

Committee(s)	Dated:
Health and Wellbeing Board	19 th June 2015
Subject: Business Healthy update	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information

Summary

This report presents to Members the Business Healthy initiative that aims to bring together City businesses in achieving positive change for the health and wellbeing of City workers.

Business Healthy began in 2014 and runs two expert-led events per year, and two member forum meetings. This year the City of London Corporation has launched a website as a central point of contact for the Business Healthy members and a source of up-to-date research, articles and reports. An event focused on mental health in the workplace, hosted by the Lord Mayor at Mansion House, is also being planned for September 2015.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. Business Healthy was launched at a conference hosted by the Lord Mayor of London at the Mansion House in March 2014 and attended by leaders from small and large businesses based in the City of London. There are two key elements to the Business Healthy initiative: the Business Healthy Circle, a network of City business leaders with an interest in workplace health and wellbeing, and the resources, tools and guidance materials available to support businesses on the Business Healthy website.
2. During its first year the schedule of events included two master classes covering addictive behaviour and mental health at work, led by the City of London Substance Misuse Team and Professor Derek Mowbray respectively. During this time the Business Healthy Circle has grown to over 170 members, with many also attending the Business Healthy Circle meetings that provide attendees the opportunity to discuss their experiences of health and wellbeing in the workplace.
3. The Business Healthy Circle brings together leaders from City businesses who want to co-create improvements in the health and wellbeing of the City workforce.

The Circle is a virtual group designed to connect business leaders, human resources, health and safety, occupational health, communications and senior staff representatives to cut across normal professional boundaries and deliver solutions. The Circle works towards:

- Promoting the business case for worker health and wellbeing
 - Sharing best practice on what works between disciplines and companies from different sectors, intelligence gathering, learning and sharing
 - Turning the business case for workplace health into action
 - Tracking progress and making it visible.
4. Business Healthy has been recognised with a three year Royal Society of Public Health Award for Health and Wellbeing – the highest level available. The Awards, which are now in their seventh year, recognise organisations who have demonstrated innovation, good practice and significant achievement in health promotion activities in their community or workplace. The award was made to the City of London for the Business Healthy programme, for work that supports City businesses to implement workplace health programmes.
5. In October 2014 the City of London Corporation was awarded with the ‘Achievement’ level award under the GLA’s London Healthy Workplace Charter scheme, in recognition of our work to promote employee health and wellbeing. The award scheme is funded and co-ordinated by the GLA and Mayor of London and involves employers of all sizes and in all sectors engaging with the wellbeing agenda to improve the health of their employees. As an employer, the Corporation is aiming to set an example by promoting health and wellbeing in the workplace for our own employees. The Corporation also supports other organisations in the City to apply for the award through our Environmental Health team.

Current Position

6. Over the coming year we aim to continue to increase awareness of the Business Healthy initiative, grow our membership and achieve a higher level of engagement from members, with the ultimate aim of influencing City businesses to better promote health and wellbeing in the workplace. This will be achieved through the following events planned for this year:
- The launch of a new, interactive website on 25th May 2015: www.businesshealthy.org. The focus of the new website is to encourage new organisations to join and to keep existing members involved with the Business Healthy initiative. This will be done by creating a knowledge hub for sharing business cases, best practice, research, information and toolkits, as well as monthly blog posts by the City of London and guest bloggers. The website will also feature a member’s forum, where issues and debates from the face-to-face Business Healthy Circle meetings (discussed below) can continue in a private environment online.
 - Please see ‘Appendix 1’ for a copy of the May Newsletter, and an example of the Business Healthy website content.
 - A Business Healthy event in September, hosted by the Lord Mayor, in order to cement the City Corporation’s role as an authority leading the debate around mental health and wellbeing within work places in the City and Greater

London. The event will provide an opportunity to promote the Business Healthy initiative.

- There are two masterclasses and two Business Healthy Circle meetings scheduled for 2015. The first event is on June 11th led by the founder of the Alcohol Health Network on the solutions to workplace alcohol misuse.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

7. The Health and Wellbeing Board of the City of London has clear responsibilities under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to promote the health and wellbeing of those who live or work in the City, including the c. 360,000 workers who commute into the City every day. It has, as an early priority in its work, decided to set up a strategic initiative designed to promote the health of City workers, and to achieve impact on their health, in a co-ordinated and coherent way.
8. This initiative, Business Healthy, has sought to establish the extent to which City businesses would welcome support in this area and what form that support should take. It is also intended to help the City of London promote itself as an excellent place to work and hence an ideal location for staff to work, skills to grow and businesses to thrive.
9. The Business Healthy initiative supports the priorities around worker health set out in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Implications

10. There are no legal, property, HR or financial implications.

Conclusion

11. The City of London Corporation believes that the Business Healthy initiative will build upon the success of its launch in 2014, to reach more businesses in the City and lead by example in health and wellbeing best practice.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Business Healthy May Newsletter

Zoe Tansey

Communications and Marketing Officer – Community and Children's Services

T: 020 7332 3378

E: zoe.tansey@cityoflondon.gov.uk