

## HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6 January 2019

<b>Title:</b> Progress Report – Scrutiny Review – System-wide Review into Childhood Obesity	
<b>Report of the Director of Public Health</b>	
<b>Open Report</b>	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> No
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<b>Accountable Director:</b> Matthew Cole – Director of Public Health	
<b>Accountable Strategic Leadership Director:</b> Elaine Allegretti, Director of People and Resilience.	
<b>Summary</b> In 2018/19 the Health Scrutiny Committee conducted a review into the system-wide approach to tackle Childhood Obesity in Barking and Dagenham.  The review made a series of recommendations under the 3 key headings:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Understanding the problem</li><li>2) The evidence base</li><li>3) Impact maximisation</li></ol> This paper provides a progress update to the Committee on the implementation of the recommendations from the review.	
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>  The Committee is recommended to:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Review the progress that is being made across the borough in tackling childhood obesity from a whole system perspective</li><li>(ii) Discuss and comment on any gap and future actions.</li></ol>	
<b>Reason(s)</b>  In line with standard scrutiny practice, a report should be presented to the Committee to provide an update on the progress of the recommendations in order to help the Committee evaluate the effectiveness of this scrutiny review and to what extent it has helped improve services for our Borough's residents.	

## **1. Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 The Barking and Dagenham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2018 (JSNA) highlights the issues of healthy weight across our population, particularly how this impact on a child's development.
- 1.2 Therefore, during the financial year 2018/19, the Health Scrutiny Committee carried out a scrutiny review into the system-wide action against childhood obesity. This review was approved by the Committee in December 2018.
- 1.3 The review report and corresponding action plan was presented to the Health and Wellbeing board in September 2019 and the action plan was approved.
- 1.4 Healthy childhood weight is one of the key outcomes outlined in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy's Outcome no. 1 –i.e. Best Start in Life. The Action plan therefore supports the ambitions of this Strategy.
- 1.5 The plan has also been developed in line with this national guidance Public Health England Whole Systems Approach to Obesity: A Guide to Support Local Approaches to Promoting a Healthy Weight<sup>1</sup>

## **2. Current Progress against Action Plan**

- 2.1 Work has been undertaken to progress the Action Plan since the approval of this report. The Public health Team is currently leading on a Whole Systems Approach to Obesity pilot as highlighted by the literature review that a system-wide approach was the most effective way to tackle childhood obesity. The pilot is running at Marks Gate and Heath Ward where new partnerships are being developed to take this approach forward. For example, we are working with BeFirst and Street Tag to make walking routes for residents on Marks Gate more well-known.
- 2.2 The whole systems pilot will work with residents and community groups to understand how the wider community can play a role in helping our young residents and their families to be healthy.
- 2.3 The Council has partnered with new Primary Care Networks to provide social prescribing across the borough. As part of this there are new mechanisms for feedback about children referred into healthy weight programmes, as well as providing families with a more holistic view to health and wellbeing, which is key to reducing the burden of excess weight.
- 2.4 The Action Plan covers all the three recommendation categories as we look to better understand these populations and maximise impact through the evidence based whole systems approach.
- 2.5 Progress against the Action Plan is attached at Appendix 1

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[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/820783/Whole\\_systems\\_approach\\_to\\_obesity\\_guide.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/820783/Whole_systems_approach_to_obesity_guide.pdf)

**Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report: None**

**List of appendices:**

Appendix 1: – Scrutiny Review – System-wide Review into Childhood Obesity Action Plan