



Open Report on behalf of Derek Ward, Director of Public Health

Report to:	Executive
Date:	01 December 2020
Subject:	Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020
Decision Reference:	I021079
Key decision?	No

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to present the Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2020. This year's report is on Covid-19 and impact of the disease on health and wellbeing in Lincolnshire.

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive receives the Annual Report from the Director of Public Health and arranges for its publication.

Alternatives Considered:

1. None

Reasons for Recommendation:

The Director of Public Health is required by statute to prepare an annual report on the health of the people in the Council's area and the Council has a statutory duty to publish it.

1. Background

Directors of Public Health in England have a statutory duty to write an annual public health report to demonstrate the state of health within their communities. Local authorities have a statutory duty to publish the report. As the report is aimed at lay audiences, the key feature must be its accessibility to the wider public.

The 2020 report focuses on Covid-19 and its impact, so far, on Lincolnshire. The pandemic has highlighted many of the inequalities that exist in our communities and the longer-term impacts of the disease are likely to be with us for some time. Specifically, increasing number of people experiencing depression, anxiety,

loneliness and mental health issues; the ongoing economic impact on people's lives in terms of employment, loss of income and future opportunities for younger adults; and the increasing fatigue of having to live with the disease especially for the most vulnerable.

The annual report will also be presented to Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 13 January 2021; to the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire on 20 January 2021; and to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 30 March 2021. The Greater Lincolnshire Leaders' and Chief Executives' meeting is also due to consider the report in January 2021.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation.

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic.
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it.
- Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding.

Compliance with the duties in section 149 may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

The duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process.

The report actively seeks to explore and highlight health inequalities.

Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Joint Health & Well Being Strategy (JHWS) in coming to a decision.

This report is an independent professional view of the state of health of the people in Lincolnshire by the Director of Public Health. It has therefore drawn from a wide range of evidence, including but not limited to the JSNA. The analysis and conclusions are designed to inform and support the ongoing delivery of the JHWS.

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area, (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area.

Section 17 considerations were made as part of the research and development of this report, through no specific impacts were identified.

3. Conclusion

The statutory Annual Report of the Director of Public Health on the health and wellbeing of the people of Lincolnshire has now been prepared and the Executive is asked to receive and note its content prior to the document being published on the Council's website.

4. Legal Comments:

Under section 73B(5) of the National Health Service Act 2006, the director of public health for a local authority must prepare an annual report on the health of the people in the area of the local authority and under section 73B(6) of the Act, the local authority must publish the report.

The decision is consistent with the Policy Framework and within the remit of the Executive.

5. Resource Comments:

The Annual Report highlights how Lincolnshire has utilised the Public Health Grant monies received to enhance the outcomes for the population and further understand people's needs and the future direction.

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Risks and Impact Analysis

No

7. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report

Appendix A	Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020
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8. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Alison Christie, who can be contacted on 07917 245464 or alison.christie@lincolnshire.gov.uk .