


<p>Non-Executive Update for the:  <b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b></p> <p>Tuesday 2 November 2021</p>	
<p><b>Report of:</b> Somen Banerjee, Director of Public Health, LBTH</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted</p>
<p><b>Strengthening Research infrastructure and collaborations in Tower Hamlets</b></p>	

<p><b>Originating Officer(s)</b></p>	<p>Liam Crosby, Associate Director Public Health, LBTH</p>
<p><b>Wards affected</b></p>	<p>All Wards</p>

### Executive Summary

This briefing provides the Health and Wellbeing Board with a short update on current work to strengthen research collaborations in Tower Hamlets. This work is to provide the underlying infrastructure, collaborations, and processes to enable research on several ‘wider determinants’ of health, as set out in the priorities of Tower Hamlets Partnership and the HWB Strategy.

As part of this work we are developing a bid for the NIHR-funded ‘Health Determinants Research Collaborations’ – which intends to fund Research & Development infrastructure within local authorities. This funding can be used to develop underlying infrastructure to *support* research (rather than to *do* research).

### Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Note the content of the attached presentation
2. Consider and provide steer on the questions on slide 11
3. Provide its support for a bid to the NIHR funding opportunity *Health Determinants Research Collaborations* - in the form of a letter from the Chair of the HWB Committee.

## **1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 This briefing is primarily for information, with input welcomed from the HWBB.
- 1.2 The main decision is to provide support for a bid to the NIHR HDRC call. Doing so will demonstrate the support of the HWB for strengthening research infrastructure in the Borough. This will support a culture change to ensure we better identify, use and generate research within Tower Hamlets.

## **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 The HWB may not provide its support to the NIHR HDRC call at this time; this would prevent us from seeking this opportunity for additional resource to support research infrastructure in the Borough at this time.

## **3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

- 3.1. The attached presentation provides the Health and Wellbeing Board with a short update on current work to strengthen research collaborations in Tower Hamlets. This work is to provide the underlying infrastructure, collaborations, and processes to enable research on several 'wider determinants' of health, as set out in the priorities of Tower Hamlets Partnership and the HWB Strategy.
- 3.2. As part of this work we are developing a bid for the NIHR-funded 'Health Determinants Research Collaborations' – which intends to fund Research & Development infrastructure within local authorities. This funding can be used to develop underlying infrastructure to *support* research (rather than to *do* research).
- 3.3. Further details are set out in the attached slide deck.
- 3.4. If Tower Hamlets is successful in moving to Stage 2 of the HDRC, we will consult further with partners on this.

## **4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 N/A

## **5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no specific statutory implications at this time
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## **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

### **Linked Report**

- NONE

### **Appendices**

- APPENDIX 1 “**Strengthening our research capabilities in Tower Hamlets**” (presentation).

### **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:**

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