

WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

25th May 2022

Report Title	Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022
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List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – DPH Annual Report 2022

Appendix 2 - [Accompanying Video Link](#)

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To note the content of the annual Director of Public Health (DPH) statutory report for Northamptonshire.
- 1.2. To endorse the key recommendations made in the DPH annual report.
- 1.3. To note the requirement of the Health and Wellbeing Board to agree publication of the DPH annual report, which will then be disseminated to partners, stakeholders and residents in order to fully engage everyone in the Health & Wellbeing agenda.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The DPH Annual Report for 2022 explores how the cost of living crisis currently being experienced nationally within the UK, has affected the health of residents of West Northamptonshire. This year the Annual Report is presented as both a physical report but also with a series of video clips to complement it.
- 2.2 The report sets out the evidence that links different aspects of poverty with health consequences, as well as the level of need across West Northamptonshire – showing our continued focus in delivering our Anti-Poverty Strategy for residents. Within the accompanying video we have also taken the opportunity to highlight some of the amazing projects such as Warm, Welcoming Spaces, Food Larders and Employment, Money and Debt Advice that have already been delivered

in partnership with the public sector, community voluntary sector and wider organisations as part of our Anti- Poverty Strategy work.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 For the Health & Wellbeing Board to note the contents of the report and recommendations made.
- 3.2 For the Board to also note the progress made with regard to the recommendations in the previous annual report.
- 3.3 For the Board to agree publication and distribution of the report.

4. Report Background

- 4.1 The core purpose of the Director of Public Health (DPH) is to be an independent advocate for the health of the population and system leader for its improvement and protection. DPH's across the country are required to produce an annual report and the Health and Wellbeing Board has a duty to publish their report. The DPH annual report provides an opportunity to:
 - Raise awareness and understanding of the wellbeing of the county
 - Identify key issues and challenges relating to the wellbeing of the local population
 - Provide added value over and above intelligence and information routinely available
 - Reflect on work already undertaken and the continued impact
 - Identify recommendations for future courses of action to improve health and wellbeing locally.

5. Issues and Choices

- 5.1 Each year the DPH must decide on a topic that the annual report will cover in that period.
- 5.2 This year, due to the impact of the cost of living crisis and the emerging consequences that this has had on all areas of society, but in particular, for the poorer communities that already experience a plethora of health inequalities, it felt appropriate to explore the cost of living crisis and how this and other wider determinants of health, affect health outcomes for people.
- 5.3 West Northants Council has focussed its efforts in developing the Anti-Poverty Strategy and in turn, we have invested a proportion of our public health reserve into projects which support residents during this challenging time and will reduce the adverse impact on their health and wellbeing. It therefore felt timely to focus this annual report on the work that is being done to tackle poverty by showcasing the exemplary work being carried out and to highlight areas of continued development or areas of focus.

6. Implications (including financial implications)

6.1 Resources and Financial

6.1.1 The production of an Annual Report is a statutory function that should be executed by the Director of Public Health. A budget is therefore put aside for this annually and comes from the Public Health Grant. There are no additional financial implications or Council resources required as a result of this paper.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There is a statutory obligation for the Health & Wellbeing Board to agree publication and distribution of this report.

6.2.2 There are no other legal implications that will result from carrying out the recommendations in this report.

6.3 Risk

6.3.1 Should this report not be agreed and published, the Council and the Director of Public Health would not meet the relevant statutory duties.

6.3.2 There would be a risk of reputational damage to WNC and the Public Health team.

6.3.3 There would be a lack of guidance to local communities/ organisations in relation to health and wellbeing in the county.

6.4 Consultation

6.4.1 Not applicable

6.5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

6.5.1 Not applicable

6.6 Climate Impact

6.6.1 Not applicable

6.7 Community Impact

6.7.1 Not applicable

7. Background Papers

7.1 DPH Annual Report 2020-22