

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2020 /2021

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Purpose of Report:

To update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the annual Director of Public Health report for Milton Keynes.

1. Background

- 1.1 It is a statutory requirement for the Director of Public Health to produce an annual report concerning the health of the local community.
- 1.2 The 2020/2021 Director of Public Health report provides an overview of the experience of Covid-19 in Milton Keynes, including the impact on health inequalities and people's mental health.
- 1.3 Looking to the future it shows the importance of partnership working and re-connecting with our communities. It recognises that seldom-heard voices must be listened to as we build the recovery process.
- 1.4 Health inequalities have come to the fore during the pandemic; Covid-19 has had a greater impact on some groups within MK than others. For example, those living in areas of higher deprivation, people from black and minority ethnic groups and more vulnerable people have been disproportionately affected.
- 1.5 The mental health impacts of lockdown have been wide ranging and for some people severe. Experiences of loneliness, isolation, grief, unemployment, and home schooling are just some of the challenges that have taken a toll on people's mental health and wellbeing.
- 1.6 Looking forward to the coming year, the report identifies priority areas for health and wellbeing recovery in Milton Keynes. These priorities will need to be delivered working in partnership with others in order to successfully tackle health inequalities and improve local health outcomes.
- 1.7 A copy of the draft Director of Public Health's report will be tabled in advance of the HWB for the Board's input.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board provide comments and feedback on the draft report.