

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 16th November 2017

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WARDS: All

PART I **FOR INFORMATION**

OBESITY TASK AND FINISH GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. **Purpose of Report**

For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to note the final version of the terms of reference for the Obesity Task and Finish Group.

2. **Recommendations/Proposed Action**

That the Committee note the Obesity Task and Finish Group terms of reference.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3.1 **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy priorities**

Work to address obesity supports the following priorities of the strategy:

1. Protecting vulnerable children
2. Increasing life expectancy by focusing on inequalities
3. Improving mental health and wellbeing

3.2 **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

This report considers obesity which impacts on the following Five Year Plan outcomes:

- Our children and young people will have the best start in life and opportunities to give them positive lives.
- Our people will become healthier and will manage their own health, care and support needs.

4. Other Implications

(a) Financial

There are no financial implications of this report.

(b) Risk Management

| Recommendation | Risk/Threat/Opportunity | Mitigation(s) |
|---|---|---|
| Task & Finish group to become exemplar Council | Risk that Employee Wellbeing Board is overshadowed and disempowered | Employee Wellbeing Board aware and supportive of this proposal |
| SBC to become exemplar for the Borough | Poor staff and Member engagement in making this happen | Use incremental evidence-based approach to elicit and retain staff engagement |
| Public Health intervention Programme in place to tackle obesity | Results might take too long to achieve | Incorporate short term goals and milestones that feed into the long term target |
| Cross-council and external partnership ambition | Poor partner engagement with the obesity strategy | Co –produce the new strategy with partners and link into their priorities and needs |
| Cross Slough ambition on obesity | Indifference to the problem from residents, businesses and other partners | Research to enable identification of links with issues of concern/interest and to understand drivers for unhealthy and healthy behaviours |

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act implications. Tackling obesity in children and adults is a non-prescribed function of public health.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment will be completed for the new strategy.

(e) Workforce

The Task and Finish Group will require officer time and commitment and agreement from line managers.

5. **Supporting Information**

- 5.1 The Task and Finish Group was first raised as a possibility by members at the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13th June 2017. Given this request, an item was taken at the Committee on 14th September 2017; this discussion led to the commissioning of a Task and Finish Group.
- 5.2 The Task and Finish Group's remit was to undertake work on making Slough Borough Council (SBC) an 'exemplar Council'. This involves establishing a working environment where the health and wellbeing of staff is placed at the heart of policy making. Areas such as catering, work stations, workplace culture and options for physical activity were raised as part of this. The Task and Finish Group met on 31st October 2017 to formulate its draft terms of reference. On the basis of this meeting, the proposed terms of reference were formulated (attached as Appendix A).
- 5.3 The Task and Finish Group were particularly interested in ensuring that catering at SBC workplaces promoted healthy eating, staff were encouraged to undertake physical activity and that support was offered (either through incentives such as reduced rates for gym membership or peer support through undertaking team events). One area of research will also be looking at other workplaces and seeing what policies or initiatives can be replicated by SBC. To undertake this work, a series of site visits, meetings with organisations such as the Employee Wellbeing Board and discussions with staff (to include a survey) will be conducted.
- 5.4 The Task and Finish Group will be aiming to conclude its work during January 2018. Once this has been completed, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive a report, including the recommendations made by the review. These recommendations will then be disseminated to the appropriate audiences and progress on them fed back to the Committee as appropriate.

6. **Conclusion**

- 6.1 This report is intended to provide the Committee with information and guidance on the work to be undertaken by the Task and Finish Group. There will be flexibility for the Task and Finish Group to arrange meetings to suit its work; however, its focus on the work outlined in the terms of reference will remain consistent.

7. **Comments of other Committees**

This report reflects the outcomes of the Task and Finish Group's meeting of 31st October 2017. No other Committees have considered this material.

8. **Appendices Attached**

'A' - Terms of Reference for the Obesity Task & Finish Group

9. **Background Papers**

Agenda papers for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 14th September 2017.