



**Report to: Cabinet, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

**Report of: Councillor Lynn Denham, Cabinet Member for Sustainable Communities**

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**Subject: WORCESTER CITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING ACTIVITY PLAN 2017-2019**

**1. Recommendation**

**1.1 That the Cabinet endorses the actions in the Worcester City Health and Wellbeing Activity Plan prepared by the Healthy Worcester Partnership.**

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In April 2013, in accordance with the health and social care act, statutory responsibility for public health transferred to Worcestershire County Council, with district councils supporting this agenda locally.
- 2.2 The Worcestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) was set-up to promote integration and strengthen joint working between partner organisations to improve health. The South Worcestershire local authorities are represented by Gerry O'Donnell, a local councillor from Wychavon District Council.
- 2.3 One of the main responsibilities of the HWBB is to assess local needs through joint strategic needs assessment and develop a shared joint health and wellbeing strategy to address identified needs. The most recent adopted Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21 identifies 3 main priorities:
- Improve mental health and wellbeing
  - Increase physical activity
  - Reduce harm from drinking too much alcohol.
- 2.4 The Worcestershire Health Improvement Group (HIG) is a sub-group of the HWBB. It was established in March 2014 and its purpose is to lead, co-ordinate and ensure progress of action to improve health and well-being, focusing on health inequalities and the wider determinants of health and well-being in Worcestershire. Each local authority is represented by a Councillor and the group is well attended. The role of HIG is to monitor the delivery of a range of Worcestershire Strategic Plans. It is also tasked with the delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing strategy by way of the development and monitoring of the local Health and Well-being Plans for each district/city with the aim of highlighting and co-ordinating local action and sharing good practice. In the spirit of working in partnership with the County Council and supporting the public health agenda, Worcester City Council has supported the development of a Worcester City Health & Wellbeing Activity Plan attached at **Appendix 1.**

### **3. The Worcester City Health & Well Being Activity Plan**

- 3.1 The vision set out by the Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Worcester City Health & Wellbeing Activity Plan can only be achieved by bringing together organisations from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors and enabling them to work in partnership.
- 3.2 The Healthy Worcester Partnership (HWP) is a group that has been established for a number of years and brings together partners from across the city that influences health and its wider determinants. The partnership meets quarterly and is chaired by the cabinet member Lynn Denham with responsibility for health. This group was tasked with developing an operational activity plan.
- 3.3 A range of positive activity is currently delivered via Worcester City Council and its partners to improve the Health & Well Being of the community. Types of activities currently undertaken include well attended healthy walks through the green spaces of the City conducted via our Cleaner and Greener Team.
- 3.4 The priorities within the Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Strategy were considered by the HWP and have been incorporated into the Worcester City Health & Wellbeing Activity Plan. To enable a healthy City also requires consideration of emerging themes, where problems may develop, or where we need a greater understanding. There are three of these, drawn from the City data that have also been included in the plan:
- *Outcomes and access to services for the Black And Minority Ethnic (BAME) population:* Worcester has seen a near doubling in the proportion of the BAME population from 2001 to 2011, and we know that a higher than average proportion of BAME population in Worcestershire has a long-term limiting condition. This issue requires further in-depth exploration;
  - *Homelessness:* The links between good housing and health are well documented. A number of plans are in place to help ensure that Worcester residents benefit from good quality housing. This needs to be supported, to ensure the health of residents.
  - *Air pollution:* This is a clear and avoidable cause of disease, death and disability, and there are four air quality management areas in the City. It will be important to ensure that these are given priority, thereby benefitting the health of local residents.
- 3.5 The activity plan work streams are as follows:
- Mental health and wellbeing throughout life
  - Increasing physical activity
  - Reducing harm from alcohol
  - To help to improve air quality and reduce effects of poor air quality on health
  - Health outcomes for BAME groups
  - Preventing Homelessness
- 3.6 The HWP has included existing activity and newly planned but resourced activity that address the identified work streams. These are detailed within the attached plan.

- 3.7 Although the Worcestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the City Plan are five year plans, the Worcester City Health and Wellbeing Plan will be a two year plan and it will be refreshed after two years. The Plan will be monitored via the Health Worcester Partnership. The activity within the attached plan will support the delivery of the City Plan theme to be a "Healthy and Active" city.
- 3.8 The City Council is committed to achieving the activity set out within the plan through current resources allocated. The City Council will ensure support is given to the plan and that is monitored through its lifetime. Improved Health and Wellbeing will be achieved via enabling partners to contribute to activities and services across the City with a focus on those most in need.

#### **4. Implications**

##### **4.1 Financial and Budgetary Implications**

This Plan will be delivered in partnership and within existing staffing and already identified financial resources. Action on wellbeing can help councils to save money and deal with many of the complex issues facing communities (including the adverse economic climate, the threat of climate change, and discrimination).

##### **4.2 Legal and Governance Implications**

Promoting the wellbeing of individuals and communities is fundamental to the work of local government.

##### **4.3 Risk Implications**

Local councils face unprecedented challenges. We are all experiencing massive reductions in finances and are striving to make efficiency savings at a time when demand on public services is growing as a result of economic recession and demographic changes. This Plan will support Worcestershire County Council to mitigate against the growing demand for their services by supporting the delivery of resilient individuals and communities.

##### **4.4 Corporate/Policy Implications**

The activity within the attached plan will support the delivery of the City Plan theme to be a "Healthy and Active" city.

##### **4.5 Equality Implications**

The Plan will positively support the improved health and well being of Worcester City residents.

##### **4.6 Human Resources Implications**

There are no human resource implications related to this paper or plan.

##### **4.7 Health and Safety Implications**

There are no health and safety implications resulting from this paper.

**Ward(s):**

**All**

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**Background Papers:**

**none**