
Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 23rd June 2011

Subject: Health Inequalities Working Group - Recommendations

Report of: Director of Corporate Commissioning

Wards Affected: All

Is this a Key Decision? No

Is it included in the Forward Plan?
No

Exempt/Confidential

No

Purpose/Summary

To report back to Cabinet on proposals regarding the Health Inequalities Working Group recommendations that were considered at the meeting held on 14th April 2011.

Recommendation(s)

That

- (1) the proposals put forward by the Strategic Director – People, to progress recommendations (1) to (3) of the Working Group be accepted; and
- (2) the proposals put forward by NHS Sefton to progress recommendations (4) to (7) and (9) of the Working Group be accepted.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
3	Environmental Sustainability	√		
4	Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Children and Young People	√		
6	Creating Safe Communities	√		
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	√		

Reasons for the Recommendation:

The Cabinet requested proposals on progressing the recommendations put forward by the Working Group.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

There are no financial implications.

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal		
Human Resources		
Equality		
1.	No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery:

Implementation of the recommendations will support the activities that are in place to reduce health inequalities across the Borough.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance (FD852) and Head of Corporate Legal Services (LD173-11) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Are there any other options available for consideration? No

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

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Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

1.1 At its meeting on 14th April 2011, the Cabinet considered the report of the Assistant Chief Executive which incorporated the executive summary of the final report by the Overview and Scrutiny Working Group which had undertaken an inquiry into the impact of health inequalities within local communities based around three primary schools. The Cabinet requested that the recommendations of the Health Inequalities Working Group, set out below, be referred to the appropriate named Officer to enable them to bring costed proposals for implementation (including relevant budgetary considerations) to be considered by the Cabinet.

1.2 The recommendations arising from the review were as follows:-

1. Having found excellent examples of schools promoting healthy eating and lifestyle, the Working Group recommends that the focus on this area of work should continue and be developed;
2. That the Strategic Director (People), in consultation with individual schools, be requested to promote the wider use of local school buildings for the benefit of our local communities;
3. That the Strategic Director (People), in consultation with individual schools, be requested to promote the value of the role of the Head Teacher within the local community. This is particularly relevant during the appointment process of a new Head Teacher and could be included in both the job description and person specification drawn up by the Governing Body;
4. That the Chief Executive of Sefton MBC, the Acting Chief Executive of NHS Sefton and the Acting Director of Public Health be requested to identify all Public Sector and community assets available in Sefton local areas, and ensure that partner organisations and the voluntary, community and faith sector have access to the information/data source effectively;
5. That the Chief Executive of Sefton MBC, the Acting Chief Executive of NHS Sefton and the Acting Director of Public Health be requested to work together in ensuring that the local community is aware of the services and activities available to them, for example through the production and distribution of appropriate promotional material, and the circulation of information relating to the activities in Children's Centres across the Borough;
6. That the Chief Executive of Sefton MBC, the Acting Chief Executive of NHS Sefton and the Acting Director of Public Health be requested to develop a protocol to involve the leaders of communities in policy and service development for tackling health inequalities;
7. That the Acting Chief Executive of NHS Sefton and the Acting Director of Public Health, in conjunction with the leadership of the developing GP led Local Consortium, be requested to consider whether Ainsdale Health & Well Being Centre is being fully utilised in its service use;
8. That the Overview & Scrutiny Management Board be requested to consider the merits of the methods adopted during this review, and consider adopting these methods in future reviews; and
9. That the Acting Chief Executive of NHS Sefton and the Acting Director of Public Health be requested to make provision for the continuity and passing on of the findings of this report to the GP Consortia in the

Borough of Sefton, and positively facilitate the development and fostering of good partnership working between local GPs, the Local Authority, schools and the voluntary, community and faith sector.

2. Responses

2.1 The Strategic Director, People has provided the following proposals in order to progress the above recommendations:

2.2 Recommendation 1

2.2.1 Under the Healthy Schools Programme, this has been a key focus of work, however Members will be aware that as part of the reductions made following the ABG in July 2010 and the reductions necessary to achieve a balanced budget in 2011/12 the staffing provision has been considerably reduced in the Healthy Schools Team and currently there is only one Local Authority post, supported by input from NHS Sefton, that lead on all this work across all schools in Sefton. Previously the establishment included 5 posts.

2.3 Recommendation 2

2.3.1 The Strategic Director will include this in his Termly Report to Headteachers and Termly Report to Governors in September 2011. He will also use his Termly Meeting with Headteachers and Governors to reinforce this message.

2.4 Recommendation 3

2.4.1 The Strategic Director will include this in his Termly Report to Headteachers and Termly Report to Governors in September 2011. He will also use his Termly Meeting with Headteachers and Governors to reinforce this message.

2.4.2 He has also referred to recommendations to School Improvement Partners and School Effectiveness Partners in their work in supporting the schools in the appointment process of Headteachers.

2.5 NHS Sefton has provided the following proposals in order to progress the above recommendations:

2.6 Recommendation 4

2.6.1 NHS Sefton will be considering the use of community and public sector assets to ensure best value for money locally, as part of the process of the national and local changes to the Public Sector. This will be part of an agreed process with partner organisations. Given financial constraints NHS Sefton will be looking to build on services already in place for sharing information about community assets with partners and the public such as Find Your Nearest, Looking Local (digital TV) and the Healthy Sefton phonenumber.

2.7 Recommendation 5

2.7.1 Both NHS Sefton and Sefton MBC are working to improve access to information for local communities by a range of methods, including website information, Looking Local, Find Your Nearest. Local people have been asked where they would like to access information by using Citizen's Panel and other engagement methods such as focus groups and this is helping to shape production and distribution of materials.

2.8 Recommendation 6

2.8.1 Sefton has a good track record in partnership working across statutory and community, voluntary and faiths sectors and NHS Sefton will continue to develop and review this in light of new government policy.

2.9 Recommendation 7

2.9.1 As part of the restructuring of NHS organisations there will be a review of current provision of service use for the local population. There has already been a utilization management review of community clinics done and NHS Sefton will look to implement the outcomes of the review.

2.10 Recommendation 9

2.10.1 The two GP Consortia are involved and supported by both NHS Sefton and Sefton MBC to help develop good partnership working across the Borough and will be looking to reduce health inequalities across their local communities. This work is being coordinated through the Transition Health and Wellbeing Executive Group.