

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Chief Executive and Town Clerk

to

Audit Committee

on

22 September 2010

Report prepared by: Linda Everard, Head of Internal Audit

Audit Commission / PKF: Health Inequalities (Essex Public Services) 2010

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the Health Inequalities (Essex Public Services) 2010 Report to the Committee.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee approves the Health Inequalities (Essex Public Services) 2010 Report.**

3. Background

- 3.1 A senior representative of PKF (the appointed External Auditor to the Council) will present this report to the Audit Committee and respond to Members' questions.

4. Corporate Implications

- 4.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Critical Priorities

All audit work contributes to the Corporate Aim of being "An Excellent Council" and the Cross Cutting Theme of "Becoming a Higher Performing Organisation".

Reducing health inequalities will contribute to the Corporate Aim of a "Healthy Southend".

- 4.2 Financial Implications

None

4.3 Legal Implications

The Council is required to have an external audit of its activities that complies with the requirements of the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice (the Code). By considering this report, the Committee can satisfy itself that this requirement is being discharged.

4.4 People and Property Implications

Addressing health inequalities requires collaborative working between a number of partners both within and without the public sector. This may require amended approaches to dealing with partner organisations.

4.5 Consultation

None.

4.6 Equalities Impact Assessment

Health inequalities are usually encountered by those suffering other forms of inequality. Therefore by addressing health inequalities the Council will also be tackling other inequality issues being faced by residents.

4.7 Risk Assessment

Failure to work in collaboration to contribute to addressing health inequalities is likely to result in the Council failing to achieve its own and national targets in respect of reducing health inequalities and health improvement overall.

4.8 Value for Money

The Council has a duty to provide value for money in its use of resources and will need to ensure that value for money is provided by actions taken to address the issue of health inequality.

4.9 Community Safety Implications and Environmental Impact

None

5. Background Papers

None

6. **Attachment:** Audit Commission / PKF: Health Inequalities (Essex Public Services) 2010 Report