

By: Graham Gibbens

To: Corporate Policy and Overview Committee - 28th May 2008

Subject: **KCC Health Inequalities Action Plan**

Classification: (Unrestricted)

Summary:

FOR DECISION To agree the progress and development of the Health Inequalities Action Plan since the report was agreed at the Corporate POC on 8th November and the Cabinet Meeting on 19th November 2007.

Introduction

1. (1) The KCC Health Inequalities Action Plan has continued to be developed as '*work in progress*' with its primary aim to reduce Health Inequalities and raise the life expectancy of the most socially disadvantaged people in Kent. The Plan has not incurred any new targets or initiatives but has assisted in raising awareness of health inequalities in Kent and help to focus attention on the need to target interventions effectively. The Plan has also identified inequalities in life expectancy across all district localities.

(2) Comments and amendments arising from Corporate POC on the 8th November were reflected in the report submitted to and agreed by Cabinet on the 19th November 2007.

(3) Further contributions to the Health Inequalities Action Plan are still being made and updated as an ongoing process. However, contributors have been asked to submit their final updates by the 15th July 2008 so that the Plan can be published and shared as a guidance and informative resource. This report will provide further and more detailed information on the changes and amendments made to the revised Health Inequalities Action Plan.

Amendments to the Health Inequalities Action Plan

- (1) Foreword to clarify the purpose of the Action Plan; that the Plan is a KCC document setting out the KCC's position and vision and welcomes the contributions of District Councils, Kent PCTs and other stakeholders to demonstrate partnership working (page 2)
- (2) Clearer definition of health inequalities (page 2)
- (3) Further detail on the variance of life expectancy by local authority in Kent

- (4) Greater emphasis on the need to target interventions to groups vulnerable to health inequalities (page 4)
- (5) Emphasis on the 17 Kent Agreement indicators relating to Health Inequalities (page 8)
- (6) Section included on Gypsies and Travellers (page 13-16)
- (7) Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships – their role and how local strategies can assist in reducing health inequalities (page 8)
- (8) Dentistry – currently working with PCTs to identify the relationship between health inequalities and access to dental services.
- (9) Identified potential shared indicators and targets (Kent Agreement – page 8, National Target – page 16, National Key indicators – 18)
- (10) Greater support to tackle inequalities through sharing resources (highlighting access to Community Health profiles, acquisition of Health Inequalities tool kit currently only available for Spearhead authorities and PCT data analysis to monitor progress of the 12 key national indicators at a local level).
- (11) Summary boxes under each of the headings to highlight the imperative issues under those headings.
- (12) The Health Inequalities Action Plan is being referenced with the Local Strategic Partnerships and the Health and Wellbeing sub-groups to drive forward health inequalities and ensure that the plan is being implemented at a local level.

Awaiting responses for further updates and details of more recent commitments to tackle health inequalities from:

- (13) KCC Directorates (pages 8-11 and page 20 onwards)
- (14) The Kent Joint Policy and Planning Board (pages 12-13 and page 20 onwards)

Recommendation

3. POC is invited to discuss and comment on the progress of and to approve the revised Health Inequalities Action Plan (still work in progress). Pages 1-20 of the Draft Action Plan are attached, reflecting recent changes. Pages 21 onwards publishes the table of examples from each of the KCC Directorates and Local Authorities and is currently awaiting updates through the consultation process.

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