

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>TACKLING CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN SOUTHAMPTON – UPDATE ON PROGRESS</b>
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	<b>14 OCTOBER 2021</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR PETER BAILLIE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN’S SOCIAL CARE</b>

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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
None	
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>	
<p>In August 2020 the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel completed an inquiry to consider what may be done in Southampton to tackle childhood obesity. The recommendations were accepted by Cabinet in December 2020. This report provides an update on progress against each of the recommendations of the scrutiny inquiry.</p> <p>Work to implement a number of recommendations from the scrutiny inquiry has commenced and is progressing well. However, plans are required to ensure ambitions to address the food environment are also developed in a timely manner especially in view of the recent publication of the National Food Strategy and the forthcoming government white paper.</p> <p>Plans to undertake a whole systems approach will support an on-going process of working with stakeholders in the system to identify the causes of childhood obesity and develop interventions to address them.</p>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>	
	(i) That the Committee note the progress made implementing the approved recommendations emanating from the Tackling Childhood Obesity Scrutiny Inquiry.
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
1.	To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to scrutinise progress made implementing the approved recommendations from the Tackling Childhood Obesity Scrutiny Inquiry.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	

2.	None.
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
3.	In Southampton, the level of obesity among year R students has remained stable and similar to the national average, whereas rates in year 6 children have increased overtime and have become worse than the national average. The National Child Measurement Programme data indicate that in 2019/20 in Southampton, the percentage of children who were overweight and obesity in year R was 24.4% (England 23.3%) and in year 6 it was 38.0% (England 35.2%).
4.	From October 2019 to February 2020 the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel undertook an inquiry to consider what more may be done in Southampton to tackle childhood obesity. The concluding meeting of the inquiry was delayed due to the Covid-19 lockdown. However, the final report of the Panel was presented to Cabinet on 18 August 2020. Cabinet determined that all the recommendations within the report should be adopted in full, however, the Covid-19 pandemic has necessitated a re-direction of Council resources to deal with the crisis. Therefore, the action plan to tackle childhood obesity was adopted in two phases. Phase 1 focused on areas that could be progressed from January 2021. Phase 2 will commence in January 2023 or when additional funding can be secured. The following paragraphs provide a summary of the progress made against the recommendations.
	<b>Phase 1</b>
5.	Strategic oversight for tackling childhood obesity in Southampton has been secured through the Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care. In addition, the Executive Director for Wellbeing (Children and Learning) is heading up a task and finish group to oversee delivery of the recommendations.
6.	To help foster a council-wide approach, the Council have also made a commitment sign up to the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight (HWD). Plans are in place to be one of the first councils on the south coast to sign up to the HWD by March 2022. A steering group will oversee this programme of work and in 6-12 months this will evolve into a group to oversee the whole systems approach (WSA) to obesity. The WSA has been recommended by Public Health England for several years and a number of councils in England have adapted the approach for their areas.
7.	To ensure public health priorities are fully considered as part of the new City Vision, funding has been allocated for a new joint Public Health and Planning post. The role has been graded and recruitment is progressing. This role will involve work on the scrutiny inquiry recommendation to use the planning system to promote healthy weight environments and restrict the growth in hot food takeaways.
	<b>Phase 2</b>
8.	An overarching recommendation in the scrutiny inquiry was improving the local food environment. The main recommendations of becoming a Sustainable Food Place and implementing a programme to encourage fast food retailers to provide healthier options were postponed to phase 2. The damaging effects of the current national food system have been highlighted in the recently published National Food Strategy. This will be followed by a government White Paper in the next few months. The strategy put a spotlight

	on obesity and the healthy years of life lost to illness, disability and death. Fundamental change to the food system requires regulation at a national level. However, during the scrutiny inquiry into tackling childhood obesity in Southampton, local levers and examples of best practice from other councils were explored and included in the recommendations. Consideration is now required as to how the Council could make progress on these recommendations. In the first instance priority should be given to a review of the local food environment.
9.	Additional funding and resources have been allocated to the healthy settings programmes in the city (Healthy Early Years Award and Healthy High-5 (HH5 for schools)). The increased funding for HEYA will provide the capacity to recruit 70% of local nurseries to the programme. The additional support for HH5 from the Education team will aim to engage all schools in the city with the award.
10.	The inquiry highlighted the potential role of the HENRY programme (Healthy Eating and Nutrition in the Really Young (a parenting programme)) in tackling childhood obesity in other local authority areas. The inquiry recommendation was aimed at developing local parenting programmes to consider HENRY. This area of work requires further consideration and will be included as part of the work of the task and finish group.
	<b>Summary</b>
11.	Work to implement a number of recommendations from the scrutiny inquiry has commenced and is progressing well. Some recommendations have been deprioritised at this time and others, particularly work to improve the food environment have been postponed to phase 2 or until funding becomes available. However, it remains the ambition of the Council to address the food environment in the city and to progress this in a timely manner. The recent publication of the National Food Strategy will act as a catalyst for this work.
12.	Work to undertake a whole systems approach to obesity will continue to develop. This will support an on-going process of working with stakeholders in the system to create and implement localised and innovative solutions.
13.	As identified in the detailed progress update attached as Appendix 1, the next 12 months will be key to addressing challenges identified within the inquiry report. Given this, the Committee may wish to request an update on progress in 12 months' time.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
14.	Any proposals that require additional expenditure will need the funding source to be identified before any costs are incurred.
15.	The Public Health grant is provided annually. We await the national decision on the public health grant value for 2022/23 or indeed if the grant will end. The future funding mechanism, level and criteria have not been confirmed and there is not a timescale for confirmation. Therefore, public health funding cannot be committed at this stage.
16.	Phase 1

	<p>Funding is required for phase 1 of the plan. The estimated funding requirement is £60,000 over two years. This funding has been committed from the Public Health budget this year (from the Public Health reserve). This Phase spans 2021/22 and 2022/23. The approximate cost each year will be around £11.3K-£17.1k for 2021/22 and £47.9k-£43.1k for 2022/23 but would be dependant on when the post was appointed to.</p> <p>Phase 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-We do not have the funding available to commence phase 2 but at this stage the estimated annual funding requirement of £41,000 per annum (£31,000 per annum officer time, plus £10,000 per annum of additional resource) to progress recommendations 4 and 13-16.</li> <li>-A one-off cost of £1400-£2,000 for recommendation 9 has been secured.</li> <li>- HEYA 2021/22-there has been an uplift to the HEYA budget to support the scaling up of the scheme. £13.5k per annum to £28.8k, although funding for 2022/23 is still to be confirmed.</li> <li>-Business cases will be developed to deliver the other recommendations in the plan.</li> <li>-It is recommended to the Executive Management Team that the DPH, Executive Director of Children's and Executive Director of Place work with Finance colleagues to identify what can be achieved within existing resources and where there are resource gaps – that would require reprioritisation of resource.</li> </ul>
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
17.	None
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
18.	<p>The Health and Social Care Act 2012 requires Local authorities to collect data on Reception Year and Year 6 children's height and weight from all state-maintained schools within their area as part of the National Child Measurement Programme. Public Health England (PHE) provide <a href="#">operational guidance</a> to local authorities and schools on how to undertake the exercise. The Act also requires Local Authorities to improve the health of their local population.</p>
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
19.	None
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
20.	Executive Director for Wellbeing (Children and Learning) is heading up a task and finish group to oversee delivery of the recommendations.
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
21.	Reducing childhood obesity is a stated priority within the 2021-2025 Corporate Plan.

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	No	
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	All	
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>		
<b>Appendices</b>		
1.	Action plan: Tackling Childhood Obesity – Update October 2021	
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>		
1.	None	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out?		An ESIA should be conducted on each of the key projects by the project leads once agreed.
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>		
<b>Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b> <a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/media/j40nnlg4/tackling-childhood-obesity-in-southampton_tcm63-430655.pdf">https://www.southampton.gov.uk/media/j40nnlg4/tackling-childhood-obesity-in-southampton_tcm63-430655.pdf</a>		
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>	
1.	<a href="#">Tackling Childhood Obesity Scrutiny Inquiry Final Report</a>	