Council

16 March 2021

Warwickshire's Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020/21

Recommendation

That Council receives and supports the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020/21.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 Directors of Public Health have a statutory requirement to write an annual report on the health and wellbeing of their population, and the local authority is required to publish it.
- 1.2 The Director of Public Health Annual Report is a vehicle for informing local people about the health of their community, as well as providing necessary information for decision makers in local health services and authorities on health gaps and priorities that need to be addressed.
- 1.3 The theme of this year's report (which is attached as an appendix to this report) is the impact of Covid-19 on health inequalities in Warwickshire. It will also include an overview of the health and wellbeing of the Warwickshire population and information on progress with the 2019 recommendations. The report includes a series of recommendations which require a concerted joint effort across the health and care system if they are to be achieved.
- 1.4 The current pandemic has impacted on everybody's health and wellbeing. It has shone a light on the health inequalities which already existed in Warwickshire for example, life expectancy is 8.2 years lower for men and 5.7 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Warwickshire than in the least deprived areas.
- 1.5 This year's report is vital to raise awareness of the impact of COVID-19 on our residents, highlighting what we must put in place to support everyone to recover from the pandemic, improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities
- 1.6 The aim of this report is to highlight the impact of Covid-19 on health inequalities in Warwickshire. Case studies have been used to illustrate the impact locally. These case studies show both the barriers that people have faced, as well as the benefits from accessing services. It has also

demonstrated the need for services to understand the lives of the people they are working with and be able to engage in holistic conversations to understand the underlying or hidden problems that people face, making sure they are able to get access to the support they need.

1.7 The recommendations in the report will aim to improve the health and wellbeing of the Warwickshire population and reduce the health inequalities which exist.

2.0 Financial Implications

2.1 None.

3.0 Environmental Implications

3.1 None.

4.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 4.1 The report will be published the w/c 22nd March alongside an online gallery which provides further case studies from residents across Warwickshire about their experiences of testing positive for COVID-19 and the wider impact of lockdown on health and wellbeing. A data dashboard will also be produced which will follow indicators over time at various geographies: LSOA, JSNA, district & borough, place, Warwickshire and nationally. The data will relate to a range of indicators and themes covered in the report, including the wider determinants of health and inequalities.
- 4.2 A detailed marketing and communications plan will be prepared to ensure the report is communicated widely with partners across the health and care system and Warwickshire residents.

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The report was shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board prior to publication.