

Title of report: Task and Finish Group Report: The Impact of the Intensive Poultry Industry on Human Health and Wellbeing

Meeting: Health, Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

Meeting date: Friday 22 July 2022

Report by: Democratic Services

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose

To report the outcomes and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group on 'The Impact of the Intensive Poultry Industry on Human Health and Wellbeing'. The committee will be invited to consider the outcomes from the task and finish group and to decide if the recommendations should be submitted to the Cabinet.

Recommendation(s)

That:

- (a) The committee considers the report and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group on 'The Impact of the Intensive Poultry Industry on Human Health and Wellbeing' (at Appendix A to this report) and determines whether to agree the findings for submission to the Cabinet.**

Alternative options

1. This report invites the committee to review the outcomes of the Task and Finish Group on 'The Impact of the Intensive Poultry Industry on Human Health and Wellbeing'. If there are any additional recommendations which the committee consider should be included these can be proposed and voted upon at the meeting.

Key considerations

2. The establishment of the Task and Finish Group on 'The Impact of the Intensive Poultry Industry on Human Health and Wellbeing' was agreed by the former Adults and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 6 September 2021 ([minute 26 of 2021/22 refers](#)).
3. The task and finish group was formed of four members of the council and it met on eight occasions, with the group's recommendations discussed and finalised at its last meeting.
4. The outcomes and recommendations are contained in the report of the task and finish group, attached at Appendix A.
5. As the successor body to the Adults and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, the Health, Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider the outcomes and to decide if the recommendations should be submitted to the Cabinet.

Community impact

6. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, the council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts and encourages constructive challenge, and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development, and review.
7. The recommendations made by the task and finish group contribute to the County Plan 2020-2024 ambition to 'Strengthen communities to ensure everyone lives well and safely together'.

Environmental impact

8. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group report, the report will need to be considered by the Executive (Cabinet) and, depending on their decision, due regard will need to be given to environmental impact.
9. In undertaking its work, the task and finish group sought to minimise waste and resource use in line with the council's Environmental Policy by circulating documents electronically and by holding its meetings on a virtual meeting platform.

Equality duty

10. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –

 - a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
11. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As the presentation of the report to the committee is a back office function, we do not believe that it will have an impact on our equality duty.

12. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group report, the report will need to be considered by the executive and, depending on their decision, due regard will need to be given to the public sector equality duty.

Resource implications

13. This report invites the committee to review the outcomes of the task and finish group. Any recommendations agreed by the committee will be submitted to the Executive (Cabinet). In considering its response, a full assessment of resource implications will be undertaken.

Legal implications

14. Section 9F (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 2000 provides that a scrutiny committee can make reports and recommendation to the Executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the Executive.
15. Section 9F (2) (e) of the Local Government Act 2000 provides that a scrutiny committee can make reports or recommendations to the Executive on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area.
16. The task and finish report informs the recommendations of the committee to be made to the Executive (Cabinet).

Risk management

17. There are no risks associated in considering the outcomes and recommendations of the task and finish group. The Executive will need to assess the risks arising from the scrutiny committee's recommendations.

Consultees

18. The organisations and individuals that the task and finish group engaged with during the production of its report are shown in section 3.4 of Appendix A.

Appendices

Appendix A Task and Finish Group: The Impact of the Intensive Poultry Industry on Human Health and Wellbeing

Background papers

None identified.