

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE

17 July 2024

Report of the Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)

1 HEALTH PRIORITIES

Summary

The Council's Health Action Team has agreed three health priorities to focus the work of the group on. These priorities will feed into a Kent & Medway shared delivery plan which underpins the Kent & Medway Integrated Care Strategy. Members are asked to endorse the priorities and note how we plan to move forward in tackling this important agenda.

1.1 Background

1.1.1 The Kent & Medway Integrated Care Strategy aims to bring together all system partners e.g. health, local authorities to make a significant difference, improving local services and supporting healthier living. The vision is "we will work together to make health and wellbeing better than any partner can do alone". The shared outcomes are as follows:

- Give children and young people the best start in life.
- Tackle the wider determinants to prevent ill health.
- Support happy and healthy living for all.
- Empower patients and carers.
- Improve health and care services.
- Support and grow our workforce.

1.1.2 There is a recognition within the strategy that local action, informed by local knowledge and led by local partners means that local systems are critical to improving health and wellbeing.

1.1.3 It is proposed that within the delivery plan for the strategy, district council priorities are cited which will support the overall shared outcomes.

1.2 Tonbridge & Malling Health Action Team

1.2.1 Tonbridge & Malling's Health Action Team (HAT) is a forum where the Council and local partners can come together to share knowledge and expertise and plan actions to help improve health for all across the borough. Membership includes TM Active, faith groups, West Kent Mind, local housing providers, Involve, Citizens Advice Bureau, grow 19, Communigrow and we are continually reviewing membership and welcome any organisation that can add value to our discussions.

1.2.2 After a period of inactivity for the HAT, recent excellent support from Kent County Council's Public Health team has led to a number of positive and engaging meetings where we have focussed on establishing three priorities. This has been done through discussion, workshops and a survey. The three priorities are as follows:

- Improving mental health
- Supporting older people
- Improving children's health

1.2.3 We have a further HAT meeting on 10 July where we will be looking at actions that can sit under each of these priorities that partners are already carrying out in order to start to develop a TMBC Health Action Plan. The plan is not intended to be burdensome either on the Council or our partners, rather to be a collection of the activities/support etc that is already happening across the borough within existing resources.

1.2.4 We will work with Kent County Council's Public Health team on information and statistics to underpin our action plan however it has to be recognised that monitoring any impact against the priorities we have will be extremely challenging given the many influencing factors involved. We will also identify any gaps in services in order to work within the Integrated Care system to see if these can be addressed.

1.2.5 The work of the HAT is supported internally by the One You team and in particular the One You Team Leader. We are commissioned by Kent County Council to deliver a "health in all policies" approach and this forms part of this work. We have recently had an internal Officer health meeting with representation from all Directorates and this was extremely useful in recognising what is already happening at Tonbridge & Malling BC to contribute towards the three priorities identified above.

1.3 Legal Implications

1.3.1 None arising from this report.

1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.4.1 There are no additional budget requirements from this report.

1.5 Risk Assessment

1.5.1 Kent County Council commission the One You work that we carry out within Tonbridge & Malling including the wider health in all policies work. We operate this team within the grant allocation received. If this funding was to cease then we do not currently have the capacity within the Council to continue the health in all policies work and our continued role within the Integrated Care Strategy would be at risk.

1.6 Recommendations

1.6.1 That Members **ENDORSE** the three Health Action Team priorities as below.

- Improving mental health
- Supporting older people
- Improving children's health

1.6.2 That Members **NOTE** the positive work of the Health Action Team and the links being made with the Kent & Medway Integrated Care Strategy.

The Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and policy Framework.

Background papers:

Nil

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