



Health and Wellbeing Board

Birmingham and Lewisham African Caribbean Health Inequalities Review 2 Years On – Stakeholder Document

Date: 20th November 2024

Key decision: Yes

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Dr Catherine Mbema, Director of Public Health, London Borough of Lewisham; Lisa Fannon, Senior Public Health Project Manager - BLACHIR

Outline and recommendations

This report provides an update to the Board on implementation of the recommendations from the Birmingham and Lewisham African and Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR).

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to:

- Note the progress outlined in the 'BLACHIR 2-years on' stakeholder document.

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with an update on the implementation of both the opportunities for action from the Birmingham and Lewisham African and Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR) within the 'BLACHIR 2-years on' document for stakeholders.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to note the progress outlined in the 'BLACHIR 2-years on' stakeholder document.

3. Policy Context

3.1. The Lewisham Corporate Strategy 2022-26 outlines the following priority areas

- Cleaner and greener
- A strong local economy
- Quality housing
- Children and young people
- Safer communities
- Open Lewisham
- Health and Wellbeing

3.2. Within the Health and Wellbeing priority area, the following objective has been set out:

- We will learn from our Birmingham and Lewisham African and Caribbean Health Inequalities Review, aiming to mitigate and ultimately end, structural racism, and discrimination as a driver of health inequalities.

The contents of this report link directly to this Corporate Strategy objective.

3. Birmingham and Lewisham African Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR) 2 years on – stakeholder document

- 3.1. The 'BLACHIR 2 years on' stakeholder document (see Appendix A) has been produced to provide a summary of progress with implementation of opportunities for action from the review report.
- 3.2. Over the course of the last two years, specific opportunities for action from the BLACHIR report have been the focus of work within the Lewisham Health Inequalities and Health Equity Programme.
- 3.3. Local, regional, and national work that is already fulfilling opportunities for action has also been mapped to help identify areas where future local action will be required.
- 3.4. To date, 6 opportunities for action are being fully progressed from existing initiatives. Twenty-four opportunities for action have activity that has started to progress against them (13 of which are part of the Lewisham Health Inequalities and Health Equity Programme) and 9 opportunities for action do not have any local action mapped against them at present.
- 3.5. To support with the implementation of opportunities for action locally, a community partner has been commissioned to work with the public health team. This is the Social Inclusion Recovery Group (SIRG), a local, Black-led community organisation- <https://www.sirglondon.org/>
- 3.6. A Senior Project Manager has been recruited to drive implementation of the recommendations from the review, working closely with the community partner and wider stakeholders to embed BLACHIR within the system.
- 3.7. SIRG have actively attended community events to engage with residents and community members about the BLACHIR report. The robust stakeholder engagement also includes a monthly BLACHIR Community Forum, providing a safe space for community members to take part in discussion on a different theme within the review, providing feedback on progress made which in turn is to be shared with the system.
- 3.8. A social media page and additional social media content has been shared via various

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online platforms and in person, including community groups, schools and black establishments. SIRG have developed a podcast which has aired episodes on online sharing platforms, that stimulate valuable feedback and discussion.

- 3.9. The stakeholder document provides further detail about the initiatives that have been progressed in Lewisham against specific opportunities for action.

Next Steps

- 3.10. Over the next 6 months, SIRG will be working on an evaluation of the work that they have undertaken to date that can be shared with key stakeholders in the Lewisham Health and Care system. This will assist with planning for the next phase of implementation of BLACHIR opportunities for action.
- 3.11. Specific evaluation work is also being progressed for initiatives within the Lewisham Health Inequalities and Health Equity programme 2022-24 to gather learning and assess impact of the programme. This will also inform the next iteration of the programme.
- 3.12. The findings from both parts of evaluation work will be presented at the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1. The resourcing of the health inequalities and health equity plan has been identified from contributions from Health and Wellbeing Board partners, namely South East London ICS, previous CCG and Lewisham Council, over a 2-year period from 2022.

5. Legal implications

- 5.1. There are no legal implications of this report.

6. Climate change and environmental implications

- 6.1. There are no climate change or environmental implications of this report.

7. Crime and disorder implications

- 7.1. There are no crime and disorder implications of this report.

8. Health and wellbeing implications

- 8.1. Improving health outcomes and reducing health inequalities is central to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board. This report directly aligns with these aims by outlining the progress made with health inequalities work in Lewisham.

9. Report author and contact

- 9.1. Dr Catherine Mbema Catherine.mbema@lewisham.gov.uk and Lisa Fannon lisa.fannon@lewisham.gov.uk

10. Appendices

- 10.1. Appendix A: BLACHIR 2 years on – a leaflet for stakeholders

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