

<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD</b>			
<b>Report Title</b>	The Health of Lewisham Children and Young People - The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Lewisham 2015		
<b>Contributors</b>	Director of Public Health, London Borough of Lewisham	Information Item No.	7A
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date:	22 September 2015
<b>Strategic Context</b>	Describes the health and wellbeing of Lewisham Children and Young people.		
<b>Pathway</b>	The Annual Report 2014 was considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board in July 2014.		

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report provides members of the Health and Wellbeing Board with the 2015 Annual Public Health Report (APHR), which is themed on Children and Young People. Wider information on the entire population is also provided through the Public Health Performance Dashboards, which are provided as appendices to the main report.

## **2. Recommendation/s**

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the contents of the report and the actions from each section and direct as required any further analysis or commentary.

## **3. Policy Context**

- 3.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 stated that the production of an APHR is a statutory duty of the Director of Public Health, which the local authority is responsible for publishing. The report aims to inform partners, professionals, and other decision makers, as well as the community about the health of the local population.
- 3.2 The theme of Children and Young People was selected this year to coincide with the upcoming publication of Children and Young People's Plan 2015-18. The structure of this report mirrors the health priorities within the new plan.
- 3.3 This draft report has been submitted to the September meeting of the Healthier Communities Select Committee and will also be submitted to Children and Young People's Select Committee for discussion on 20/10/2015. The current publication date is the end of September 2015.

## **4. Background**

- 4.1 The APHR has been produced by colleagues from all specialisms within Public Health, and in partnership with colleagues across the council and the wider partnership.

## **5. The Health of Lewisham Children and Young**

### **5.1 Lewisham's Children**

- 5.1.1 Lewisham's children form one of the most diverse and vibrant populations of children in the UK. This means that they can experience a huge range of cultures within Lewisham and benefit from this. But there are also challenges associated with this feature of life in Lewisham. These challenges, together with the rapid rise in Lewisham's population of children, and the challenges of poverty and other elements of toxic stress that a greater proportion of Lewisham's children experience than children in England generally, have also influenced the development of the Children and Young People's Plan.

### **5.2 Outcomes of Pregnancy**

- 5.2.1 It is estimated that approximately 50% of pregnancies are planned, which in Lewisham would equate to around 2,500 planned pregnancies per year. All care providers and agencies in contact with child bearing women should ensure that the pre-conception web-based resource is promoted and that in cases where women have a long term condition, their specialist health team should work with them to ensure they are in the best possible health prior to embarking on a pregnancy including advice on management of medication.

### **5.3 Immunisation**

- 5.3.1 There needs to be continued efforts to improve uptake of all vaccines, in particular the MMR2 and HPV vaccines.

### **5.4 Achieving a Healthy Weight**

- 5.4.1 Lewisham has a high number of children with excess weight. Prevention and early intervention is crucial. A partnership approach is necessary to minimise the impact of an obesogenic environment.

### **5.5 Mental and Emotional Health**

- 5.5.1 Understanding what protects mental health and builds resilience and building on an individual child's, family's and community's assets can help deliver better mental health for both children and adults. Therefore efforts will be focused on promoting a better understanding across the Partnership of toxic stress. Lewisham is developing a strategy for

mental health and emotional wellbeing in children and young people which will ensure that resilience and emotional well being is addressed at all levels to ensure young people can thrive and maximise their potential, as well as being able to access support and services in a timely manner when their needs escalate.

## **5.6 Sexual Health**

5.6.1 Despite the significant gains made in improving access to services through the teenage pregnancy and Chlamydia screening programmes, these are now showing signs of stalling. Targeted sexual health promotion and SRE programmes will be vital to maintaining and building on the success of these initiatives.

5.6.2 Over the next few years sexual health services will be reconfigured to improve access. It is important that young people, especially the most vulnerable, receive specialist support to equip them to maintain and protect their own sexual health and develop healthy physical relationships.

## **5.7 Smoking, Drinking and Drugs**

5.7.1 A range of interventions are recommended to reduce the impact of smoking, alcohol or drug misuse on the lives of children and young people. These recommendations are already included in the Children and Young People's Plan, or are being considered for inclusion.

## **5.8 Looked After Children**

5.8.1 Lewisham's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership will continue its focus on meeting the healthcare needs of this vulnerable group of children and young people. Statutory Health Assessments are valuable in ensuring the health of individual children and the focus on improving coverage and timeliness of these assessments is justified and will continue.

## **5.9 Mortality and Serious Injury**

5.9.1 Premature delivery is the single most important cause of mortality of children in Lewisham. The impact of the recently initiated programme to tackle this issue will be closely monitored.

## **5.10 Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

5.10.1 The key aim of the service is to improve life outcomes for children with special educational needs and disabilities through the implementation of a new Partnership SEND strategy. The strategy will build on the work that has been achieved already and provide direction for the partnership and will set out the aims and priorities for all agencies working with children and young people with SEND across Lewisham.

The strategy also establishes how partner agencies will continue to work together to improve those outcomes that will make significant improvements to the lives and life-chances of our children and young people with SEND.

## **5.11 Universal and Targeted Public Health Services for Children and Young People**

5.11.1 The Partnership is in a strong position for the transfer of the commissioning public health services for children under five. This transfer and the development of the Health Visiting Service is an invaluable opportunity for Lewisham and should help us in our objectives to give children the very best start in life. Current efforts to achieve full recruitment to this service, the full implementation of the agreed common outcomes framework for children under five, and the achievement of better outcomes for children are all major priorities for the Lewisham Children and Young People's Partnership.

## **6. Financial implications**

6.1 There are no specific financial implications. The APHR has produced suggested actions which need to be considered both internally and by specific services as to how this can be progressed.

## **7. Legal implications**

7.1 The requirement to produce an Annual Public Health Report is set out above.

## **8. Crime and Disorder Implications**

8.1 There are no Crime and Disorder Implications from this report.

## **9. Equalities Implications**

9.1 Equalities Implications and the impact they have on health outcomes have been highlighted throughout the body of the report.

## **10. Environmental Implications**

10.1 There are no Environmental Implications from this report.

## **11. Conclusion**

11.1 Planning health services for children and their families will need to continue to take into account the needs of a rapidly growing population. Lewisham's children form one of the most diverse and vibrant populations of children in the UK which has benefits and also associated challenges. These challenges, together with the rapid rise in Lewisham's population of children, and the challenges of poverty

and other elements of toxic stress that a greater proportion of Lewisham's children experience than children in England generally, need to be considered in the planning of service delivery and commissioning.

## **Background Documents**

**Appendix 1: Lewisham's Annual Public Health Report 2015**

**Appendix 2: Public Health Performance Dashboards**

If you have any difficulty in opening the links above or those within the body of the report, please contact Andy Thomas ([Andy.Thomas@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:Andy.Thomas@lewisham.gov.uk) 020 8314 8378), who will assist.

If there are any queries on this report please contact Trish Duffy, Public Health, Lewisham Council, on 0208 314 7990, or by email at: ***patricia.duffy@lewisham.gov.uk***