

MEETING:	CABINET
MEETING DATE:	12 JUNE 2014
TITLE OF REPORT:	UNDERSTANDING HEREFORDSHIRE 2014
REPORT BY:	DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Classification

Open

Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To note and use the report as overall evidence of need for business planning, decision-making and commissioning

Recommendations

THAT:

- (a) The evidence base be noted (consisting of *Understanding Herefordshire* and the underpinning data), and used to inform future planning, decision making and commissioning;**
- (b) In the light of the evidence base, no changes be made to the current corporate plan; and**
- (c) The budget proposals are developed in accordance with the timetable outlined in this report**

Alternative Options

- 1 There are no alternative options.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 To ensure that future decisions on service priorities, planning and commissioning are based on what we understand about the key issues and long-term challenges in Herefordshire. To use the information as evidence for budget setting and obtaining funding to meet need in the county (from government, the EU and investment by the private sector in the county).

Key Considerations

- 3 *Understanding Herefordshire* provides a single integrated assessment of the health and well-being needs of Herefordshire's population, combining the statutory requirement to produce a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the previous State of Herefordshire reports (developed over the last decade).
- 4 *Understanding Herefordshire* provides a high level summary with electronic links to the underlying evidence provided throughout the document, where more detail and supporting strategies can be found. The integrated evidence base is available at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures and maintained by the local authority strategic intelligence team.
- 5 *Understanding Herefordshire* and the underlying evidence base is used to influence and inform future decision-making in the following ways:
 - Review the corporate plan and effectiveness of key strategies
 - To inform future commissioning and delivery plans
 - To inform the budget setting process
 - Provides evidence to obtain funding to meet need
 - To enable the market to provide key services and infrastructure by providing evidence of need
 - To influence lifestyle behaviour of people who live and work in Herefordshire
- 6 The current Corporate Plan 2013/15 provides a clear basis to guide delivery and budget planning for the coming year. As such, no amendments are currently proposed. The corporate plan provides the policy framework within which the budget is to be set in the spring. The timetable for Council to set the budget, and consequently the council tax, is guided by statutory requirements and is set out in the council's constitution. In essence the Council Tax must be set in March, and to inform that decision the Council sets its budget in February.

The annual cycle is as below:

Cabinet receive <i>Understanding Herefordshire</i> report	12 June 2014
Start consultation on budget for 2015/16	July 2014
Result of Public Consultation	September 2014
Cabinet consider 2015/16 budget proposals	January 2015
Council approves 2015/16 budget	February 2015
Council sets 2015/16 Council Tax	March 2015
Cabinet approves 2015/16 Delivery Plan	March 2015

Community Impact

- 7 The evidence base informs the development of key strategic plans and commissioning decisions across the county, highlighting key areas of need including geographic communities and particular groups of people within communities

Equality and Human Rights

- 8 *Understanding Herefordshire* considers inequalities in opportunities and outcomes wherever the evidence is available. This is particularly relevant for health inequalities

Financial Implications

- 9 The evidence is used for informing the budget setting process.

Legal Implications

- 10 *Understanding Herefordshire* fulfils the statutory requirement to produce an annual Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Risk Management

- 11 *Understanding Herefordshire* (and its associated web-based integrated evidence base) mitigate the risk that priorities and commissioning decisions are not based upon assessment of need. However this requires the evidence to be used to inform decisions.

Consultees

- 12 The integrated needs assessment reference group contributed to and challenged the narrative summary of *Understanding Herefordshire 2014* in early May. The group is led by the strategic intelligence team with representatives from the local authority (public health, transport, housing, forward planning, sustainable communities and the adult and children's improvement team), the clinical commissioning group, Herefordshire Voluntary Support Services and the local nature partnership. The draft report was also discussed at Management Board, Health and Wellbeing Board and Leader's briefing week beginning 19 May 2014.

Appendices

Appendix A - Understanding Herefordshire 2014

Background Papers

- None identified