

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE: 23 APRIL 2013****REPORT OF: MR MICHAEL GOSLING, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH****LEAD OFFICER: SUSIE KEMP, ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE****SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEALTH EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

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SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

The Cabinet is asked to consider the Public Health Equalities Impact Assessments (EIA) which underpin the related sections of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2013-18. Service related EIAs were considered by the Cabinet as part of the agreement of the MTFP at its meeting on 26 March 2013. Following a request by the Cabinet, the EIAs relating to Public Health have been updated and are presented in this report for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the contents of the Equalities Impact Assessments for Public Health be noted and agreed.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To consider the equalities implications of the proposals relating to Public Health as set out in the agreed MTFP.

DETAILS:**Medium Term Financial Plan – Public Health Equalities Implications**

1. The Medium Term Financial Plan 2013-18 (MTFP) identifies the resources required to achieve the objectives of the corporate and directorate strategies. The Cabinet approved the indicative five year revenue and capital budgets for the period 2013-18 on 5 February 2013. Following this, Full Council approved the 2013/14 budget and set the council tax precept for that year. The MTFP, which was agreed by the Cabinet at its meeting on 26 March, provides the detailed service revenue and capital budgets.
2. The Public Health budget is new for 2013/14 and will fund the Council's new public health responsibilities. Equality analysis has been undertaken of public health programmes which will be transferred to the County Council. In most cases, programmes will continue unchanged from previous years meaning the impact of the transfer of responsibilities on groups with protected characteristics will be minimal.

3. The Cabinet is required to consider the equalities implications of the proposals underpinning the MTFP. Following a discussion at its meeting on 26 March 2013, the Cabinet agreed that Equalities Impact Assessments for Public Health be brought to the next Cabinet meeting for approval.
4. The Public Health Equalities Impact Assessments, attached as **Annex 1**, have been reviewed and updated to ensure that they are both current and comprehensive. The EIAs cover the following areas:
 - 5-19 years commissioning (School Nursing)
 - Health Improvement Programme - Behaviour Change Unit
 - Public Health - Health Protection
 - Sexual and Reproductive Health Commissioning – integration of Sexual and reproductive health services
 - Surrey Drug and Alcohol Action Team – Substance Misuse

CONSULTATION:

5. The MTFP budgets were subject to review and scrutiny by Select Committees during February and March and this was reflected in the final version agreed by Cabinet on 26 March 2013.
6. Engagement and consultation carried out as part of each of the Equalities Impact Assessments are set out in the relevant sections of the attached EIAs.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

7. The attached Equalities Impact Assessments form part of the setting of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan 2013-2018 as agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 26 March 2013. The MTFP includes £166m of savings to be made over the five-year period 2013-2018. The risks of achieving these savings have been assessed and were considered by Cabinet under Section 2 of the MTFP.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

8. The Public Health Equalities Impact Assessments form part of the consideration of the proposals in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan as agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 26 March 2013. There are no direct financial implications from the consideration of the EIAs.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

9. The Section 151 Officer confirms that all material financial and business issues and risks have been considered in this report.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

10. The Council has a duty under the Equality Act (2010) to consider the equalities implications of the proposals underpinning the MTFP. These are detailed in the "Equalities implications" section of this report.

Equalities and Diversity

11. Attached as **Annex 1** are updated copies of the Equalities Impact Assessments relating to Public Health areas. A summary of the key impacts on people with protected characteristics and any mitigating action taken to address any potential negative impact for each area is set out below.

5-19 years commissioning (School Nursing)

Impacts

12. Positive impacts have been identified for the 5-19 age group who will receive targeted services. Where services are universal this will benefit all groups with protected characteristics within this age group. Where services are focused these will benefit those aged 5-19 from more deprived areas.
13. Potential negative impacts are identified as arising from the targeting of services on the 5-19 group if care (communication) pathways are not in place at transition points.

Mitigating actions

14. To mitigate the potential negative impact lost or delayed support for children at key transition points, good communication with other commissioners in the pathway will be ensured.

Health Improvement Programme - Behaviour Change Unit

Impacts

15. Positive impacts for young people are expected from Tobacco Control projects which will target young people, specifically those at age 15. Health benefits are also expected for pregnant women and BME groups who will be provided with additional support to stop smoking.
16. Positive impacts are expected for people with mental health issues as a result of the programmes.
17. Potential negative impacts are identified for those who are outside the age criteria for an NHS Health Check (age 40-74).

Mitigating actions

18. To ensure ongoing monitoring and evaluation of services in regards to groups with protected characteristics. To continue to consult and involve service users as part of the commissioning process.
19. Those outside of the NHS Health Check age criteria are not screened

Public Health - Health Protection

Impacts

20. Positive impact:
- Wider focus on prevention to ensure a protected population.
 - Screening and immunisation programmes are targeted appropriately to those considered most at risk.
21. Negative impact:

A number of screening and immunisation programmes are not available for all due to being targeted appropriately to those considered most at risk.

Mitigating actions

22. Work with communications department to ensure key messages are communicated appropriately. Ensure that where groups are targeted for certain services that this continues to be based on appropriate evidence and national guidance.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Commissioning – integration of Sexual and reproductive health services

Impacts

23. The commissioning of services is targeted at under-25s as the most significant group of service users which will have a positive impact on outcomes for this group. For older age groups, there is some risk that the services may be more limited but national evidence shows that those over 25 are already more likely to use GP services which should reduce any negative impact.
24. Proposals to develop an integrated commissioning service are likely to lead to changes to how services are delivered which could impact on groups with protected characteristics in the future. As proposals are developed the impact on groups with protected characteristics will be taken into consideration.
25. Data on service used by disabled people will need to be collected as part of changes to services and shared with commissioners.

Surrey Drug and Alcohol Action Team – Substance Misuse

Impacts

26. Positive for all groups but there is a marked under representation of women receiving care and treatment.
27. This set of services is transferring to the council. It is not at this stage being reconfigured or re-commissioned. Separate EIAs will be carried out as services go through procurement.

Mitigating actions

28. Collecting more information on prevalence across the protected characteristics groups to further improve contract management and the evaluation of the effectiveness of services.
29. Additional engagement with women to improve the rate of take up of services.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

30. Any actions outlined in the Equalities Implications will be implemented through the course of the MTFP and the documents reviewed as appropriate.

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Consulted:

As set out in the individual EIAs

Annexes:

Annex 1 - Public Health Equalities Impact Assessments

Sources/background papers:

- Medium Term Financial Plan 2013 -2018 and report to Cabinet, 26 March 2013
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