

POLICY DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW 2009/10: DRAFT FINAL REPORT

LINK TO WORK PROGRAMME: POLICY DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW

Report of the Chief Executive

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP2: Healthy City
CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1, CIO4**

1. Why has this report come to committee?

- 1.1 The report provides Members of the committee with the final draft report from the evidence gathered in relation to this year's policy review on health inequalities.
- 1.2 The review report presents in detail the evidence, research and conclusions drawn throughout the review process and recommendations arising from this evidence gathering. Members are asked to give consideration to the final report and the recommendations of the policy review.
- 1.3 The review into health inequalities has clear links to all the Councils Strategic Priorities in particular 'Healthy City.' The review also has links to Corporate Priorities on delivering customer focused services and improving partnership working.

2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on 17th June, 2009 following discussions regarding the work programme the Committee consider the possibility of a study into the issue of health inequalities in Sunderland.
- 2.2 The review came at an important time in light of the work being undertaken at both regional and national levels. The Committee used its skills and expertise to stimulate community engagement and develop themes presented during their evidence gathering procedures. Health and social care feature heavily in the Sunderland Strategy with an aim that 'everyone in Sunderland is able to enjoy a healthy life with access to excellent health and social care facilities when needed'.

3. The Draft Final Report

- 3.1 The draft final report on Tackling Health Inequalities in Sunderland is attached as an appendix to this report and presents members with the facts and evidence that have been gathered throughout the review process. As part of the review process evidence was obtained from a variety of national, regional and local key witnesses and stakeholders.
- 3.2 The report is divided into a number of sections which provide the background information to the review, how the review was carried out and the findings and conclusions from the review process. The findings from the review reflect the themes set out in the Marmot Review: Fair Society, Healthy Lives as follows:

- Health Inequalities – The National and Local Picture
- The Early Years of Life
- Employment and Income
- Places and Communities
- The Prevention Agenda.

3.3 Members are asked to read the report and comment on the content with particular reference to the recommendations arising from the evidence gathered and presented in the report. Members may wish to amend the report for purposes of accuracy, clarity or relevance to ensure the report is a true reflection of the work undertaken.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee are presented with a final draft copy of the policy review document for comment and amendment with the aim of producing a final report for presentation and approval by Cabinet.

5. Recommendation

5.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee provide comments on the final draft report and that any agreed amendments are made.

5.2 That consideration is given to the recommendations contained in the final draft report.

5.3 That the agreed final report is presented to the Cabinet for approval at its June 2010 meeting.

Contact Officer: Nigel Cummings (0191 553 1006)
nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk