



Cabinet Report

Purpose: For Decision

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

Date	14 MARCH 2024
Title	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH: LET'S NOT WAIT – ENABLING THE ISLE OF WIGHT'S CHILDREN TO BE A HEALTHY WEIGHT
Report of	DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Executive Summary

1. The 2012 Health and Care Act places a statutory duty on upper tier Local Authorities to improve and protect the health of their residents. The Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to produce an annual report about the health of the local population. The content and structure of the report is decided each year by the Director of Public Health, based on key issue of health and wellbeing that would benefit from a focused review. The requirement placed on Isle of Wight Council as the relevant local authority is to publish the report.
2. This year's report is focussed on Enabling the Isle of Wight's Children to be a Healthy Weight.

Recommendation

3. Cabinet Members are asked to note the content of the report.
4. Cabinet Members are asked to endorse the ambition within the Annual Report which acknowledges the significant challenge we face in respect to rising levels of childhood overweight and obesity, the multi-faceted causes, the impacts and system wide collaboration required to halt the worsening trend.

Background

5. The 2012 Health and Care Act places a statutory duty on upper tier Local Authorities to improve and protect the health of their residents.
6. This year's report is focussed on Enabling the Isle of Wight's Children to be a Healthy Weight.
7. This report is a call to action to focus on the one key priority which is the significant challenge we face in respect to rising levels of childhood overweight

and obesity. This includes the multi-faceted causes and system wide collaboration required to halt the worsening trend. It proposes we develop an Isle of Wight Healthy Weight approach which all partners agree and sign up to, including plans to reduce childhood obesity.

Corporate Priorities and Strategic Context

8. The report sets out the facts, figures and impact of childhood overweight and obesity for the Isle of Wight. It focuses on the public health challenge facing us, including implications on both physical and mental ill health into adulthood. Key influencing factors include diet, physical activity, the environment, parental health and affordability.
9. The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) measures the height and weight of children in Reception class (aged 4 to 5) and year 6 (aged 10 to 11), to assess overweight and obesity levels in children within primary schools. On the Island, the greatest rate of childhood overweight and obesity was recorded for Year 6 children, with a worsening forecast for Reception aged children.
10. Levels of physical activity impacted by more sedentary lifestyles, changing modes of transportation and shifting urban and rural environments contribute to the proportion of children on the Island not achieving the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day.
11. Healthy food choices are important and need focused efforts by the system to make them an easier, more desirable and affordable option. Fast food outlets near school settings impact children's food consumption as they travel to and from home.

Corporate Aims

12. The content of the DPH annual report aims to improve the health and wellbeing of our children and young people; this is relevant for ambition 16 of the [Corporate Plan 2021 - 2025](#). to 'place the health and wellbeing of residents at the centre of all we do.'

Impact on Young People and Future Generations

13. Childhood obesity is already a significant challenge to improving the health and wellbeing of children and young people, and onwards into adulthood. The good news is that the current trend in childhood obesity can be reversed through early collective action, and in doing so reduce risk for future generations. The call to action within this report is for exactly this. Today's children are tomorrow's workforce, and their health will be a deciding factor in whether the Isle of Wight is healthy and prosperous in the future.

Consultation and Engagement

14. Consultation was not required as this report sets out the facts, figures and impact of childhood overweight and obesity for the Isle of Wight

Equality and Diversity

15. The report is strategic/administrative in nature; therefore, there is no anticipated negative impact on equalities.

Appendices Attached

16. Appendix 1 - DPH Annual Report

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