

Committee: Health Scrutiny Panel	Date: 11 September 2012	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No.	Agenda Item No. 4.1
Report of: Assistant Chief Executive, Legal Services London Borough of Tower Hamlets		Title: Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Strategy		
Originating Officer: Louise Russell		Wards: All		

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 proposes to introduce the requirement for Health and Wellbeing Boards to prepare joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies (HWS) for their local areas, providing an overarching framework for improving health and social care outcomes in their local areas. The shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in Tower Hamlets has initiated the development of a new Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This draft Outline Strategy for Tower Hamlets is the result of a review of evidence about local need and local views, consultation with stakeholders and residents. The Outline Strategy is undergoing widespread consultation to ensure that it reflects the right priorities for our local area.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Health Scrutiny Panel is asked to review and comment on the draft strategy.

3. **COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

- 3.1 This report presents the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy as required by the Health and Social Care Act. This Outline Strategy is undergoing widespread consultation to ensure that it reflects the right priorities for Tower Hamlets.
- 3.2 There are no specific financial implications emanating from this report, and any additional costs that arise from implementing the strategy must be contained within directorate revenue budgets. If the Council agrees further action in response to this report's recommendations then officers will be obliged to seek the appropriate financial approval before further financial commitments are made.

4. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

- 4.1 Section 193 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (“the 2012 Act”) proposes to introduce a new section 116A into the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the 2007 Act”). At this stage the new provision has not yet been given a commencement date, but it is intended to place an obligation on responsible local authorities (of which the Council is one), together with their partner clinical commissioning groups, to prepare a joint health and wellbeing strategy. This is a strategy for meeting the needs included in a joint strategic needs assessment prepared under section 116 of the 2007 Act. The strategy is to address how the needs may be met by the exercise of the functions of the authority, the NHS Commissioning Board or a clinical commissioning group (“CCG”). The strategy may also include a statement as to how the authority and the CCG think arrangements for the provision of health-related services in Tower Hamlets could be more closely integrated with arrangements for the provision of health and social care services.
- 4.2 Section 194 of the 2012 Act requires the Council to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board (“**HWB**”) for its area. A commencement date has not yet been specified in respect of this provision, but it is expected to take effect from 1 April 2013. Once the HWB is established, section 196 of the 2012 Act intends to confer on the HWB the function of the Council and its partner CCG of preparing a joint health and wellbeing strategy.
- 4.3 Section 116A of the 2007 Act is intended to contain the following requirements in relation to the preparation of a joint health and wellbeing strategy –
- Consideration needs to be given to the extent to which needs could be met more effectively by the Council making arrangements with one or more NHS bodies under section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006.
 - Regard must be had to the mandate published by the Secretary of State under section 13A of the National Health Service Act 2006 and any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
 - There is an obligation to involve the Local Healthwatch organisation and local people.
- 4.4 It is reasonable to commence preparation of the strategy, but it must be recognised that the legislative framework is not yet in place and nor are key bodies and guidance. As a consequence, the strategy may well require significant revision as matters progress.
- 4.5 In participating in preparation of the strategy, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to

foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who don't. Some form of equality analysis will be required and officers will have to decide how extensive this should be.

5. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Health and wellbeing outcomes are important to all sections of our diverse community and we are aware that some groups experience particularly poor health outcomes. A key principle for the strategy is to understand and act upon the diverse needs of different groups, identifying and addressing areas of particular disadvantage or particular need. To this end, we are also seeking to engage with as wide a range of local community organisations as possible to inform the strategy and are working with the Tower Hamlets Involvement Network (THINK) to help achieve this.

6. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 6.1 There are no specific SAGE implications arising from the recommendations in the cover report. We are working with the Great Place to Live Community Plan Delivery Group to ensure we consider and address the environmental determinants of health.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no specific risk management implications arising from the recommendations in the cover report.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no specific Crime and Disorder Reduction implications arising from the recommendations in the cover report. We are working with the Community Safety Partnership to consider how we take a joint approach to areas such as drug abuse and substance misuse and domestic violence.

9. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

- 9.1 There are no specific efficiency implications arising from the recommendations in the cover report. The final strategy will consider at a high level the most efficient use of resources to deliver health outcomes.

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Strategy: An outline

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

Brief description of “background papers”

Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection.

None

n/a