

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 15th March 2018

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WARDS: All

PART I **FOR DECISION**

OBESITY TASK AND FINISH GROUP – FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Purpose of Report**

For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to comment on the work and recommendations of the Obesity Task and Finish Group.

2. **Recommendations/Proposed Action**

2.1 That the Committee approve and adopt the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group, namely:

- a) That the current food offer at Slough Borough Council be reviewed, to include canteen provision (e.g. traffic light labelling of food) and vending machines;
- b) That methods for increasing levels of physical activity and reducing levels of sedentary behaviour within work and outside work be implemented through behaviour change;
- c) That the incentivising of activity through outsourced services be supported (e.g. reduced cost for use of the Montem Leisure Centre); and
- d) That engagement with senior leadership and Councillors be undertaken to establish a wellbeing ethos across the Council, which will include team / departmental 'Health Champions' .

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. The financial implications of any actions taken should the recommendations be approved will be monitored as they become apparent.

(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 (included in the report attached as Appendix A).
- 5.3 The Task and Finish Group arranged a variety of methods to gather its information. A workplace survey was held in the autumn of 2017 and received over 230 responses; at this time, members also attended the staff canteen to see the food available to staff at SBC. Meetings were held with the canteen management, the Leisure Team, Human Resources and Facilities to hear about the workplace environment, and discuss how this could affect health and wellbeing. Finally, a site visit to Mars Confectionary saw an environment where a strategic approach has been taken to the matter. These are detailed in the report.
- 5.4 The Task and Finish Group held its meeting to conclude its work and form its recommendations on 20th February 2018. It is the recommendations in this report that require the approval of the Committee, at which point they will be adopted by the Committee. It is also advised that the Committee ask for an update on these recommendations to track their progress.

6. **Conclusion**

This report is intended to provide the Committee with the findings of the Task and Finish Group.

7. **Comments of other Committees**

This report reflects the outcomes of the Task and Finish Group's work. No other Committees have considered this material.

8. **Appendices Attached**

'A' - Final Report Obesity Task & Finish Group (draft)

9. **Background Papers**

None.