



Doncaster Council

**Doncaster
Health and Wellbeing Board**

Date: 11 March 2021

Subject: Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020

Presented by: Dr Rupert Suckling

Purpose of bringing this report to the Board	
Decision	
Recommendation to Full Council	
Endorsement	
Information	x

Implications		Applicable Yes/No
DHW Strategy Areas of Focus	Substance Misuse (Drugs and Alcohol)	X
	Mental Health	x
	Dementia	X
	Obesity	x
	Children and Families	x
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		x
Finance		
Legal		
Equalities		X
Other Implications (please list)		

How will this contribute to improving health and wellbeing in Doncaster?

The Director of Public Health (DPH) has a statutory duty to write a report on the health of the local population and the authority has a duty to publish it (section 73B (5) & (6) of the 2006 Act, inserted by section 31 of the 2012 Act). The content and structure of the report is something to be decided locally.

The 2020 Doncaster Director of Public Health Annual Report is the sixth authored by Dr Rupert Suckling. The report will be available on line at <http://bit.ly/phreport-2020>

This report describes the course of the global COVID-19 pandemic in Doncaster, includes a rapid assessment of whether health is improving locally. The report also demonstrates how the public health grant is used locally and how those commissioned services perform. Finally the report points to the role and content of a new borough strategy to support the recovery and renewal of Doncaster over the next decade.

The immediate lessons learnt from the COVID -19 pandemic include

- Doncaster people, families, communities, businesses, groups and institutions have all pulled together responding to need quickly and effectively.
- The importance of 'Key workers' was reinforced during the first national lockdown.
- Not everyone was impacted equally. Existing inequalities, poverty and social exclusion were highlighted and the following impacts were felt differently locally
 - o Impacts directly from COVID
 - o Impacts of overwhelmed health services
 - o Impacts of changes to health services
 - o Impacts of lockdown and other measures
 - o Impacts on particular communities and groups
- National decision makers are too remote and lack the local knowledge needed for many decisions including the relaxing of the first national lockdown, the re-opening of schools and return of elite sporting events
- Pandemic preparation should not be neglected. This includes better understanding of how local people live their lives, investment in health protection, establishing clear, agile, system leadership and supporting data to manage flow not just activity and increase transparency.
- Health and the economy are intrinsically linked and the best way to address the pandemic is the good for both health and the economy.

The report concludes with five recommendations for Team Doncaster and partners:

- Recognise and celebrate the role of 'Key workers' in the way Doncaster operates
- Develop and adopt a new Borough strategy to spearhead recovery and renewal
- Continue to develop asset based, community centred approaches to health and wellbeing working with and for communities
- Revitalise approaches to health inequalities, poverty and social exclusion
- Learn the lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to prepare for future public health emergencies in light of the creation of the National Institute for Health Protection (NIHP) following the review of Public Health England

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:-

NOTE the report and consider how the recommendations can be taken forward in future strategy and delivery plans.