

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Information**

**Report to:** Health Scrutiny Committee – 15 January 2015  
**Subject:** Health and Wellbeing Update – Part 1  
**Report of:** Strategic Director for Families, Health and Wellbeing

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**Summary**

This report provides Members of the Committee with an overview of developments across Health and Social Care.

**Recommendations**

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

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**Wards Affected: All**

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**Background documents (available for public inspection):**

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

None

## **1 The Court has ruled that the closure of the Independent Living Fund (ILF) was Legal.**

- 1.1 The closure of the Independent Living Fund (ILF) was ruled lawful in the High Court on 8<sup>th</sup> December following the dismissal of an application for a judicial review. This will leave up to 18,000 disabled people facing a reduction to their care funding.
- 1.2 Plans to close the fund have been challenged before, and its closure was ruled unlawful under the 2010 Equality Act in November 2013. But the government's most recent plan to close the ILF, based on a fresh analysis of the data, has been found not to breach the public sector equality duty laid out by the act.
- 1.3 After it closes in June 2015, the fund will be absorbed into individual councils' mainstream budgets in England. Decisions around how much support each individual will receive beyond the national minimum eligibility threshold, introduced under the Care Act, will be for each council to make.

## **2 Burstow Commission "The Future of the Home Care Workforce"<sup>1</sup>**

- 2.1 The report, published by the Local Govt. Information Unit, is on the support enabling vulnerable adults to remain in their own homes, and the workforce that makes it happen.
- 2.2 Recommendations are made to achieve a professional, well-paid, well-trained and properly regulated workforce who can provide the quality of care at home that people need. The report identifies increasing need, decreasing funds and the way the system operates, as factors which increasingly prevent caring professional relationships between workers and the people they care for and bringing home care nearer to crisis.

## **3 "The Bigger Picture" report <sup>2</sup>**

- 3.1 This report by Independent Age and The Strategic Society Centre evaluates the performance of government policy on care and support in England during the period 2011 to 2013. It aims to give a complete overview of the entirety of disability and need for care and provision of support among older people in England, including provision and receipt of unpaid care among older people. It brings together and analyses Census data, 'administrative' data produced by statutory bodies that interact with the disabled older population, and social survey data.
- 3.2 All of the data used in the analysis was published alongside this research report in order for local authorities and other stakeholders to download and use it. The report uses the data and insights gained to consider implementation of the Care Act, and policy development after 2016. By integrating different data sources,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lgiu.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/KeyToCare.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.independentage.org/media/847199/biggerpicture\\_policyfinal.pdf](http://www.independentage.org/media/847199/biggerpicture_policyfinal.pdf)

The Bigger Picture report picks up on new estimates of unmet need among older people living with a care need, and older carers.

#### **4 Ebola Virus Disease**

- 4.1 There are good indications that the incidence of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in West Africa is now relatively stable or falling. However, the situation remains very serious as case numbers remain high and it will be months before the outbreak can potentially be fully controlled. It is reassuring that spread to other countries in West Africa remains very limited.
- 4.2 Since the last update there has been one imported case in the UK and as predicted this was in a returning volunteer healthcare worker who flew back to Glasgow via Heathrow on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2014. At the time of writing the protocols and procedures relating to airport screening are being reviewed and the volunteer, a nurse for Save the Children, is being treated and cared for at the Royal Free Hospital in London. The contacts of the nurse are being followed up by Public Health England.
- 4.3 The outcome of the review of this case and the implications for Manchester Airport and Greater Manchester plans will be known shortly. However it is important to emphasise that the risks to the wider public remain very low.