
To: Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 12th October 2020

From: Liz Gaulton, Director of Public Health and Wellbeing, Coventry City Council

Title: Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2019-2020

1 Purpose

This paper presents the Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2019-2020, 'Resetting our Wellbeing'.

2 Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to

- Note the report's findings;
- Endorse the recommendations from the 2019-2020 DPH report; and
- Note the progress on recommendations from the 2018-2019 DPH report.

3 Information / Background

The report records Coventry's state of wellbeing in 2019/20 and offers a reflection on the city's system-wide approach to improving wellbeing last year and in our early COVID-19 response. The report's findings are informed by statistical figures, performance reports and evaluations from the Council and partners, and interviews with over 20 colleagues across teams and organisations.

As we continue to live with, and through, COVID-19, as individuals, we should aim to bolster our wellbeing and build resilience. From a system point of view, COVID-19 has drawn attention to health inequalities and prompted a shift in what we value. Therefore, the report offers two sets of recommendations to minimise the harm of the pandemic and to make use of the benefits gained from the city's COVID-19 response: one for individuals, one for organisations and Coventry's health and wellbeing system.

4 Recommendations for individuals

Individuals are recommended to improve their wellbeing and build their resilience by: 1) Having vaccinations; 2) Having the flu vaccination; 3) Eating healthily; 4) Travelling by walking or cycling; 5) Doing physical activities; and 6) Practising the Five Ways to Wellbeing.

These recommendations tie in with the Coventry Health Challenge and the Government's Better Health campaign. Together, they encourage Coventry's residents to take action for their wellbeing, which helps to reduce the harm of COVID-19.

5 Recommendations for organisations and Coventry’s health and wellbeing system

These recommendations are shaped by the report’s findings and discussion outcomes following a virtual meeting with 18 individuals from partner organisations and across the Council. The recommendations fall under the four quadrants of Coventry’s population health framework and are in line with the Council’s reset and recovery exercise.

Recommendation 1 – Wider determinants of health

COVID-19 has shone a light on inequalities within our communities. Coventry City Council and partners should continue to build on this increased awareness, and consider the findings from COVID-19-related research and surveys, to mitigate the health and wellbeing impact of inequalities in Coventry.

Recommendation 2 – Our health, behaviours, and lifestyles

Coventry City Council's approach to public health communications and engagement should be guided by lessons learnt and new relationships formed, especially as we continue to live with, and through, COVID-19.

Recommendation 3 – Our health, behaviours, and lifestyles

Coventry City Council and partners should continue to encourage local employers, and lifestyle and wellbeing services, to commit to improving workplace wellbeing.

Recommendation 4 – Integration of actions from the community, public sector, and voluntary sector

Building on existing health and wellbeing infrastructure, a collaborative partnership approach, which brings together residents’ experience and partners’ skills and assets, should be taken to strengthen health and wellbeing in communities.

Recommendation 5 – The places and communities we live in and with

Coventry City Council and partners should set up spaces and channels to meet with residents, with the aim of inspiring them to imagine the change they wish to see in their communities, and enabling residents to lead the change.

6 Progress on 2018-2019 recommendations

Preparing for, and responding to, COVID-19 has created a shift in priorities across the resources and capacity of the Council and our partners.

No	Recommendation	Action to date
1	Review and revise the Marmot Action Plan	The Marmot Partnership Group identified new priorities with input from partners and findings from ‘Coventry – A Marmot City Evaluation’. Responding to COVID-19, pressing areas of focus were identified using the One Coventry approach.
1, 2, 4	Take a One Coventry approach to embed reduction of inequalities across the Council and local organisations	Health inequalities are considered in all aspects of the Council’s reset and recovery programme, and in the day-to-day work across Council departments, such as public realm planning and targeted support to increase employment. The Council Plan now reports on social determinants and inequality indicators.

3	Take a community asset-based approach to improve health and wellbeing, maximising the legacy of City of Culture 2021	Community groups, place-based stakeholder groups, and family hubs work closely to provide support tailored to local needs. COVID-19 led to an increase in community support groups and residents helping their neighbours. The City of Culture Trust is working with these groups to develop local artistic and cultural projects that lift the communities' health and wellbeing.
5	Respond to barriers to accessing physical activities and healthy lifestyle choices	'Coventry on the Move framework 2019-2024', published in 2019, details the inequalities in accessing physical activities. The Year of Wellbeing and City of Sport programme were key delivery elements. New leisure facilities opened in 2019 and the GoCV scheme offered discounts to improve accessibility. The Council's equalities objectives include increasing disabled residents' participation in sports and cultural events.
6	Embed an integrated early help offer for vulnerable families	Developed through a partnership approach, the Early Help strategy launched in July 2020. The Early Help Partnership is working with Warwick University to evaluate the integration of services. Family Matters meetings bring partners together to discuss and support family cases. Family hubs host partners to deliver bespoke services for their neighbourhoods.
7	Evaluate the impact of the Year of Wellbeing and Health and Wellbeing partnerships	Risk Solutions carried out an evaluation on the impact of the Year of Wellbeing, focusing on awareness raising and participation levels. During COVID-19, fewer resources were available to promote the follow up Wellbeing for Life campaign, but the branding was still used for the virtual Wellbeing Festival.
8	Implement NHS Plan around prevention and health inequalities and the Coventry and Warwickshire Health and Care partnership	The Council plays a leading role in the Population Health and Prevention programme of the Health and Care Partnership, which shapes the Strategic Five-Year Health and Care Plan. The population health framework was adopted, and partners galvanised support for it. This will help drive a stronger focus by NHS partners on prevention and the wider determinants of health.
9	Mobilise the 2019-2023 Health and Wellbeing Strategy and utilise the population health framework to underpin change	The Health and Wellbeing Strategy was approved in October 2019. The Council adopted the population health framework to enable system-wide changes to improve health and wellbeing. Responding to COVID-19 has prompted a reconsideration of Strategy's priorities, but the framework still underpins the Council's reset and recovery programme.

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Appendices

Coventry Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2019-2020