



City of Doncaster Council

Report

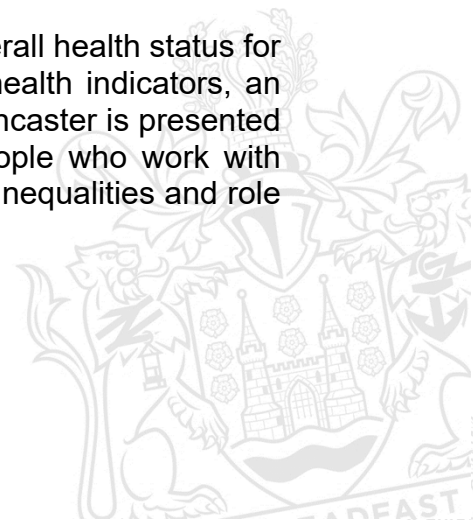
Date: 18th January 2024

To: Chair and Members of Full Council

Report Title: 2023 Director of Public Health Annual Report for Doncaster

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Directors of Public Health in England have a statutory duty to produce an independent annual report of the health of their local community. The 2023 Director of Public Health Annual report for Doncaster is the ninth Annual Report of Dr Rupert Suckling as Director of Public Health for City of Doncaster Council. The 2023 annual report is presented by Rachael Leslie who has been in the Acting Director of Public Health role for part of 2023.
2. The 2023 DPH Annual Report is available [here](#). It focusses on Doncaster's children, young people and families. Nationally and locally we measure and monitor a variety of health, wellbeing and other outcomes for children and young people. Behind each indicator is a story of equity and the influence of services, relationships and the places that children live, grow, learn and play can have on their health, wellbeing, opportunities and aspirations.
3. The Covid-19 pandemic disproportionately impacted the health and wellbeing of children and young people. School closures and limited opportunities to socialise and build relationships outside the home affected the mental health and development of young people. At the start of 2023, Doncaster established a Fairness and Wellbeing Commission with the aim of making an independent, strategic assessment of the nature, extent, and causes of inequalities in Doncaster. For children and young people, commission members observed persistent and elevated rates of children living in poverty and the impact this has on all elements of their lives and futures.
4. This year's report provides a high-level assessment of the overall health status for all Doncaster residents. Using national child and maternal health indicators, an overview of how healthy children and young people are in Doncaster is presented and local data and experiences shared by families and people who work with children describes how some children can experience health inequalities and role



of 'the other 80%' - the social factors and physical environments - have in addressing this inequality.

5. In 2019, City of Doncaster Council worked on a participatory action research project with the University of Sheffield and a group of young people from Doncaster to understand capabilities - the things young people felt they need to 'live their best lives'. A summary of the capabilities report and a framework for incorporating these protective factors into services for children and young people is presented.
6. The report also shares a series of examples of how we collect and use insight and the voice and input of local children and young people – through the school health profiles, an annual pupil lifestyle survey, the development of compassionate approaches and active young apprentices to focus efforts and resources and shape services. The report also describes how Public Health teams have worked with partners around the national allocation of additional fixed term funding for substance misuse and family hubs, using intelligence and insight to address local challenges.
7. The annual summary of how the public health grant is allocated is again provided, along with some 2023 highlights from the Public Health team including the achievements from Doncaster's Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) first year.
8. Finally, in the context of emerging recommendations from the Fairness and Wellbeing Commission and the upcoming launch of a refreshed Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Doncaster, the report shares some final thoughts:
 - **The importance of voice and experiences of children and young people** in the shaping of policy and in service design and delivery
 - **Taking compassionate, prevention focussed approaches** that address the wider determinants of health, including mental health, to build the social conditions for better health, choosing kindness to reduce health stigma
 - **Equalities and inclusion health focus**, to close the inequalities gap for children and young people who face additional barriers and challenges to health and opportunity, we must use community based approaches to involve and hear from children and families who are most affected, and to influence and sustain improvement we must work alongside our communities.

EXEMPT REPORT

9. No

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. Council is asked to NOTE and PUBLISH the report

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

11. The publication of this report demonstrates the Council's commitment to its leadership duties with regard to health improvement, health protection and health and social care quality.

BACKGROUND

12. The Director of Public Health (DPH) has a statutory duty to write an independent annual report on the health of the local population. The content and structure of the report may be decided locally. The local authority have a duty to publish it (under section 73B(5) and (6) of the National Health Service Act 2006 Act).

OPTIONS CONSIDERED


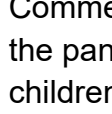

13. No other options considered

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

14. The recommendation fulfils the council's duty to publish the Director of Public Health annual report

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

- 15.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 Tackling Climate Change	✓			
Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report makes reference to climate change and the health impacts on local people				
 Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work	✓			
Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report describes the impact of the pandemic on children's education. The importance of education and skills for children and young people and their parents in realising opportunity in life and work is detailed throughout the report				
 Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs	✓			

Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report makes reference to the need for the City to have a thriving economy as a contributor to good and fair health and wellbeing.



Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all



Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report makes reference to health status across Doncaster and provides a summary on vital elements of improving health and wellbeing for all.



Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs



Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report makes reference to wider determinants of health and the importance of communities.



Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough



Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report focusses on the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families, including a range of examples of nurturing a child and family friendly borough



Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future



Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report makes reference to wider determinants of health



Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities



Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report makes reference to wider determinants of health

Fair & Inclusive



Comments: The Director of Public Health Annual Report makes explicit the link between fairness, inclusion and health.

Legal Implications [Officer Initials: _SRF_ | Date: _21.12.23_]

16. 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 National Health Service Act 2006, inserted by section 31 of the Health & Social Care Act 2012). The content and structure of the report is something to be decided locally.

Financial Implications HR 03/01/24

17. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report

Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: SB | Date: 20.12.2023]

18. There are no apparent human resource implications associated with this report

Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW | Date: 04/01/24]

19. There are no specific technology implications with this report

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

20. There are no specific risks associated with this report

CONSULTATION

21. No formal consultation has taken place to contribute to this report

BACKGROUND PAPERS

22. 2023 Director of Public Health Annual Report for Doncaster

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

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