



## **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, 17 March 2020**

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| <b>REPORT TITLE:</b> | <b>HEALTHY WEIGHT – MEMBERS REVIEW</b> |
| <b>REPORT OF:</b>    | <b>DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b>       |

### **REPORT SUMMARY**

In January and February 2019, the Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) received several reports and presentations regarding Childhood Obesity in Wirral, and a copy of a Health Weight Declaration. As a result, Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed to;

- Establish a working group to run a series of workshops with the aim of developing an action plan to identify key areas of work to support local people maintain a healthy weight.
- Note the opportunities identified within this report to promote healthy weight.
- Consider implementing a Local Government Declaration on Healthy Weight for Wirral

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

The Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to,

1. Note the report and its contents
2. Approve the suggested recommendations and refer the report to the appropriate committee

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 Tackling obesity is a key strand of the Wirral 2020 Plan pledge will also sits within Wirral Council Plan 2025 and a much broader set of actions designed to address obesity. Three workshops were held in November and December 2019, engaging local stakeholders in collaborative discussions about healthy weight, which informed recommendations. The recommendations recognise that creating environments that enable children and families across Wirral to achieve and maintain a healthy weight is everyone's business, and thus requires collective action and commitment.

Given the complex, multifaceted and upstream causes of obesity, the working group decided to adopt a whole systems approach, engaging with a diverse group of internal and external stakeholders to map local contributors to unhealthy weight and identify priority areas for action.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 No other options were considered

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Members of the Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed they were well placed to lead a coordinated, whole systems approach to support healthy weight among children and families locally. The working group consisted of three members from across political groups, and support officers from scrutiny and Public Health. The group agreed to undertake a series of themed workshops, engaging stakeholders from the Local Authority, Wirral University Teaching Hospital, partner agencies and community groups to collectively identify local solutions. For information around discussions predating this decision, please refer to the February 2019 report from the Children and Families OSC 'Tackling Obesity' (see background papers).

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications, although there may be costs associated from actions arising from this report.

### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS**

- 6.1 There are no direct financial Implications arising from this report.

## 7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 There are no direct risks arising from this report, however there may be risks identified from implementation of recommendations which will need to be considered when appropriate.

## 8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Across the three workshops, a total of 83 delegates attended from various organisations, including Wirral Council, Wirral University Teaching Hospital, Magenta Housing, the Police, Children's Services, Wirral Foodbank, Edsential Caterers, EcoSchools, Food Active, Allotments society, Wirral Environmental Network, the Active Travel Forum, and youth representatives from the Youth Parliament.

## 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Whilst this report and scrutiny process endeavoured to ensure that it did not discriminate against any disadvantaged or vulnerable people, the implementation of any recommendations may require an equality impact assessment to ensure they meet the requirements of the public sector equality duty.

## 10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Local action on healthy weight should be sensitive to the wider climate emergency, in terms of food waste and sustainable practice. The suggested recommendations in this report also consider the role of active travel and planning have in healthy lives.

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## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Healthy Weight

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

[Tackling Obesity](#)

[Local Action to Tackle Obesity](#)

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

| Council Meeting                                     | Date                           |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 |
| Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2019  |

