

Non-Executive Report of the: Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub-Committee 2 September 2019	
Report of: Judith St John, Divisional Director Sport, Leisure & Culture	Classification: Unrestricted
Report Title: Development of a Physical Activity and Sport Strategy	

Originating Officer(s)	Lisa Pottinger, Head of Sport and Physical Activity
Wards affected	All

Executive Summary

Tower Hamlets is developing a borough wide physical activity and sport strategy (PASS) that will complement local strategic priorities and aims. The strategy will be developed in alignment with the work around Childhood Obesity being undertaken by Public Health, priorities within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020 and the Sport England Strategic Visioning Guidance. This paper provides an introduction to the work around the PASS which will continue over the next few months.

Recommendations:

The Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Note that a Physical Activity and Sport Strategy is under development
2. Provide any feedback on the development of the strategy and any key issues they feel should be highlighted

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1 N/A

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 N/A

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 **Some of the key issues in relation to physical activity and sport are highlighted below:**

- 26% of the population aged 16+ classified as inactive – London average 24%
- Female residents (29.3%) are more likely to be inactive than male residents (23.9%)
- Levels of inactivity are highest in the East of the borough
- Disability free life expectancy rates are the lowest in London – 56.9 men, 56.44 women
- There are more than 200 parks and open spaces in the borough, however they will come under increasing pressure in the future
- Some people live outside of the catchment areas for indoor sports facilities
- CO2 emissions are the 3rd highest in London

3.2 Development of the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy (PASS)

3.3 The PASS is being developed to provide a strategic response to local challenges in relation to sport and physical activity, with a view to improving health outcomes for children and adults across Tower Hamlets. The PASS will be integral to delivering the outcomes within the Childhood Obesity Plan and as such work on the two documents will be co-ordinated throughout the development process. The strategy will also be developed in alignment with a number of local strategies (as highlighted below):

- Child Obesity Plan (currently under development)
- Transport Strategy (currently under development)
- Mental Health Strategy (currently under development)
- Draft Local Plan 2031
- Children and Families Strategy 2019 – 2024
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020
- Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy 2017-2027
- Open Space Strategy 2017-2027
- Ageing Well Strategy 2017-2020

3.4 The PASS seeks to provide a strategic direction by bringing together local drivers in health and wellbeing to look at how we can use assets in the borough to enable residents to better access and engage in physical activity and sport.

3.5 We first began looking at the need for a strategy in this area of work back in 2017. At the time, a number of drivers came together to make it a suitable time to look into the development of a Physical Activity and Sport Strategy. At this stage some work was carried out to consider evidence and explore key issues with stakeholders. An external consultancy produced an initial outline of strategic priorities however after review it was felt that it did not deliver a vision that fully met expectations and requirements.

3.6 Development of an 'Expression of Interest' submitted to the Sport England's Local Delivery Pilots scheme in spring 2017 also provided an opportunity to examine existing evidence about the needs and priorities for physical activity

and sport in the borough. Although the bid was ultimately not successful, this work helped to provide a foundation of local intelligence which was used to underpin a programme of further engagement with a wide range of stakeholders during late 2017 / early 2018.

3.7 Following the engagement activities a set of proposed outcomes were drafted but there has been a delay in taking this forward to the development of a strategy due partly to internal restructuring and temporarily reduced resources. Although these earlier activities will help inform the new strategy and provide context, a fresh review of evidence, and consultation, will be now carried out.

3.8 A significant amount of preparatory work for the strategy has been done over the last few months including an initial review of national, regional and local policy, insight and data as well as early stage engagement with some key stakeholders. We will now be focused on developing a full draft of the strategy.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 An equality assessment is underway using data and insight gathered through the desktop review phase. The strategy will include actions focused on addressing areas of inequality in relation to physical activity and sport.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.

5.2 There are no further specific statutory implications at this stage.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no financial implications identified at this stage. This strategy is currently in draft and will support the delivery of work to address childhood obesity.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The development of a physical activity and sport strategy complies with section 2B of the National Health Service Act 2006 under which local authorities have duties to take such steps as they consider appropriate for improving the health of the people in their areas.

7.2 Sections 244-247 of the National Health Service Act 2006 govern the council's health scrutiny function. It is appropriate for Health Scrutiny Committee to review the development of this strategy, to ensure that it is consistent with the council and its health partners' statutory duties.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- NONE

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

Or state N/A