

<b>Committee(s):</b> Community and Health Committee	<b>Date:</b> 20 October 2020
<b>Subject:</b> Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy	<b>Wards Affected:</b> All
<b>Report of:</b> Kim Anderson	<b>Public</b>
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### Summary

Brentwood Borough Council is a key partner organisation that makes up the Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Board. Part of the governance arrangements for the Board is that a regular update is provided to the Council's Community and Health Committee (or relevant committee) on the progress of the Board in reducing health inequalities in the borough.

In light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board felt that it was time to review and refresh its Strategy so that its priorities reflect local need, continue to reduce health inequalities and support the local recovery plan.

The review of the Strategy also provided an opportunity to strategically merge the Children's Advisory Board which is a requirement of the Children's and Families Act 2014 with the Health and Wellbeing Board as the priorities from both boards are aligned.

### Recommendation(s)

**Members are asked to:**

**R1. Note the Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy (Appendix A) and;**

**R2. Agree for Officers to adopt a Health in All Policies implementation programme.**

### Main Report

#### **Introduction and Background**

1. The Health and Wellbeing Board was established under the Health and Social Care Act in 2013. Although the County Health and Wellbeing Board is a

statutory requirement it is not so at a district level, however, the Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Board feeds into the County Board, to work with partners to reduce health inequalities in the Brentwood Borough.

2. The existing Strategy was last revised in 2017, and it was felt in the current circumstances that it needed to be reviewed and refreshed in light of COVID-19 pandemic which has had such a dramatic effect on people's health and wellbeing.
3. COVID-19 has seen a number of factors which has meant an increase in some health inequalities among certain ethnicities and demographic groups.
4. The pandemic has also seen a number of services being delivered virtually rather than face to face and those undergoing treatment with life limiting illnesses sometimes adversely affected.
5. The refreshed Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy sets out four main priority areas of focus:
  - Reducing the prevalence of child and adult obesity
  - Reduce social isolation across all generations
  - Improving our ability to age well
  - Supporting everyone to start well
6. In addition to the key priorities it is deemed that there are concurrent themes that ran across all our actions and focus, these form the backbone of everything we aim to achieve through the strategy. These are.
  - Mental Wellness
  - Resilient Communities
  - Connecting people
  - Encouraging physical activity
7. To help with the delivery of the priorities there are six workstreams that will feed into the key priority areas:
  - Start Well
  - Be Well
  - Feel Well
  - Stay Well
  - Eat Well
  - Age Well

8. It was also felt that there were opportunities to merge the Brentwood Children's Advisory Board with the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Advisory Board is a requirement of the Children and Families Act 2014 and is made up of representatives from across children and wider services. The Advisory Board advises how the powers of the Children's Commissioner can be used to best effect to promote and protect children and young people's rights, therefore, improving outcomes for children and young people. The rationale is that the focus of the Children's Advisory Board is 0-19 and up to 25 for those with special educational needs (SEN) and that they could assist the Board with data and knowledge of the issues faces children and families in Brentwood and identify where support is needed. The merger will also ensure that there are more efficiencies when looking at officer and elected member time at meetings, and that the combined board could be more effective in delivery of priorities and avoid duplication. The terms of reference are set out in Appendix C.

### **Issue, Options and Analysis of Options**

9. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy identified four key priority areas: reducing the prevalence of child and adult obesity; reducing social isolation across all generations and improving the ability to age well; supporting everyone to start well. These priorities were informed by local data sources and from consultation with those organisations providing services in the community. The overarching themes were identified as providing those positive impacts for reducing health inequalities in Brentwood.
10. Brentwood Borough Council is one of a number partner organisations that sit on the Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Board, so there are opportunities that the Council can explore to look at the influence and impact that it can have not only on the Board priorities but also work with partners on the wider socio-economic determinants of health to reduce those inequalities of Brentwood residents.
11. Some work has already been undertaken when looking at the wider determinants of health, but there are further measures that we can identify and support. One is to look at Health in all Council Policies (HiAP). Currently the Council has a number of policies or strategies that support Health and Wellbeing, and these are set out in Appendix B.
12. The Health and Wellbeing Board will establish Task and Finish Groups under each theme to progress the Board's action plan. Organisations will also be asked to complete a standardised template to feedback progress from their own organisation against the priorities. It is also expected that using the reporting

template each organisation will set out what they are doing against each of the priorities, identify any issues or barriers and numbers of people contacted /service users that have been supported.

13. The impact of COVID-19 has also identified that those that have existing underlying health conditions, are obese or from BAME communities tend to have worse outcomes in regard to the pandemic. Therefore, targeted support with partners will need to support this particular piece of work.
14. The pandemic has also seen a rise for increased Mental Health support, from low level telephone befriending services to more structured interventions to support our residents deal with the pandemic and the road to recovery.

### **Reasons for Recommendation**

The Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy sets out to reduce the health inequalities of the residents in Brentwood. Brentwood Borough Council can, through a programme of implementation of Health in all Policies, have a positive impact on the wider socio-economic determinants of health, to enable our residents to lead active, healthy, and fulfilling lifestyles.

### **Consultation**

The Draft Strategy was presented to the Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Board for comment on 18 September 2020 and these have been fed into the final strategy. Members of the Children's Advisory Board were also consulted on the merger of the two boards.

### **References to Corporate Plan**

The Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy supports the Council's Corporate Strategy 2025 priorities. and especially the 'Developing Communities' strand. Through a Health in all policies approach the Council can have a positive impact on reducing health inequalities in Brentwood.

### **Implications**

#### **Financial Implications**

**Name/Title: Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Director of Corporate Resources**  
**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/jacqueline.vanmellaerts@brentwood.gov.uk**

The Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Board is part funded by Essex County Council. This is split into two elements the Public Health Practitioner Post (which is incorporated into the Corporate Health and Wellbeing Officer post) and an annual budget to deliver the projects.

£19,020pa for the Public Health Practitioner Post  
£20,000pa for project delivery  
This funding is in place until 2021.

### **Legal Implications**

**Name & Title: Amanda Julian, Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer**

**Tel & Email: 01277 312500/amanda.julian@brentwood.gov.uk**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is a partnership board that was set up to reduce health inequalities in Brentwood. As part of the board's terms of reference it provides a regular report on the progress against priorities to both Brentwood Community and Health Committee and it also reports to the Statutory County Health and Wellbeing Board.

### **Economic Implications**

**Name/Title: Phil Drane, Director of Strategic Planning**

**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/philip.drane@brentwood.gov.uk**

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out how it will reduce health inequalities in Brentwood, and we know that there are wider socio-economic factors that can individually or in combination impact on an individual's health and wellbeing outcomes.

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

**Name/Title: Kim Anderson, Partnerships, Leisure & Funding Manager**

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By adopting a practice of Health in all Policies the Council can identify and reduce health inequalities. It has been identified that those with underlying health conditions, those that are elderly, or from BAME groups have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Health & Wellbeing Implications**

**Name/Title: Kimberley White, Corporate Health & Wellbeing Officer**

**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/kimberley.white@brentwood.gov.uk**

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out how the Health and Wellbeing Board will reduce the health inequalities across the Brentwood Borough.

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

### **Background Papers**

None.

## **Appendices to this report**

Appendix A: Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy

Appendix B: Health in All Policies visualisation

Appendix C: Revised Terms of Reference