

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda  
Item No.

**14**

Report of Deputy Chief Executive (People)

to  
**Cabinet**

on  
**14<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Report prepared by: Andrea Atherton, Director of Public  
Health

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## The 2016 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health

**People Scrutiny Committee**  
**Executive Councillor: Councillor L Salter**

### *A Part 1 Public Agenda Item*

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#### **1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To present the 2016 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health.

#### **2. Recommendation**

2.1 To consider and note the content and recommendations of the 2016 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health.

#### **3.0 Background**

3.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 requires the Director of Public Health to prepare an annual report on the health of the local population. This is an independent report which the local authority is required to publish. The report is an opportunity to focus attention on particular issues that impact on the health and wellbeing of the local population, highlight any concerns and make recommendations for further action.

#### **4.0 The 2016 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health**

4.1 Health protection is the branch of public health concerned with planning for emergencies, protecting the population from communicable diseases and a range of environmental hazards. Health protection also includes the delivery of the national immunisation and screening programmes.

4.2 The transfer of public health into local authorities in April 2013, brought with it new responsibilities for health and health protection. These new health protection duties build on the existing health protection function and statutory powers bestowed on local authorities by various Acts of Parliament, such as the Public Health (Control of Diseases) Act 1984, and associated regulations,

and delivered through environmental health, trading standards and regulatory services.

4.3 The Director of Public Health, acting on behalf of their local authority, is responsible for ensuring that plans are in place to protect the health of the local population from threats ranging from relatively minor outbreaks and contaminations to full-scale emergencies. The scope and scale of this work is driven by the health risks in the local area.

4.4 In undertaking this assurance role, the Director of Public is expected to provide relevant information, advice as well as challenge to key partners so that threats to health are properly understood and addressed. Public Health England in particular plays a significant role in supporting local authorities with their new health protection responsibilities. Other key partners include NHS England, Clinical Commissioning Groups as well as provider organisations.

4.5 The 2016 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health Report provides an overview of the following health protection issues:

- Communicable Diseases and Outbreaks
- Immunisation
- Seasonal Influenza
- Tuberculosis
- Sexual Health and Blood Borne Viruses
- Healthcare Associated Infections
- Emergency Preparedness
- Screening

A number of recommendations are made for each of the topic areas for the Council and relevant partners to consider.

## **5.0 Other Options**

There are no other options presented as it is a statutory duty of the Director of Public Health to prepare an Annual Public Health Report.

## **6.0 Reason for Recommendations**

6.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 requires Directors of Public Health to prepare an annual report on the health of the local population.

## **6.0 Corporate Implications**

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

The Council has a statutory duty to protect the health of the local population. The 2016 Annual Public Health Report highlights the key health protection issues for people in Southend and actions being taken to address them.

6.2 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

### 6.3 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### 6.4 People Implications

None.

### 6.5 Property Implications

None.

### 6.6 Consultation

There will not be any formal consultation on the Annual Public Health Report, although it will go through the relevant governance route within the Council as well as to the Southend Health & Wellbeing Board.

### 6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The Annual Public Health Report provides evidence that population health needs are assessed and considered.

### 6.8 Risk Assessment

A risk assessment will be undertaken of individual initiatives introduced to tackle the key issues highlighted in the report.

### 6.9 Value for Money

No implications.

### 6.10 Environmental Impact

None.

## 7.0 Background Documents

7.1 Background documents are listed in the Annual Public Health Report.

## 8.0 Appendices

8.1 The 2016 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Southend.