

Health and Wellbeing Board 11th May 2023	
Title	Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022/23
Report of	Director of Public Health and Prevention
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	Yes
Enclosures	Appendix A – Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022/23: Mind The Health Gap in Barnet!
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Summary

The role of the Director of Public Health (DPH) is to be an independent advocate for the health of the population and system leadership for its improvement and protection.

The independence is expressed through the statutory requirement to produce DPH Annual Report – an important vehicle for providing advice and recommendations on population health to both professionals and public – providing added value over and above intelligence and information routinely available (e.g. health profiles; Joint Strategic Needs Assessment etc). Due to the pandemic, annual production of these reports were paused over the last few years.

This year the Annual Report from the Director of Public Health focuses on the Health Inequalities in Barnet.

Officers Recommendations

- 1. That the Board approve the recommendations set out in the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022/23.**

1. Why this report is needed

- 1.1 The Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to produce annual report on the state of population's health in the area they serve. This year, DPH Annual Report focuses on Health Inequalities in Barnet.
- 1.2 On average, Barnet is a healthy borough with average life expectancy and healthy life expectancy higher in Barnet compared to London and England's average. However, there is still 6.7 years difference in male life expectancy and 5.7 years difference in female life expectancy between those living in most affluent and most deprived parts of the borough. Furthermore, a length of years spent in good health has been decreasing over the last decade (healthy life expectancy) with people, on average, living last 18-19 years in poor health.
- 1.3 This report aims to describe health inequalities, provide some key, high level local measures, explains what factors influence our health and contribute to the life expectancy gap, mention some work already underway and provide a high-level recommendations for future focus.
- 1.4 The aim of the report is to recommend areas for future work consideration for the Health and Wellbeing Board and wider partnership that would help improve the overall health and wellbeing of residents in Barnet.

2. Reasons for recommendations

- 2.1 Recommendations in the report will strengthen ongoing work with targeted interventions for those communities most at risk of poor health and premature mortality.

3. Alternative options considered and not recommended

- 3.1 N/A

4. Post decision implementation

- 4.1 Recommendations, once approved, will be incorporated into the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 Implementation Plan for 2023/24.

5. Implications of decision

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 Director of Public Health Annual Report on Health Inequalities link to the 'Caring for people, our places and the planet: Our Plan for Barnet 2023 to 2026' links to the outcomes in all three pillars and is supporting delivery of the overarching outcomes of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 21-25.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 Production of the report and implementation of recommendations will be delivered within

the existing resources in Public Health Grant, Our Plan for Barnet and the Transformation Strategy.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (2012 Act) confers duties on Local authorities to improve public health. Local authorities have a duty to take steps as they consider appropriate for improving the health of people in their area.

5.3.2 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (s30) added s.73A to the National Health Service Act 2006 requiring the appointment of a Director of Public Health. Under subsection s.73B (5), the Director is required to prepare an annual report on the health of the people in the area of the Local Authority and the Local Authority is required to publish this report.

5.3.3 In line with Article 7 of the Council Constitution, the terms of reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board includes the following responsibilities:

- To jointly assess the health and social care needs of the population with NHS, commissioners, and apply the findings of a Barnet joint strategic needs assessment (JSNA) to all relevant strategies and policies.
- To work together to ensure the best fit between available resources to meet the health and social care needs of the population of Barnet (including children), by both improving services for health and social care and helping people to move as close as possible to a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing. Specific resources to be overseen include money for social care being allocated through the NHS; dedicated public health budgets; the Better Care Fund; and Section 75 partnership agreements between the NHS and the Council
- To promote partnership and, as appropriate, integration, across all necessary areas, including the use of joined-up commissioning plans across the NHS, social care and public health.
- To explore partnership work across North Central London where appropriate.
- Specific responsibility to oversee public health and promote prevention agenda across the partnership and develop further health and social care integration

5.4 Insight

5.4.1 Barnet Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Office of National Statistics (ONS) Census 2021 and the Office of Health Inequalities and Disparities (OHID) Fingertips were used to inform content of the report.

5.5 Social Value

5.5.1 Not applicable

5.6 Risk Management

5.6.1 None identified

5.7 Equalities and Diversity

5.7.1 A whole systems approach focusing on health inequalities is aimed at improving health and wellbeing outcomes of those with the highest needs, including communities with protected characteristics.

5.7.2 The report will feed into the emerging work on Tackling the Gaps being undertaken by the Council, and it will support transformation and delivery of Our Barnet Plan 2023-26.

5.8 Corporate Parenting

5.8.1 Whilst there is no direct impact on the council's corporate parenting role as a result of the Director of Public Health Annual report, interventions aimed at reducing health inequalities provide opportunities to support the council's role as corporate parent through the health and wellbeing improvement interventions for children and young people residing in the borough.

5.9 Consultation and Engagement

5.9.1 Reducing health inequalities is overarching theme in Barnet Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 that was informed by extensive public consultation and engagement. Reducing inequalities theme is part of the recently published our Barnet Plan that was informed by productive community engagement with local residents.

5.10 Environmental Impact

5.10.1 Recommendations of the report include actions around promoting Active Travel and the School Superzones has actions around improving access to green spaces and improving air quality. It is anticipated that this will have a positive impact on the Council's carbon and ecology impact.

6. Background papers

6.1 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment | Barnet Council](#)

6.2 Barnet Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 [Barnet Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 to 2025 - full document.pdf](#)