

Cabinet
12 July 2023

Public Health Annual Report 2022-23

Report of the Director of Public Health

Recommendation: Cabinet is asked to receive the annual report of the Director of Public Health 2022-23 which this year focuses on the importance of prevention to improve the health and wellbeing of Devon residents and to note its recommendations.

1) Recommendations

That the Cabinet are asked to note the following recommendations:

1. Devon Integrated Care Partnership should work together to realise the potential they have as anchor institutions to improve the lives of local people and reduce health inequalities, drawing on evidence of the impact of this approach from other area.
2. Devon Health and Wellbeing Board to consider the impact of the climate emergency on health and equity, through the production of a joint strategic needs assessment; The board should review, adopt and monitor the partnership's climate change mitigation and adaptation plans and the opportunities they present to create a fairer, healthier, more resilient and more prosperous society.
3. Public Health Devon to actively work with system partners to support the delivery of the agreed Joint Forward Plan actions and objectives.
4. Public Health Devon to actively participate in the Marmot Region work programme and ensure learning is shared with Integrated Care Partnership.
5. The Devon Food Partnership and the Energy Saving Devon partnership utilise every opportunity to address health, equity and the climate emergency through their collective programmes.
6. Public Health Devon and Devon Integrated Care Partnership to work collaboratively with communities within multi-agency alliances, to develop and refine multi-level programmes of action on the leading modifiable risk behaviours (tobacco, food, excess weight, alcohol, physical inactivity), ensuring there is an appropriate mix of individual and population level approaches to make an impact at pace and scale.
7. Public Health Devon to work with stakeholders in Devon Integrated Care Partnership to develop and implement a programme of professional development to upskill the workforce in compassionate, health gains approaches to healthier weight to destigmatise individual behavioural change interventions, promoting confidence and emotional wellbeing.

8. Public Health Devon to work with system partners to test a place-based approaches to drive community-based prevention action. These should be designed with and informed by local communities, utilise community assets and act on clustered risks, utilising proxy measures to demonstrate impact in the short to medium term.
9. Through a Population Health Management programme, the Devon Integrated Care System should implement a range of data-based approaches for case finding for avoidable or ameliorable conditions. These methods should focus on detecting the precursors and early stages of disease, design preventive interventions and monitor their impact.
10. Following the success of the Devon mass vaccination inequalities cell through the Covid-19 pandemic, the application of a multi-disciplinary inequalities cell approach to secondary prevention programmes to drive action around community engagement and targeting and reducing inequalities.
11. There should be equity in access to services and all levels of preventative support including screening and vaccination, with proactive community engagement and reasonable adjustments where needed building on learning from outreach work during the pandemic.

2) Background / Introduction

- 2.1 The Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to write an annual report, and the local authority has a statutory duty to publish it (section 73B [5] & [6] of the 2006 NHS Act, inserted by section 31 of the 2012 Health and Social Care Act). This enables the Director of Public Health to make an independent judgement about the state of the health of the local population and ensures that the report will be published and in the public domain. The annual report by the Director of Public Health is therefore different from all other reports received from an officer in that it is not a Cabinet Member report.
- 2.2 The pandemic has resulted in a significant rise in demand for health and care services and excess mortality. The demand has been driven by a combination of lifestyle factors, people delaying seeking medical help and disruption to the health and care system. We also know demand for health and care services is linked to the conditions in which we are born into, grow, live, work and age, known as the wider determinants of health. This year's annual report focuses on prevention and why now more than ever, it is vital that we invest in prevention.

3) Proposal

- 3.1 The report highlights the key drivers of poor health, morbidity, and premature mortality in Devon.
- 3.2 The report defines what prevention means in the context of improving healthy life expectancy and life expectancy and tackling the increasing health inequalities. There are four key elements to preventative action consisting of:
 1. Wider determinants

2. Primary Prevention
3. Secondary Prevention
4. Tertiary Prevention.

- 3.3 The report provides a detailed chapter on each of the above elements providing examples of preventative programmes and initiatives which have been proved to improve health outcomes, impact service demand and are cost effective.
- 3.4 The report also includes an update on the recommendations from the 2021-22 annual report.

4) Options / Alternatives

- 4.1 No options or alternatives considered for this report.

5) Consultations / Representations / Technical Data

- 5.1 No consultation required for this report.

6) Strategic Plan

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/strategic-plan>

- 6.1 The annual report takes into consideration all six priorities within the strategic plan. Delivery on the recommendations will directly contribute to many the strategic objectives within the plan. The report also supports the direct delivery of the Devon Integrated Care System five-year joint Forward Plan.

7) Financial Considerations

- 7.1 Financia considerations are contained within the full report

8) Legal Considerations

- 8.1 There are no specific legal consideration.

9) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change)

- 9.1 The environmental and wider health impacts upon the public are contained within the report.

10) Equality Considerations

- 10.1 The report details the equality considerations making specific reference for the need to target services and programmes to those in greatest need to address health inequalities.

11) Risk Management Considerations

11.1 The report details This policy/proposal has been assessed and all necessary safeguards or action have been taken / included to safeguard the Council's position.

Identify the risks and how implications have been taken into account...
The relevant risk registers have been updated as appropriate...

12) Summary / Conclusions / Reasons for Recommendations

12.1 Cabinet is asked to receive the 2022-23 annual report of the Director of Public Health and to note its recommendations.

Name Steven Brown

Director of Public Health, Communities and Prosperity

Electoral Divisions: All

Cabinet Member for Public Health, Communities and Equality: Councillor Roger Croad

Local Government Act 1972: List of background papers

Background Paper Nil

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