

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH 2008

Report By: Director of Public Health

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To note the publication of the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2008.

Background

2. In previous years the Committee has received a presentation on the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health. One reason for this practice was to establish whether there are any key issues of concern that should be incorporated into the Committee's work programme.
3. This year there has been a new approach with a presentation being made to all Members of the Council at a seminar on 27 January 2009 at which the key messages of the annual report were highlighted. The seminar also considered the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
4. The Annual Report notes that overall, health outcomes are good in the county. However, there are avoidable differences and demonstrable inequalities. The Director of Public Health has emphasised the importance of focusing on and prioritising preventative and health promoting actions. The Annual Report recommends four key operational tactics to facilitate and create levers to improve health and wellbeing in the county. These are:
 - i. Design and implement a GP-led health promotion programme
 - ii. Introduce a health promoting hospital programme
 - iii. Enhance and reframe local health intelligence functions to create insight for health improvement actions targeted at individuals, families, and communities at large
 - iv. Prioritise local investment based on evidence and focused on comprehensive delivery of evidence-led interventions
5. The Annual Report will shortly be circulated to all Members of the Council and will be publicly available.
6. The scoping statement for the review of GP services earlier on this agenda makes reference to the increasing emphasis on lifestyle choices and population wellbeing and proposes an examination of GP involvement in preventative health measures. It is proposed that the Annual Report will further inform the Committee's future work on the preventative medicine agenda following completion of the review.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Dr Akeem Ali, Director of Public Health, on 01432 383445

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None

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