

REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

2nd October 2018

Public Health Food Plan

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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To share the Food Plan with Health and Wellbeing Board members for information, support and commitment.

2. Delivering the Health & Wellbeing Strategy

2.1 The Food Plan contributes to delivering the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in a number of ways. By addressing the accessibility and quality of food, the Food Plan will support improving health outcomes and addressing health inequalities related to healthy weight and associated chronic illnesses.

By working with partners to concentrate our efforts on changing the structure of the environment we live, work and learn in will support making prevention everybody's business. In line with the aims and approach of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, a whole systems approach is necessary to achieve positive outcomes around healthy weight.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Health and Wellbeing Board members are asked to:-

- note and support the aims and priorities of the Food Plan
- assist with implementing the Plan and offer support in its delivery

4. Introduction/ Background

4.1 Food is one of the public health strategic priorities (2018-2021). To deliver this priority, a Food Action Plan has been developed to achieve the goals outlined in the executive summary (appendix one). The Plan is Barnsley Council's response to the increasing levels of obesity and proposes how we can all contribute locally to improving health outcomes and address the health inequalities related to healthy

weight and associated chronic illnesses. The Food Plan seeks to go beyond traditional interventions and will address food access, food quality and the local supply chain to ensure we achieve our ambition of *Accessible quality food for all*.

Over the past 12 months, our collaborative work to tackle healthy weight has gathered support and momentum. There are a number of examples of this work:-

- Elected Members have agreed to support a proposal to restrict further growth in the number of takeaways across the borough as one of the ways of supporting healthy weight in the population and addressing food access.
- The Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance is currently being revised to include a health related criteria and a health impact assessment to the planning application process.
- Public Health has worked with Norse to remove full sugar drinks and vending machines in Westgate and Gateway Plaza. Alongside this, public health has worked with Norse to improve their conference buffet menu.
- Public Health has also developed a plan to add calorie information to food labels and menus across town enabling residents to make more informed choices at the point of purchase. Our local calories plan known as Barnsley's Big Calories Count and echoes Public Health England's national healthy eating campaign which focuses on the promotion of a healthy calorie intake. The campaign is part of the national campaign to reduce calories consumption by 20% by the year 2024.
- Our Family Centres have successfully run the Alexandra Rose voucher scheme which provides free vouchers to our most disadvantaged families to be spent on fruit and vegetables in the local market, which has the advantage of keeping money in the local economy.
- The Food Access Steering Group and Area Councils have chosen to support holiday hunger schemes for children who receive free school meal in term time who are at risk of not eating a substantial diet over the school holidays.
- The food bank partnership commissioned by the Communities Directorate provides emergency food parcels to families in crisis.

We are keen to explore further collaboration with partners to collectively achieve an improvement in healthy weight across Barnsley.

5. Conclusion/ Next Steps

5.1 The launch of the Food Plan will build on the existing work and allow us to extend our reach to other stakeholders and introduce new interventions relating to healthy weight, quality and accessible food. Our Plan mirrors the Government's refreshed Childhood obesity: a plan for action 2018 and other recently published guidance on food in public sector settings.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 No financial implications, however, existing staff members in each of the Council directorates and partner organisations will need to be involved to support the delivery of the food action plan in order to achieve our ambition.

7. Consultation with stakeholders

7.1 The Food Plan has been drafted in consultation with colleagues from the People, Place, Communities Directorates, the Barnsley GP Federation, South West Yorkshire NHS Foundation Trust, Healthwatch and Barnsley CCG. Other agencies were also invited to comment and provide feedback. Changes and feedback suggested during the consultation phase have been addressed and incorporated into this final version of the plan.

8. Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 – Food Plan Executive Summary

Officer: Anna Tummon

Date: 10th September 2018