

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cabinet **DATE:** 20 January 2014
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PART I **NON-KEY DECISION**

REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to advise Cabinet of recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Panel.

2. Recommendations

- i) That the Cabinet note the findings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Review of childhood obesity in Slough (Appendix 1), and consider the following recommendations (lettered as in the main report):
 - a) That the Cabinet agree the prioritising of work currently underway to improve the scope of healthy offers across a range of price levels by local retailers, specifically within the vicinity of local schools.
 - c) That the council work with all schools to encourage the inclusion of cooking classes and nutritional education in the curriculum for all schools in the borough.
 - e) That the council, through the Transport Working Party, provide support to the schools for initiatives to improve the use of sustainable travel to and from schools, recognising not only the health benefits, but also the congestion and environmental benefits improved School Transport Plans can have.
 - f) That the council look at its methods of advertising the local leisure offer, particularly the available open spaces for 'unorganised' sporting activities, and include details of how improvements can/have been made when the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review the initial effectiveness of the new Physical Activity and Sport Strategy 2013-15 in autumn 2014.
 - g) That the Cabinet commission officers to undertake a piece of work reviewing the balance of the leisure offer in the borough to ensure an appropriate mix for both boys and girls.
 - h) That a formalised process for information sharing on initiatives to tackle childhood obesity be developed between the CCG, children's centres, health visitors, SBC's Culture and Sport team and schools. This Review

recommends that the CCG leads on this, to ensure their engagement, as they would be able to develop an overall picture of health and refer patients to the most appropriate services or initiatives that are available.

- ii) That the Cabinet note the findings of the Health Scrutiny Panel's Accident and Emergency Provision and Wexham Park Hospital Review (Appendix 2).

3. **Slough Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

Childhood Obesity

- **Health**

The Review covered issues looking at enhancing the positive health and wellbeing of families across the borough, increasing physical activity and healthy eating amongst children and their parents, and improving the emotional and physical health of children. The recommendations look at how the council and its partners can promote and support positive changes in behaviour, encouraging families to eat and drink sensibly, and exercise more by make use of the parks, open spaces and leisure facilities on offer.

- **Regeneration and Environment**

The Review also looked at improvements in cycling and walking facilities to make the introduction of activity into everyday activities easier.

- **Economy and Skills**

In considering recommendations around accessibility of fast food for school children, the need to balance this with the council's support for local business start ups and support for local shops was considered.

- **Safer Communities**

A key element to encouraging greater use of parks and open spaces in the borough is ensuring that residents feel they are a safe place to spend their leisure time.

Accident and Emergency Provision

- **Health**

The Review covered issues around enhancing positive health and wellbeing for the residents of Slough, promoting positive behaviour change so that the various elements of the healthcare system are used appropriately through better informing patients of the options available such as GPs and pharmacies.

4. **Other Implications**

- (a) Financial

Childhood Obesity - the recommendations relate primarily to the use of staff time, however, as programmes of work develop there may need to be consideration of financial implications should the need arise.

Accident and Emergency – there are no financial recommendations for Cabinet consideration relating to the recommendations set out the report at this time.

(b) Risk Management

Appropriate risks are set out in the reports along with recommendations for mitigating actions.

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

With effect from 1 April 2013 each local authority has a mandatory legal duty under Section 2A of the National Health Service Act 2006 (as inserted by Section 12 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012) to take such steps as it considers appropriate for improving the health of the people in their area.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There has not been an Equalities Impact Assessment undertaken as part of these Reviews, however, a number of issues around accessibility and appropriateness of services has been discussed and set out in the reports.

5. Appendices

- 1 - Childhood Obesity – Findings of Overview and Scrutiny Committee (July – December 2013)
- 2 - Accident and Emergency Provision and Wexham Park Hospital – Findings of Health Scrutiny Panel Task and Finish Group (July – December 2013)