



Although a formal committee of Brighton & Hove City Council, the Health & Wellbeing Board has a remit which includes matters relating to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Local Safeguarding Board for Children and Adults and Healthwatch.

Title:	Public Health Annual Report	
Date of Meeting:	9 June 2020	
Report of:	Alistair Hill, Director of Public Health, Health and Adult Social Care	
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Wards Affected:	All	
FOR GENERAL RELEASE		
Executive Summary		
Directors of Public Health are required to produce an independent annual report on the state of local public health. There are no specified requirements as to the content or format of the report.		
This year's report, Making Health Your Business, focuses on the strong relationship between work and health.		
The Director of Public Health will make a presentation on the report.		

1. Decisions, recommendations and any options

1.1 That the Board note the report.

2. Relevant information

- 2.1 This year's Annual Report of the Director of Public Health examines the important relationship between work and health in Brighton & Hove.
- 2.2 The report starts by looking at why being in 'good work' benefits our health. Good paid work includes earning a decent living wage and enjoying good working conditions – and not all jobs have these characteristics.
- 2.3 There is a persuasive economic argument for investing in the health and wellbeing of all our communities. A healthy workforce is the bedrock of a productive and thriving economy. It is important that our economy is based on 'inclusive growth', so that local people and organisations benefit from prosperity in the city.
- 2.4 The report adopts the life course approach of our Health and Wellbeing Strategy, including starting, living and ageing well.
- 2.5 Helping children and young people to start well in life helps them to get ready for a good working life. It's one of the reasons why tackling inequality in educational outcomes is so important. The world of work is changing rapidly, and so lifelong learning is more important than ever in helping people gain skills and knowledge to adapt to these changes.
- 2.6 People who are unable to work are at increased risk of poor health. This disproportionately affects some of our most disadvantaged neighbourhoods and residents, including people with mental health conditions and disabled people. The report highlights some of the innovative local projects that are supporting people into work and making our workplaces more inclusive.
- 2.7 Musculoskeletal conditions and mental health remain the most common reasons for sickness absence and employers can do a lot to prevent these conditions as well as support their employees to manage them and to be health promoting employers. The report includes some top tips for local employers to highlight what they can do to create a healthier workplace.
- 2.8 The NHS has a valuable role to play by ensuring that support to keep people in work is a key goal of managing long-term health conditions.
- 2.9 Looking to the future, we will be spending more years in work and there will be an increasing number of older people in the workforce. Employers and workplaces will need to adapt to these changes to ensure they are age friendly. The NHS also has a role to play to ensure that helping people to stay in work is a key goal of managing long-term health conditions.

- 2.10 The report closes with nine recommendations, identifying where organisations across the City can make a difference by delivering action to support health, wellbeing and work. These recommendations will support the delivery of both the Health & Wellbeing Strategy, Economic Strategy and NHS Long Term Plan.

Recommendations

1. Continue to tackle the gaps in school readiness and educational outcomes, and support personal progression in order to reduce income, employment and health inequalities in later life. (BHCC, nurseries, schools and colleges, health services, community and voluntary sector, families)
2. Promote the importance of good work across the City, for example through the Living Wage Campaign. (Economic Partnership partners including Chamber of Commerce).
3. Use evidence-based resources to improve health and wellbeing and prevent ill health at work. (BHCC, employers)
4. Consider how health at work can be improved for those working in small businesses and at home. (BHCC and partners including Chamber of Commerce)
5. Establish a healthy workplace scheme for Brighton & Hove. (BHCC, employers)
6. Ensure that helping people to stay in work is a key aim of managing physical and mental health long term conditions. (NHS, employers, BHCC, CVS)
7. Develop the role of health and care services as local 'anchor institutions' to build community wealth and provide access to good work for local people. (NHS, BHCC and other local organisations)
8. Join up health and employment support for groups finding it hardest to access employment. (DWP, CVS, BHCC, NHS, communities)
9. Use the age friendly employer's toolkit to help employers become more age-friendly, promote health at work, help staff in mid-life to plan for their future, and support more older workers to remain in good work for longer. (BHCC, CCG, employers)

- 2.11 The annual report was planned to be published just as the first cases of Covid-19 were diagnosed in Brighton and Hove. The subsequent Covid-19 pandemic is presenting the greatest global public health and economic challenge in our lifetimes.

- 2.12 The pandemic is highlighting, on a colossal scale, the critical relationship between health and work, for example:



- The economic and health impact on individuals and families who have been directly affected by Covid-19.
- The impact that the public health interventions including the lockdown and physical distancing are having on working lives and mental and physical health.
- The association between the impact of the virus and specific occupational groups, including frontline and key workers, which will contribute to increased health inequalities between different groups in the population
- The vital role that infection prevention and control has in our workplaces
- The impact that the emerging global recession will have on the health & wellbeing of our residents and communities.

2.13 Rather than making the report out of date, the current events mean that the issues raised in the report, and the call for action it represents, are more important than ever. The recommendations of the report should inform the planning of the recovery phase, to reconnect and support the health and wellbeing of our communities and rebuild our economy.

2.14 Health and Wellbeing Board members are invited to consider how they can contribute to the delivery of the recommendations.

2.15 At an appropriate point in the future the Public Health team will be relaunching its Healthy Workplace programme. This will consider action to progress recommendations 3, 4 and 5, including the establishment of a healthy workplace scheme for the city.

3. Important considerations and implications

Legal:

3.1 The NHS Act 2006 (as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012) requires Directors of Public Health to write an annual report on the health of their local population. The Council has a duty to publish the report. The content and structure can be determined locally.

Lawyer consulted: Nicole Mouton

Date: 15/05/20

Finance:

3.2 There are no direct financial implications from the recommendations in this report. The total Public Health budget for financial year 2020/21 is £21.404m of which £20.355m comes from the ring-fenced Public health grant, other funding comes from agreed carry forward of grant from 2019/20 and some non-grant funding.

Finance Officer consulted: Sophie Warburton Date: 14/05/2020

Equalities:

- 3.3 The report presents analysis relating to local inequalities in health and work. There are key recommendations to continue to tackle the gaps in school readiness and educational outcomes, and supporting personal progression in order to reduce income, employment and health inequalities in later life, to promote the importance of good work across the City, for example through the Living Wage Campaign and to join up health and employment support for groups finding it hardest to access employment.

Equalities Manager consulted: Anna Spragg Date: 14/05/2020

Supporting documents and information

Appendix1: Annual Public Health Report

