
Report to West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board

28 April 2022

Public Health Priorities 2022/23; forward planning for local implementation of national public health policy

Report by Alison Challenger, Director of Public Health

Summary

The Director of Public Health (DPH) will deliver a presentation to the Health and Wellbeing Board focused on a horizon scan of the Government's recently published and emerging national public health policy documents. Furthermore, it will highlight the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for England's key messages regarding health inequalities and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which he outlined at the Local Government Association (LGA)/Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) Annual Public Health Conference in March 2022.

Early discussion of national policy areas of focus will enable the Health and Wellbeing Board, as key leaders from the health and social care system across West Sussex, to commence discussions identifying priorities for the Board's workplan for 2022/23, preparing for implementation at a local level to improve the health of the population and reduce health inequalities.

Recommendation(s) to the Board

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to;

- (1) Provide feedback on recently published and emerging national public health policy documents and key messages from the CMO for England regarding health inequalities and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, discussing any key issues/challenges for West Sussex.
- (2) Forward plan for national public health policy implementation locally in West Sussex, commencing identifying priorities for the Board's workplan for 2022/23.

Relevance to [Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)

In line with the purpose of the West Sussex Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, this item will focus on improving the health and wellbeing of local residents and reducing health inequalities. By working collaboratively as a Board and identifying priorities for its workplan for 2022/23, it will work together to deliver health improvements for all across the county.

1 Background and context

- 1.1 The Government published the "Levelling Up the United Kingdom" White Paper on 2 February 2022, outlining how the Government will spread opportunity more equally across the UK.
- 1.2 On 4 February 2022, the Government announced two separate independent reviews to tackle health disparities; Professor Dame Margaret Whitehead will lead the ethnic inequalities for medical devices review, whilst Javed Khan OBE will lead the tobacco control review. The findings of the reviews will feed into the Government's wider plans to level up the country, and through the forthcoming Health Disparities White Paper (to be published Spring 2022), aims to reduce existing inequalities.
- 1.3 The Government's Tobacco Control Plan will be published later in 2022.
- 1.4 The CMO for England's key messages at the LGA/ADPH Annual Public Health Conference in March 2022 regarding health inequalities and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, emphasised three key areas of focus; obesity, alcohol, and smoking.
- 1.5 "From harm to hope; A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives" was published by the Government on 6 December 2021.

2 Proposal details

- 2.1 The purpose of this paper is to outline the topic, focus and Recommendations to the Board of the Director of Public Health's (DPH's) presentation that they will deliver on 28 April 2022.
- 2.2 Views are sought from the West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board in line with the Recommendations of this paper.

3 Consultation, engagement and advice

- 3.1 Not applicable.

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Appendices None

Background papers

HM Government. Levelling Up the United Kingdom White Paper. 2 February 2022. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-the-united-kingdom> [Accessed: 19 April 2022]

HM Government. Government launches landmark reviews to tackle health disparities. 4 February 2022. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-landmark-reviews-to-tackle-health-disparities> [Accessed: 19 April 2022]

Local Government Association. Professor Chris Whitty. LGA/ADPH Annual Public Health Conference 2022. 23 March 2022. Available: <https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Professor%20Chris%20Whitty%20Chief%20Medical%20Officer%20for%20England.pdf> [Accessed: 19 April 2022]

HM Government. From harm to hope; A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives. 6 December 2021. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/from-harm-to-hope-a-10-year-drugs-plan-to-cut-crime-and-save-lives> [Accessed: 19 April 2022]