

Background Papers, if any, are specified at the end of the Report

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

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RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet formally adopts the Memorandum of Understanding and confirm the Council's participation and commitment to the Health Communities Partnership.

Relationship to Council Objectives

2 Safe healthy and cohesive communities

Implications

- (i) This matter is a key decision.*
- (ii) Within policy and budgetary framework.*

Financial Implications

No additional financial implications to the Council

Risk Implications

None

Equalities Implications

Poor physical and mental health has consequences for individuals and the wider community. It can compromise the ability to learn, be economically active, be an active citizen and it can incur costs associated with health and social care and support. Poor physical and mental health can also be an outcome of the environments in which people live, work and socialise. Wider factors such as social isolation, fear of crime, being unemployed or in a poor quality job and living in poor quality housing impact on health and wellbeing.

Sustainability Implications

None

Background

- 1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 has created new opportunities to work together to promote the health and wellbeing of the local population. The Health and Wellbeing Board has been established to enable key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. The District Councils have two representatives on the Buckinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board. Concern has been expressed by the Districts that only having two representatives on the board limits that ability of the Councils to work in partnership to improve health in the County.
- 2 In response to the development of the Health and Wellbeing Board the Healthy Communities Partnership has reviewed its future role as the lead partnership for public health in the County.
- 3 The Healthy Communities Partnership has been given the role as the lead body to ensure the implementation of the public health aspects of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The partnership aims to deliver this responsibility taking account of the key contribution of all partner organisations and the need for active partner engagement, the need to deliver tangible benefits for local people, communities and partners and to develop effective responses to the challenging context.
- 4 The Healthy Communities Partnership has been established for some years as the main partnership body for public health in Buckinghamshire. The membership includes all 4 District Councils, Buckinghamshire County Council, Buckinghamshire Health Care Trust, Oxford Health, Community Impact Buckinghamshire and NHS commissioners (Clinical Commissioning Groups).
- 5 The member organisations participated in a workshop earlier in the year to review the partnerships role and way of working and developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to guide future working which is attached for approval. The MOU offers an opportunity to enable local organisations to work in partnership to improve the health and wellbeing of our population.
- 6 The role of the HCP will be to:
 - Advise the Health and Wellbeing Board of key public health priorities and issues and informing the public health aspects of the health and wellbeing strategy
 - Develop effective mechanisms to deliver the public health aspects of the health and wellbeing strategy, including influencing the working with other partnerships or setting up task and finish groups to accomplish key tasks

- Monitor key performance indicators to ensure that the actions being carried out are having a positive impact on the health and wellbeing outcomes for residents
 - Report key outcomes and risks to the Health and Wellbeing Board
- 7 A major requirement of the Districts is to lead on and champion the public health priorities of;
- Healthy Eating – SBDC
 - Adult Wellbeing – CDC
 - Multi-causational illness – AVDC
 - Physical Activity – WDC
- 8 The public health champion for Chiltern District Council is the Portfolio Holder for Health and Housing, supported by Officers.
- 9 Partners to the agreement would be required to commit to the ‘Expectations of Partner Organisations’ section of the MOU which includes; being honest about the extent to which existing resources can be used to support Healthy Communities Partnership priorities and work programmes.
- 10 Such an approach could require the council to examine how it is currently embedding healthy community activities in to its current service delivery and to consider improvements. For example in the case of an unemployed person threatened with homelessness, could the council link people to debt advice and learning enable them to get in to employment. A further example is the manner in which the council is currently utilising its Community Development programme to deliver Five Ways to Wellbeing outcomes.
- 11 The Health and Wellbeing Board has endorsed the work of the Healthy Communities Partnership and tasked the Partnership with specific responsibilities for improving the public’s health.
- 12 Partner organisations are now being asked to formally adopt the Memorandum of Understanding **Appendix 1**, and confirm their participation and commitment to the partnership.

Background Papers: None
