

**REPORT TO:** Health and Wellbeing Board

**DATE:** 2 October 2019

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Director of Public Health, Halton Borough Council

**PORTFOLIO:** Health and Wellbeing

**SUBJECT:** How inequalities impact on health in Halton

**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To inform the Board of the national and local context on inequalities, which are impacting on health outcomes for Halton's population.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDED:**

**The report be noted and the key health inequalities identified within the presentation incorporated into Halton's Place Based Plan.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 A presentation will be delivered to the Board.

## **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The 2019 NHS Long Term Plan states that this year all local health systems must set out how they will reduce health inequalities by 2023/24.

4.2 It is recommended that health inequalities are addressed across all policies: a Health in All Policies approach.

## **5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Reducing health inequalities can have significant cost saving implications, in terms of benefits payments and healthcare costs, as well as reducing overall levels of poverty and increasing opportunities for economic growth.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **6.1 Children & Young People in Halton**

The best start in life is essential for children and young people to have the opportunity to lead a healthy life. Reducing the numbers of children who

experience poverty should improve these adult health outcomes and increase healthy life expectancy<sup>[1]</sup>.

## **6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

One of the key Marmot recommendations in tackling health inequalities was to “create fair employment and good work for all”<sup>[1]</sup>.

## **6.3 A Healthy Halton**

Reducing inequalities can improve the life expectancy and number of years lived in good health for all of Halton’s population. In more equal societies, people are less likely to be obese and experience mental illness<sup>[1]</sup> <sup>[2]</sup>.

## **6.4 A Safer Halton**

There is evidence that reducing health inequalities can lower rates of property and violent crime<sup>[2]</sup>.

## **6.5 Halton’s Urban Renewal**

One of the key Marmot recommendations in tackling health inequalities was to “Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities”<sup>[1]</sup>. Access to green space and sporting facilities, active travel and the healthy food environment are all key areas.

## **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 N/A

## **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, public sector bodies should understand the effect of policies and service commissioning on the health outcomes of those with protected characteristics

## **9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

9.1 None

**Report Prepared by: Katherine Woodcock**  
**Contact: Katherine.woodcock@halton.gov.uk**

---

<sup>1</sup> Marmot M, Allen J, Goldblatt P et al (2010) Fair society, healthy lives: strategic review of health inequalities in England post 2010 <https://www.parliament.uk/documents/fair-society-healthy-lives-full-report.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Just Fair (2018) Tackling socio-economic inequalities locally <https://justfair.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Just-Fair-June2018-Tackling-socio-economic-inequalities-locally.pdf>