



Doncaster Council

Doncaster
Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 01/09/2022

Subject: Compassionate Approach – Doncaster Talks Consultation Findings

Presented by: Holly Campbell (Public Health Improvement Coordinator)

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

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

How will this contribute to improving health and wellbeing in Doncaster?
<p>A person's weight is a complex issue governed by the interactions between multiple genetic and environmental factors. It is well evidenced that obesity disproportionately affects disadvantaged communities and is strongly associated with inequality and yet most interventions focus on individual responsibility to change behaviour without addressing underlying determinants that impact on health, wellbeing, and people's ability to take care of themselves.</p> <p>The compassionate approach to weight was presented to the Health & Wellbeing board in June 2021 and received endorsement from the board. A compassionate approach to weight incorporates more supportive measures that shift blame away from individuals; helps people navigate the unfair environments they live in; and fully acknowledges the mental and financial burden poverty and inequality places on people and the way it constricts their lives. The approach is a practical application of the Borough Strategy's goal: <i>'A compassionate Doncaster that improves the conditions and</i></p>

opportunities for better health and how we care for our most vulnerable’.

To inform the development of the compassionate approach to weight, a consultation was developed in partnership with academic support from the University of Leeds. The consultation encompassed three surveys; two were open to Doncaster residents - the first asking questions about food and eating habits, physical activity, and health behaviours, and the second focusing on experiences of weight management and weight stigma - and one was aimed solely at health & wellbeing professionals, to understand perceptions of weight, health, and stigma.

The results of this consultation will contribute to:

- An improved understanding of resident perceptions of health and wellbeing, and the factors locally that influence the quality of diets, the ability to be physically active, and how decisions are made regarding health and wellbeing.
- An improved understanding of local attitudes and opinions of weight, health, and wellbeing and the factors that influence weight stigma and stereotypes.
- An improved understanding of the current level of knowledge and attitudes towards weight-inclusive approaches to health, and the support required by the workforce

This will aid the development of the Compassionate Approach to weight, as well as informing multiple other work-streams including our Be Well service, HFSS advertising policy, Doncaster Food Network, Tier 2 service review, GDM network event, and others.

A snapshot of the results will be presented to the Health & Wellbeing Board, and the full results will be made available digitally.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:-

Consider and note the information presented.