

# Southend-on-Sea City Council

Agenda  
Item No.

Report of Director of Public Health

to  
Cabinet

on  
26<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Report prepared by: Public Health Team

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**The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health (2021-22)**

**Cabinet Member: Cllr K Mitchell**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee: People Scrutiny Committee**

**Part 1 (Public)**

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**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To present the 2021 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1 That CMT/Cabinet considers and comments on the content and highlighted actions of the 2021 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.

3.2 Southend became a City in February 2022 in memory of Sir David Amess and his tragic death. As we aspire to accelerate our growth as a City, the public sector, businesses and the voluntary sector will all need to play a much bigger part and embrace every opportunity to enhance our partnering endeavours. The pace of our spatial planning and regeneration will also need to step up in ensuring that we experience a marked transition into cityhood, including the Better Queensway and Marina development as well as a remodelled and rejuvenated City centre.

## 4.0 The 2021 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health

4.1 The Report this year provides an update on last year's report (2020 Annual Public Health Report) and covers the following six themes:

- ✓ **Tackling Health Inequalities** – Focus on improving Life Expectancy; tackling the key health Risk Factors, including Weight Management; improving the uptake of Vaccinations, including MMR in young children.
- ✓ **Developing a Food Environment policy** - Making Southend a Healthy City; collaboration in tackling Food Poverty/Insecurity; extending A Better Start Southend (ABSS) Legacy.
- ✓ **Mental health and wellbeing** – Focus on Suicide Prevention, including in young people with complex needs; further drive to tackling Harmful Behaviours including gambling addiction.
- ✓ **Improvement in Air Quality & Transport strategy** – Further interventions to improve Air Quality; development of a refresh Transport Plan to support the Modal shift in Travelling.
- ✓ **Learning to Live with COVID** and building up our resilience.
- ✓ **Support for Economic Recovery** – Improving Jobs Opportunities; Skills Development and Raising Aspirations; improving Workplace Health and seeking better Social Value contribution for our neighbourhoods.

4.2 In 2020, we highlighted that we had a focus on two key themes:

- **Health Protection** - Flu & COVID immunisation; COVID-19 Impact;
- **Tackling Wider Inequalities** – Mental Health and Wellbeing; Adult Obesity & Weight Management; Food Environment; Drug & Alcohol; Social Prescribing – Loneliness and Self-care; Unpaid Carers; Autism; Homelessness.

A RAG-rated summary of actions against each of the recommendations has been included in the report's appendix section.

4.3 The Southend 2050 Ambition and the NHS Long Term Plan collectively set out the key things we can expect to work as partners to turn the ambitions into improvements in services and build community resilience. The key S2050 themes that this report will link into are [1] Safe and Well [2] Opportunity and Prosperity [3] Connected and Smart and [4] Active and Involved. Combined with the challenges of the pandemic, we will need to address recovery, living with Covid and continue to refocus our joint endeavours on tackling health inequalities.

4.4 As the system continue working to address the recovery actions, we should also focus on building a stronger bridge with the wider communities, on the back of pronounced and sustained goodwill during the past 2 years. Our renewed engagement with the voluntary sector has been further calibrated and will prove invaluable in achieving better outcomes for our residents in some of the key topics in the report.

- 4.5 A number of **Key Actions** are listed in the report this year. We also have agreed plans or ones in the process of finalisation to help deliver most of these key topics.

Therefore, CMT/Cabinet are to note the various key actions and highlighted approach through the document and note the progress made against the 2020 Annual Report's recommendations.

## 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.

## 7.0 Corporate Implications

- 7.1 Contribution to Council's Southend 2050 Ambition and Priorities, including the MSE's Health and Care Partnership's shared priorities.

The Council has a statutory duty to protect the health of the local population. The 2021 Annual Public Health Report highlights selected key issues for people in Southend, actions being taken to address them and further contributions to be delivered by local partners.

### 7.2 Financial Implications

At this stage any financial implications arising from this report are unquantified and, as further work is undertaken, any resource implications will be identified and dealt with, primarily through the Public Health Grant, and other existing budgets as necessary.

### 7.3 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### 7.4 People Implications

None identified

### 7.5 Property Implications

None.

## 7.6 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.

## 7.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

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

## 7.8 Risk Assessment

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

## 7.9 Value for Money

No implications.

## 7.10 Environmental Impact

None.

## 8.0 Background Documents

8.1 Background documents are referenced throughout the Annual Public Health Report, with direct web-links.

## 9.0 Appendices

9.1 The 2021 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Southend.