

**Report to HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**TITLE – Oldham Health Inequalities Plan Update**

**Portfolio Holders:**

Councilor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

**Officer Contact:** Katrina Stephens, Director of Public Health

**Report Author:** Anna Tebay, Head of Service Public Health

**Ext.** [anna.tebay@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:anna.tebay@oldham.gov.uk)

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023

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**Purpose of the Report**

This paper provides information to the board on progress to date on Oldham's Health Inequalities plan agreed by Health and Wellbeing Board June 2022.

**Requirement from the Health and Wellbeing Board**

The board is asked to note the content of the paper and the progress to date.

**Title** Oldham's Health Inequalities Plan

**1. Background**

- 1.1 Oldham Life Expectancy for men is 77.2 years, compared to the national average of 79.4 years (PHOF 2018-20). By contrast, Westminster has an average life expectancy of 84.7 years. The difference in life expectancy for men, between Alexandra ward (most deprived) and Saddleworth South ward (least deprived) is 12 years.
- 1.2 Oldham Life Expectancy for women is 80.5 years compared to the national average of 83.1 years (PHOF 2018-20). By contrast, Kensington and Chelsea has an average life expectancy for women of 87.9 years. The difference in life expectancy between Alexandra ward (most deprived) and Saddleworth South ward (least deprived) is 12.9 years.
- 1.3 The inequalities that we observe for life expectancy and for healthy life expectancy in Oldham are not just associated with deprivation but are also present between different ethnicities.
- 1.4 In November 2021, the Health and Wellbeing Board members discussed the development of a Health Inequalities plan for Oldham. This process took key recommendations from the GM Marmot Build Back Fairer and GM Independent Health Inequalities Commission report and mirrored broad six thematic areas
- Income, Poverty, Housing and Debt
  - Housing, Transport and Environment
  - Work and Unemployment
  - Health in all Policies / Communities and Place
  - Health and Wellbeing, and Health Services
  - Children and young people
- 1.5 Each of the thematic areas was underpinned by a series of actions (a total of 57), and senior sponsor(s) assigned. The board agreed the plan in June 2022.
- 1.6 A tracker tool has been developed, detailing all the actions within the agreed Health Inequalities plan. Action owners have been invited to review and update the progress made towards each of the actions utilising commentary boxes and RAG ratings to provide a visual review of where programmes are on track, stalling or behind. Each of the sponsors has access to the tracker tool for oversight and review of their thematic area.
- 1.7 One of the thematic areas – 'Health and Wellbeing and Health Services' will undergo a review of the actions to align to the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) priorities outlined within the ICP 5-year strategy and to ensure that the actions are reflective of existing programmes contributing to the reduction of health inequalities. The wording of the actions will be agreed with action owners before being committed.
- 1.8 Of the 40 actions, within the remaining 5 themes, nearly half (19) are RAG rated as green, indicating that they are on track or have been completed. This indicates that broadly speaking the health inequalities plan is on track to deliver the actions within the agreed 2-year time period, completing May 2024.
- 1.9 Those that are amber, are usually so because of short term funding or staffing capacity issues. Amber can also indicate that services are in place as per action, but that demand is exceeding capacity for example healthy weight support from the commissioned service 'Your Health Oldham'

- 1.10 The board is asked to note the addition of new sponsors for the theme ‘Housing, Transport and Environment’ Paul Clifford, Director of Economy, and Nasir Dad, Director of Environment. Both directors are well placed to oversee progress of work and have already held a forum bringing together all action owners within this theme to monitor progress.
- 1.11 During the period of September 2022 to March 2023, all six thematic areas had presented focused reviews to the Health and Wellbeing board. This allowed for the sharing of good practice across Oldham organisations, opportunity to accentuate programmes that reduce inequalities and as a system provide a safe place to discuss barriers to delivery.

## 2 Current Position

The table below outlines some of the previously agreed actions or objectives, and a proposed amended version to better align to existing pieces of work or work that will maximise impact in reducing health inequalities.

Theme	Original objective or action	Proposed amended objective or action
Children and Young People	Develop systems and pathways that lead to the earlier identification of, and action on, early years and primary school age food insecurity.	To maximise uptake of the Healthy Start scheme for children in early years.
Children and Young People	Identify food insecure residents at an earlier age (i.e., before FSM)	Reduce food insecurity at an earlier age i.e., before free school meals
Housing Transport and Environment	Developing a pilot funded by GM HSCP to improve minor repair provision, linking in participants into health service offers and measuring the impact of house repairs on resident health.	Explore a housing and health approach so that the warm homes team can signpost individuals with CVD or acute respiratory conditions to ‘Your Health Oldham’ for targeted support
Housing Transport and Environment	Incorporate healthier design principles into all developments (resi and non-resi) in the borough.	Work towards delivery of key ambitions included in the Oldham Transport Strategy.
Housing Transport and Environment	Embed active travel and improved air quality within the Oldham transport strategy	Develop and embed a delivery strategy for key ambitions included in the Oldham Transport Strategy with actions and timeframes included.
Housing Transport and Environment	Further develop the Healthy Homes element of the housing strategy in the next iteration of the housing strategy action plan, including strengthening links between health services and housing enforcement support.	Proactively identify houses with defects, assessing for category 1 and category 2 hazards.  Roll out of free universal pest control to Oldham residential properties to understand the scale of the issue and direct

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		action accordingly.
Health in all Policies/ Communities and Place	Provide workforce development sessions/training on Health Inequalities to improve awareness of the impact in Oldham and action required and make this a core part of the placed based workforce development offer.	To roll out a number of workforce development sessions under one approach that includes trauma informed, strength based and resident first.

### 3 Recommendations

- To agree the proposed amendments to the actions or objectives as outlined in section 2
- To continue an approach whereby each of the six thematic areas brings a focused review or more detailed progress update to the board over the next 12 months.