

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 18

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health

Date of Meeting: 24 September, 2008

Report of: The Director of Strategy and Governance

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The Director of Public Health publishes an annual report in which he highlights elements of the Public Health agenda which will receive particular focus in the current year.
- 1.2 The Public Health focus for 2008/9 is on services for Children and Young People.
- 1.3 The 2008/9 Annual Report also functions as a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Public Health services for Children and Young People in the City.
- 1.4 A copy of the annual report has been circulated under separate cover. A summary of the report is printed in **Appendix 1**.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That members:

(1) Note the report and the additional information provided by the Director of Public Health (See **Appendix 1**);

(2) Determine which aspects of the Public Health agenda they might most usefully explore in greater depth through an Ad Hoc Panel.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 See **Appendix 1** for additional information from the Director of Public Health.

3.2 In determining which aspect(s) of Public Health to focus on in an Ad Hoc Panel, members should bear in mind:

(a) the restricted scope of Ad Hoc Panels - Panels are limited to a maximum of three meetings in public. Some elements of the Public Health agenda might, in consequence, be deemed too broad to be usefully scrutinised via an Ad Hoc Panel. (If a Panel is established to examine such a broad issue, members may wish to circumscribe its remit so as to ensure that an appropriate focus is maintained.)

(b) the need to “add value” to the issue being scrutinised; that is, a successful Ad Hoc Panel investigation should generally be one which makes a positive practical contribution to the issue being examined. Some elements of Public Health may be of considerable interest without necessarily being open to a great deal of influence at a local level; other subjects might offer a better opportunity to make truly effective recommendations.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 No formal consultation was undertaken for this report. However, extensive consultation was undertaken in regard to the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health (see **Appendix 1** for details).

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None for this report except in terms of resource implications for the Scrutiny team.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 Should the Committee decide to set up an ad hoc panel, the Committee must have regard to section 5 ('Ad Hoc Overview and Scrutiny Panels) of Part 6.1 of the council's constitution, which deals with issues of membership and status of such panels.

Lawyer consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 15 September 2008

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are significant health inequalities in the City and these may correlate with gender, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. Members should therefore be mindful of equalities issues when determining topics for the Ad-hoc Panel.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None for this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None for this report except that some aspects of the Public Health agenda (i.e. Drugs/ Alcohol issues) may relate to Crime and Disorder.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 By improving the health of Young People there is considerable scope to positively impact upon future life prospects.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Improving Public Health is a key factor in "reducing inequality by increasing opportunity". This is one of the Council's corporate priorities.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Additional information from the Director of Public Health.

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

1. The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health.