


Health and Wellbeing Board 8 th July 2014	
Report of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets	Classification: Unrestricted
Maternal, Early Years and Child Health, update for the Health and Wellbeing Board	

Lead Officer	Robert McCulloch Graham, Corporate Director, ESCW
Contact Officers	Esther Trenchard-Mabere, Associate Director of Public Health Somen Banerjee, Interim Director of Public Health
Executive Key Decision?	No

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of maternal, early years and child health across Tower Hamlets. Local performance against relevant indicators from the Public Health Outcomes Framework is presented, and compared to data from London and England, to highlight areas of need and also local strengths and achievements.

Tower Hamlets has the highest level of child poverty in the country as well as high levels of statutory homelessness and low utilisation of outdoor space for exercise / health reasons. All of these significantly impact on maternal, early years and child health.

The proportion of children achieving a good level of school readiness at the end of reception is significantly lower in Tower Hamlets compared to England although when the comparison is between children in Tower Hamlets and England eligible for free school meals, our children do significantly better.

Other public health outcome indicators where Tower Hamlets is significantly worse than London and England are:

- Low birth weight of term babies – this may increase the risk of child obesity and diabetes and cardiovascular disease later in life
- Dental decay (5 year olds) – this has been highlighted as an area that requires more attention
- Excess weight in 10-11 year olds – this is one of the current priorities for action
- HPV vaccination (12-13 year olds) – this will be monitored to ensure that performance improves

The report describes a variety of multi-agency groups that have responsibility for addressing maternal, early years and child health.

The Maternity, Early Years and Childhood Commissioning and Delivery Group of the Children and Families Partnership Board is currently responsible for taking forward the Maternity and Early Years priority of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and is currently focussing on the following health priorities:

- Maternal and Infant Emotional Health and Wellbeing,
- Two Year Development Review
- Child Obesity

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to discuss:

1. Partnership arrangements for taking forward work to improve maternal, early years and child health
2. Priorities for action to improve maternal, early years and child health

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 No decisions, paper for discussion

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Not applicable

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 Report attached

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 4.1. This report provides an overview of maternal, early years and child health across Tower Hamlets with local performance compared with London authorities and nationally. There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report however any future partnering arrangements would need to consider resource implications and be managed within existing budgets.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 5.1. Section 12 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 ('the 2012 Act') inserts new section 2B into the NHS Act 2006 to give the Council a new duty to take such steps as it considers appropriate to improve the health of the people in

its area. Additionally, section 18 of the 2012 Act gives the Secretary of State the power to make regulations as to the exercise by local authorities of certain public health functions by inserting new section 6C into the NHS Act 2006. This means that the Secretary of State can require local authorities to carry out aspects of his health protection functions by taking certain prescribed steps. For example:

- Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013 places a duty on the Council to weigh and measure children at least once during reception and again during their last year of primary school.
- The Council has new duties under Regulation 17 of the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities (Partnership Arrangements, Care Trusts, Public Health and Local Healthwatch) Regulations 2012 to secure the provision of oral health promotion programmes and surveys.

- 5.2. Therecommendations for the HWB are consistent with the general policy, reflected in the 2012 Act, of giving HWBs responsibility for joint health and wellbeing strategies and the joint strategic needs assessment, and fall within the functions of the HWB as set out in its Terms of Reference.
- 5.3. In particular, therecommendation for the HWB to discuss partnership arrangements arising from the report of Maternity, Early Years and Child Health, falls within the HWB functions of encouraging integration and supporting partnerships under section 75 of the NHS Act 2006.
- 5.4. Therecommendation for the HWB to discuss priorities arising from the report of Maternity, Early Years and Child Health within the function to identify needs and priorities across Tower Hamlets.
- 5.5. When planning for integration of health and social care functions, the Council and its committees 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.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1. The paper is to discuss how the HWBB can work together to address health inequalities in children

7. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 7.1 Not applicable

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

8.1. Not applicable

9. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Not applicable

10. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

10.1 Not applicable

Appendices and Background Documents

Appendices

Background Documents

Officer contact details for background documents:[delete if not required]

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