an update to the Health and Wellbeing workplan be brought to Committee every six months**

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 Following the introduction of the Health and Social Care Act in April 2013, Brentwood Borough Council implemented its own health and wellbeing board. The Board promotes public health in the Borough, working in partnership with the Basildon and Brentwood Clinical Commissioning Group and other local partners. There were three agreed priorities for the Board to consider which were:

- Improving older people's health,
- Increasing the uptake of vaccinations and
- Reducing cardiovascular disease through reductions in obesity

- 3.2 The Mental Health Challenge was included as a fourth priority in September 2015.
- 3.3 In 2016 Essex County Council funded a dedicated shared public health practitioner post to be split between Brentwood Borough Council and Basildon Borough Council to support improvement in public health across the two Borough boundaries.
- 3.4 In addition to funding of a post a project related budget of £26,500 has been allocated by Essex County Council for project spending per year over two years until 31 March 2018.
- 3.5 The former Lead Officer for Health and Wellbeing, Mark Stanbury, has left the Authority and therefore a commitment for this area of work by the Council is sought in terms of a new lead officer to ensure that the workplan is progressed and budgets accounted for.
- 3.6 One previous meeting of the health and wellbeing board was postponed due to the departure of Mark Stanbury. These meetings should be programmed and ensure that they take place to maintain progress with the workplan and retain a commitment from board members.

4. Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

- 4.1 Intensive work is underway to consider the potential actions proposed in the Basildon & Brentwood Public Health Partnership Strategic Plan. The below points provide an update of the progress of projects to date.
- 4.2 Basildon and Brentwood Borough Council's have now formed a joint Dementia Action Alliance (DAA) to help drive forward the agenda for supporting those living with Dementia. Brentwood Borough Council have also agreed to begin working towards becoming a dementia friendly workplace, offering dementia friend's sessions to frontline staff.
- 4.3 The Brentwood cycling furtherance group has now completed it's cycle grid across Brentwood, identifying gaps in the current cycling network. Work has also begun to understand opportunities of working with local primary schools to encourage active travel to school.

- 4.4 To demonstrate our commitment to working with local partners to improve mental health and wellbeing, we have established a Brentwood Mental Health and Wellbeing Small Grant Scheme has been set up to give Brentwood Communities the opportunity to promote local initiatives to support the mental health and wellbeing of people living within the Borough.
- 4.5 As part of our promise to explore opportunities to encourage ageing well and physical activity, Brentwood Borough Council has worked jointly with partners to deliver a pilot programme of parkour for the over 55's in the community with the aim of improving strength and mobility as well as improving levels social interaction amongst participants.
- 4.6 The Council has now committed to the adoption of Braintree district council's Livewell Branding along with the adoption of 10 other districts in Essex.
- 4.7 Proposal's for future actions and projects are currently being discussed with the intention of the Health and Wellbeing Board agreeing next steps at its next meeting.

4 Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 The health and wellbeing board has made significant progress in a number of the priority areas.
- 4.2 In the absence of a lead officer, the workplan needs to be maintained and projects managed to completion.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is regularly updated on the workplan.

6 References to Corporate Plan

- 6.1 This work supports the Council's corporate plan to agree the Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy and Annual Plan.

7 Implications

Financial Implications

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- 7.1 None directly arising from this report.

Legal Implications

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- 7.1 As the Board itself is not a decision-making body, and is not a separate legal entity in itself, it is important that any decisions which need to be made are fed back to the appropriate decision-making bodies/persons of the various organisations to ensure proper governance arrangements.
- 7.2 Section 12 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 conferred new duties on local authorities to improve public health. It is for local authorities to take such steps as they consider appropriate for improving the health of the people in their areas. A periodic reporting mechanism is therefore necessary on reporting the progress made in discharging this duty.

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

- 7.2 The Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Work plan is inclusive for the whole community and aims to protect vulnerable residents.

8 Background Papers (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright)

- 8.1 Housing and Health Panel 26 June 2012
- 8.2 Housing and Health Panel 20 November 2012
- 8.3 Community Committee 11 April 2014
- 8.4 Community Committee 21 July 2014
- 8.5 Community Committee 25 March 2015
- 8.6 Community Committee 14 September 2015
- 8.7 Community, Health and Leisure Committee 5 September 2016

9 Appendices to this report

Appendix A - Basildon & Bentwood Public Health Partnership Strategic Plan September-December 2017

Appendix B - Terms of Reference 22 July 2015

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