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**To: Health and Well-Being Board**

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**Subject: Progress of Public Health programme from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013**

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## **1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 The purpose of this note is to inform the Health and Well-being Board of the outcome of consideration by the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) of progress with the Public Health Programme from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

## **2 Recommendations**

The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board recommends that in progressing the Public Health agenda, the Health and Wellbeing Board, together with the Cabinet Member Health and Adult Services:

- a) consider how they can work with private sector landlords to address health inequalities; and
- b) consider how they can work with the providers of mental health services to help address health inequalities, including life expectancy, for people experiencing poor mental health.

## **3 Information/Background**

At its meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014, the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) considered a briefing note and report on the progress of the Public Health Programme since the transfer of responsibilities to local authorities in April 2013. The briefing note and accompanying papers for the meeting are available at:

<http://democraticservices.coventry.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=573&MId=10338&Ver=4>

- 3.1 The Board questioned the Cabinet Member Health and Adult Services and the Director of Public Health on a range of issues raised in the report including:
- the time lag in the data, which means that much performance information relates to the time period prior to April 2013 and how the impact of the transfer of responsibilities on health outcomes would be monitored in future;
  - how effectively Public Health is engaging with the rest of the City Council and ensuring that public health priorities are becoming embedded across all of the organisation's activity; the Board sought assurance that potential impacts on public health are being made explicit in information and reports used to support decisions;
  - the effectiveness of approaches to make sure that interventions and services are targeted to those most in need; and
  - how the effects of health inequalities impact on life expectancy and how geographical and social causes are being tackled.

- 3.2 The Board raised specific questions about the impact of housing quality on health. They acknowledged the work being done with social landlords but raised concerns about the extent of engagement with the private rented sector. While private sector landlords and tenants may be harder to reach, the problems associated with poor quality housing are significant in this sector and likely to grow in the future. The Board noted that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) has established a Task and Finish Group to look at licensing options for the private rented sector and requested that they be asked to include public health considerations in their work. They also asked that the Health and Well-being Board and Cabinet Member Health and Adult Services consider how they can support the Public Health Service to work with private sector landlords in order to address health inequalities.
- 3.3 Members also asked questions about mental health and felt that this should be addressed more explicitly in future reports. They noted the impact of poor mental health on wider health and well-being outcomes and asked that the Health and Well-being Board and Cabinet Member Health and Adult Services consider how they can work with the providers of mental health services to help address health inequalities, including life expectancy, for people experiencing poor mental health.

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