

14 December 2016		ITEM: 16 (Decision 01104396)
Cabinet		
Annual Report of The Director of Public Health 2016		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non-key	
Report of: Councillor James Halden, Portfolio Holder for Education and Health		
Accountable Head of Service: Emma Sanford, Strategic Lead – Health and Social Care Public Health		
Accountable Director: Ian Wake, Director of Public Health		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

The National Health Service Act (2006) places a statutory duty on the Director of Public Health to prepare an independent report on the health of the people in the area of their local authority each year. This year the focus of the Thurrock Annual Public Health Report is on the sustainability of Thurrock's Health, Wellbeing and Social Care system with particular focus on Long Term Condition Management.

The report makes a series of recommendations in terms of improving the quality of Primary Care in Thurrock, improving the quality of long term condition management, and strengthening the local health and social care workforce.

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That Members note and support the contents and recommendations made in the report and support its publication.**
- 1.2 That Members support political leadership across the local Health and Social Care system and through our local Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) to deliver the report's recommendations. These include:**
 - **Delivery of a new model of Primary Care to address under-doctoring and capacity issues**
 - **Mechanisms to case find and diagnose patients with long term conditions**

- **Significant improvement of the management of long term conditions in Primary Care including the implementation a GP Long Term Conditions Management Scorecard**
- **Recommendations to reduce inappropriate A&E attendances and avoidable A&E admissions**
- **Recommendations to reduce delayed transferred of care from the NHS to Adult Social Care**

1.3 That members agree that the recommendations from the Annual Public Health Report be mixed within a “Principles Document’ to form a “Thurrock Ask” from NHS England

1.4 That members support the proposed re-procurement of a new Integrated Healthy Lifestyles Service with a stronger focus on young people’s health in order to break generational health inequalities.

1.5 That the Health and Wellbeing Board acts as the Primary Delivery Arm for implementing the recommendations within this report, and the objectives within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Annual Public Health Reports have played an important part in public health practice ever since the early days of Medical Officers of Health. They remain an important vehicle for informing local people about the health of their community as well as providing the necessary information for decision makers in local authorities and local health services on key priorities that need to be addressed to improve the health and wellbeing of the population.

2.2 70% of health and social care spend is on people with long term conditions¹. This, along with a population living longer but not necessarily healthier lives creates some fundamental issues for the current system. As such, understanding the factors that impact on the development of long term conditions and the most effective mechanisms for embedding effective prevention activity is absolutely essential in maintaining public health, reducing the growth in demand through emergency hospital admissions and Adult Social Care packages and ensuring that our local Health and Social Care system remains financially and operationally sustainable.

2.3 The report is set out in seven sections which demonstrate the following eight key issues

- Increasing and unsustainable levels of demand on the local health and care system
- Practice-level variation in outcomes, and an indication of patterns
- How a revised Primary Care staffing model could address demand
- Key influences on non-elective admissions and inappropriate A&E attendances
- Estimates of future activity if no changes are made to provision

- How activity in different parts of the system links to cost.
- What is cost-effective in terms of prevention / shifting demand.
- The need for a 'System Wide' response across organisational budgets to solve financial and operational sustainability

3. Summary of report contents, recommendations and opportunities

3.1 These are outlined in the report itself and its Executive Summary.

Financial Opportunities

3.2 A number of financial opportunities have been identified to generate savings by reducing demand to the two most expensive areas of the Local Health and Social Care System; namely Adult Social Care and the hospital budgets by implementing on the recommendations detailed in the full report which deal in the main with improving capacity, access and quality of Primary and Community such that long term condition clinical management improves which will prevent more serious (and costs) adverse health events within our population.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 The National Health Service Act (2006) requires Directors of Public Health to prepare an annual report on the health of the local population, and for the local authority to publish it.

4.2 It is envisaged that the recommendations set out in this report will drive the necessary changes to improve the quality of Primary Care and long term condition management, and embed preventative activity to reduce future system demand. The report provides clear evidence supporting the current strong political leadership taken to improve the health of the population by the current Administration.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

5.1 The contents of this report have been developed with input from a number of different stakeholders (listed in the document). The report was presented at Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 10th November, the Council's Directors Board on 15th November and Health and Wellbeing Board on 17th November.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

6.1 The report highlights the key actions that should be taken in terms of shifting demand within the health and social care system, and encouraging prevention. This is in line with the work of the Customer and Demand Management Board, and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21 which

aims to “add years to life and life to years”. It will also support corporate priority four: “improve health and wellbeing”.

- 6.2 If the report conclusions and recommendations are acted upon, it will impact positively on local patients as their care will be improved.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Kay Goodacre**
Finance Manager, Corporate Finance

The report details a series of financial opportunities for the local health and social care system arising from improving and embedding the prevention agenda in primary, community and social care and as a result reducing demand on secondary health care and adult social care services. Decisions arising from recommendations by the Director of Public Health that may have a future financial impact for the council would be subject to the full consideration of the cabinet before implementation, and in the case of the NHS, by the relevant Boards of NHS Thurrock CCG and provider foundation trusts.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Chris Pickering,**
Principal solicitor. Employment & litigation

There are no legal implications as the report is being compiled in accordance with our statutory duties under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and National Health Service Act 2006.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Becky Price**
Community Development and Equalities Officer

The initiatives outlined in this report will tackle the challenges of unequal access to good quality care and variation in activity by highlighting what is likely to work in preventing future health and social care demand.

7.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

None

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

Background papers are referenced in the annual public health report.

9. **Appendices to the report**

Appendix 1 - Annual Report of The Director of Public Health 2016- Executive Summary (A copy of the full report is available on the Thurrock Council Website at the following address: <https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/healthy-living/health-statistics-and-information>)

Report Author:

Ian Wake
Director of Public Health

Maria Payne
Senior Programme Manager – Health Intelligence

REFERENCES

¹ Department of Health, *Improving quality of life for people with long-term conditions*. London: DH. 2013.