

**Manchester Health and Wellbeing Board
Report for Information**

Report to: Health and Wellbeing Board – 10 September 2014
Subject: Update on Ward Health Plans
Report of: Director of Public Health

Summary

The development of ward health plans has been identified as a priority, helping to take forward the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy at a local level.

Ward health plans are now in place across the city and this paper sets out some of the common themes that local areas are committed to tackling, with support from a range of partners and highlights some key next steps.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to note the report.

Board Priority(s) Addressed

All, but with specific focus on strategic priority two 'educating, informing and involving the community in improving their own health and wellbeing'

Wards Affected

All

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

None

1. Introduction

1. The development of ward based health plans has been identified as one of the political priorities for the Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing. These plans are designed to fulfil several functions:
 - a) To support the locality based implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
 - b) In particular, to help take forward priority 2 (educating, informing and involving the community in improving their own health and wellbeing) through engaging local people in taking forward action on issues that they themselves identify as important;
 - c) Recognising the Council's new responsibilities around improving public health, to bring an explicit health dimension to the processes of ward coordination and ward planning;
 - d) To provide a way of accessing local knowledge as a source of data for the JSNA
- 1.2 This paper aims to bring members of the Board up to date with the progress made; provide an overview of some of the common themes emerging from the ward health plans and activity planned to address the identified health needs. The paper will then highlight the next steps for integrating health plans into overall ward planning processes.

2. Background

- 2.1 32 senior staff members from the Children and Families Directorate have been identified to engage in the ward coordination process and their first strategic task was to prepare ward health plans.
- 2.2 Representatives were encouraged to develop a plan appropriate to their ward and invited to involve a broad range of people in the development of the ward health plans, including ward councillors, ward co-ordinators, the public health staff that are aligned to the five Strategic (SRF) Delivery Group and others.
- 2.3 The ward representatives are being supported in this task by the public health staff that are aligned to the five SRF Delivery Groups, and who are providing an overall co-ordination and support function within each of the SRF areas.
- 2.4 Ward representatives were asked to look at four main areas:
 - a) What issues are identified as important for the ward through looking at the JSNA;
 - b) What issues are identified as important for the ward by elected members, residents and the locality based workers;
 - c) What assets and opportunities exist in the ward;
 - d) Given all of the above and the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, what actions can be taken at ward level to address the needs identified by building on the assets and opportunities identified.

3. Key Findings

- 3.1 There has been excellent engagement by ward representatives and from the ward co-ordination officers to develop ward health plans. The majority of ward health plans have now been completed and are being implemented and local ward member sign off for the remaining few will be secured by mid September following the holiday period.
- 3.2 The plans reflect the eight priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board as set out in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, with localities identifying actions to be taken across all of the eight priorities. Plans have focussed particularly on:
- Getting the youngest people in our communities off to the best start (SP1)
 - Educating, informing and involving the community in improving their own health and wellbeing (SP2)
 - Improving people's mental health and wellbeing (SP6)
 - Enabling older people to keep well and live independently in their community (SP8)
- 3.3 SP1: Localities are keen to reduce childhood obesity through promoting healthier eating and increasing physical exercise and raising awareness of teenage pregnancy and implementing teenage pregnancy prevention programmes.
- 3.4 SP2: Common themes under this priority focus on improving the lifestyles of residents through tackling binge drinking and smoking, increasing physical activity through the promotion of green spaces and increasing healthy eating. Promotion of the NHS Health Checks programme was also an important feature of the majority of plans.
- 3.5 SP6: Plans highlight the need to promote mental health training among professionals working in the locality and 'Boost' mental health training courses for the public; promote activities around World Mental Health Day, volunteering and other initiatives to reduce social isolation, as well as promoting 'good work' and working more closely with GPs on mental health and wellbeing issues.
- 3.6 SP8: There was very good awareness of the Age Friendly Manchester programme and clear actions identified to link into the programme further; reducing social isolation and increasing support to carers are also common areas of focus. Some wards also want to tackle the wider determinants of health, i.e. pensioner poverty, fuel poverty and poor housing standards.
- 3.7 Local determination was an important feature of the ward health plans and several plans highlighted very specific issues it wanted to address, examples include understanding the impact and level of Female Genital Mutilation, tackling the increasing use of khat and improving the mental health of single, isolated men.

- 3.8 Interestingly the ward health plans identified a vast range of community assets across the city, which ward co-ordination teams and Members are keen to utilise to help tackle the identified health issues. Assets include green spaces and leisure facilities, education centres, libraries, church halls, community and voluntary groups, and local markets, to more traditional settings such as GP surgeries, clinics and Sure Start Centres.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 Public Health resources have been identified to supplement the existing ward cash grants to support local priorities identified in the health plans.
- 4.2 Ward co-ordination groups and SRF Delivery Groups, supported by public health staff are responsible for overseeing the implementation of the plans. Across Wythenshawe for example, partnership working is central to ensuring their four key health projects are developed with measurable outcomes to monitor their success.
- 4.3 The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) work plan for 2014-15 identifies the need to incorporate local knowledge generated through ward health plans into its processes and it is anticipated that this information will be of particular interest when we put out a 'call for JSNA topics' in the Autumn.
- 4.4 The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing, together with the Director of Public Health will host an event on 12th November for the Children and Families representatives, ward-co-ordination and others to report on progress and discuss the learning from this approach. It is anticipated that ward health plans will be integrated into the overall ward planning processes whilst ensuring the priorities highlighted in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy remain at the heart of the plans.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 The Board is asked to note the report.