

Summary report from Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB), 27th January 2017

Summary

This report is intended to update any interested groups on the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board. It includes information on items considered by the Board at their latest meeting on 27th January 2017 and updates on other items relating to health and wellbeing in the City of London (CoL). Details on where to find further information or contact details for the relevant officer are included for each item.

Full minutes and reports are available at:

<http://democracy.cityoflondon.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CIId=994>

Committee updates

1. **Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy**
2. **Suicide Prevention Action Plan annual update report**
3. **Noise Strategy**

Local updates

4. **Corporate Alcohol Strategy**
5. **Social Wellbeing Panel**
6. **Launch of Low Emission Neighbourhoods**

COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

1.1 The Board received the final draft of the City of London Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for decision. The draft strategy sets out the Health and Wellbeing Board's commitment to improving the health of City residents, workers and rough sleepers. The proposed priorities are:

- Priority 1: Good mental health for all
- Priority 2: A healthy urban environment
- Priority 3: Effective health and social care integration
- Priority 4: Children have the best start in life
- Priority 5: Promoting healthy behaviours

The draft strategy has undergone a six week consultation period ending on the 13th January 2017. There were a total of 27 responses to the consultation. This included responses from residents, workers, service providers, organisations and teams within the City of London Corporation. The consultation found that most respondents agreed with the five priorities. There was, however, some concern around priority five (promoting healthy behaviours) being restrictive of personal choice. Air quality in the City and how that is being tackled was the primary focus of responses. The final draft of the Strategy presented in this report takes into account the suggestions made by workers, residents and stakeholders during the consultation period.

1.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board accepted the final version of the strategy as their overarching strategy for 2017-2020.

Contact officer: Poppy Middlemiss (poppy.middlemiss@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

2. Suicide Prevention Action Plan annual update report

- 2.1 In January 2016 the Health and Wellbeing Board approved the City of London Suicide Prevention Action Plan which outlines the ways in which the City of London Public Health Team and local partners aim to work towards a reduction in suicides amongst the resident and worker populations of the City of London, as well as those who may travel to the City of London with the intention of committing suicide.
- 2.2 Since January 2016, the Suicide Prevention Action Plan working group, consisting of representatives from Public Health, the CCG, City of London Police, the Samaritans, the RNLI and Port Health and Public Protection, have met twice to discuss progress of actions. Of 29 actions outlined in the action plan, 24 have been completed. Of the five actions which are not complete, three actions are making good progress (two of which are being led by the RNLI). The further two outstanding actions include engaging with TfL and raising awareness amongst parents and schools.
- 2.3 Given the progress so far in completing many of the actions in the current Suicide Prevention Action Plan it is proposed that the document be refreshed. This will retain the momentum and current collaborative working of the current action plan whilst making sure the priorities reflect new national guidance and take into account the more comprehensive picture of suicide in the City of London that has now been developed. It is suggested that the document be refreshed as a joint strategy between the City of London Corporation and the City of London Police. Much of the frontline response to suicide in the City of London is delivered by the City of London Police. Producing a joint strategy will strengthen our working relationship with the City of London Police and improve our strategic response to suicide prevention in the City.
- 2.4 Data collected whilst writing the action plan recognised the high number of suicides from bridges within the City of London. One key action resulting from the plan is 'The Bridge Pilot'; a joint initiative between the City of London Corporation, City of London Police, the Metropolitan Police and the Samaritans to reduce these suicides through awareness raising and encouraging help-seeking behaviour and is being piloted on London Bridge.
- 2.5 Six signs with the Samaritan's free phone number have been placed on London Bridge. A training package has been developed which addresses the stigma of suicide and encourages approaching people who are at risk and a leaflet has also been developed and distributed on the Bridge. Further to this, planning permission has been granted to place signs on Blackfriars Bridge and we anticipate the signs will be fixed in February 2017. Work continues with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and London Borough of Southwark to get the required planning permissions to put signs on Tower and Southwark bridges

2.6 Members agreed that the Suicide Prevention Action Plan be refreshed as a joint document with the City of London Police in 2017.

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3. Noise Strategy

3.1 The City of London Corporation published its first Noise Strategy in 2012. The Strategy, approved by the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee on 1st May 2012, expired in 2016. A Noise Strategy for 2016 to 2026 has been produced containing 67 actions grouped into 5 work areas to manage and minimise exposure to excessive noise whilst striving to enhance the quality of the acoustic environment and soundscape of the City of London. The Noise Strategy will help ensure that the City Corporation fulfils its statutory obligations for managing and minimising exposure to excessive noise. It also reflects the priority placed on the effects of reducing the impact of unwanted sound and the provision of areas of respite from the noisy urban environment on the health of residents, workers and visitors as detailed in the City and Hackney Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

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LOCAL UPDATES

4. Corporate Alcohol Strategy

4.1 A recent mapping exercise undertaken by members of the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group highlighted that whilst there is a great deal of valuable work taking place across the City to tackle alcohol harm, there is also potential for greater collaboration between partners, underpinned by a common vision. We are therefore proposing the development of a Corporate Alcohol Strategy to address this and develop a Corporation-wide approach to safe, responsible drinking.

4.2 The strategy will provide an overview of alcohol harm in the City, covering both the impact on individual health and the wider community in terms of crime and safety. It will describe what needs to be done to create a culture of safe and responsible drinking in the City, prevent a further increase in ill health caused by alcohol, improve the health of problem drinkers and tackle alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour. The Public Health Team will lead on the strategy, working in partnership with departments across the City Of London Corporation, City Of London Police and City and Hackney CCG.

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5. Social Wellbeing Panel

5.1 The Social Wellbeing Panel, comprising elected Members and senior officers from the City Corporation, met earlier this month to learn more about the causes of loneliness. Attendees heard from charities, researchers and local authority commissioners about the factors that can contribute to loneliness as well as interventions that have been successful elsewhere. The panel discussed social isolation amongst new parents, Black and Minority Ethnic older people, City residents living away from the main estates and those with physical and mental health issues. Despite discussing a range of target groups, common themes emerged:

- that peer support from those who have experienced similar issues previously can offer significant benefits
- the need for shared spaces where relationships can develop naturally and where community building can take place
- the need for sustained and consistent communication reiterating that support is available, in order to intervene as early as possible and reach those most in need.

5.2 The panel will meet again in January to discuss how we can apply this learning to the City. The panel will also be producing a report on its findings which will contribute to the development of the Social Wellbeing Strategy.

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6. Launch of Low Emission Neighbourhood

6.1 The Mayor of London has awarded the City of London Corporation £990,000 over three years to implement a Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN) in the Barbican, Guildhall and Barts area following a successful funding application submitted in April 2016. The City Corporation is match funding the Mayor of London's contribution meaning the total LEN project budget will be around £2 million. The City of London LEN is one of five that will be set up across eight boroughs that will come into full effect by the start of 2019.

6.2 The LEN proposals include air pollution awareness events, working with businesses to tackle emissions from deliveries and freight, rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure for residents, restricted access to Beech Street for all but the cleanest vehicles, and the introduction of green taxi ranks. The aim of the LEN is to improve local air quality by reducing the amount of traffic and encouraging and supporting low and zero emission vehicles in the locality. Improvements in air quality are expected both within the proposed neighbourhood and more widely across the City due to an increase in low and zero emission vehicles. It is anticipated that the most successful measures will be rolled out across the City and it will not only have a beneficial impact on air quality in the Barbican area but also result in a more liveable neighbourhood with less traffic, improved public realm, safer places to cycle or walk and new green infrastructure.

For further information contact the Air Quality team: cityair@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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