

CITY COUNCIL – 16 JANUARY 2017

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULTS AND HEALTH

DECLARATION ON ALCOHOL

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the plan to introduce an Alcohol Declaration in Nottingham as a tool to assist reducing alcohol related harms.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To endorse the Nottingham City Council Alcohol declaration, attached as appendix 1.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Helping people to live longer and more healthy lives by reducing preventable deaths and the burden of ill health associated with smoking, high blood pressure, obesity, poor diet, poor mental health, insufficient exercise and alcohol is a high level national priority and local priority across the East Midlands.
- 3.2 Alcohol use is the third most important cause of premature death and morbidity in England with much of this harm being preventable. Liver disease, of which alcohol is a major contributor, is the only chronic disease rapidly increasing in the UK.
- 3.3 The consequences of alcohol misuse in England is estimated to cost £11bn as a result of alcohol related crime, 7.3bn in lost productivity and £3.5bn per year to the NHS (21bn cost to the economy in total). Alcohol related ill health is estimated to be as costly to the NHS as smoking.
- 3.4 There are significant differences in the health consequences of alcohol use between richer and poorer local communities across England. The most deprived fifth of the population of the country suffer two to three times greater loss of life attributable to alcohol; three to five times greater mortality due to alcohol-specific causes; and two to five times more admission to hospital because of alcohol than the more affluent areas. Reducing alcohol related harm is a major consideration for tackling health inequalities.
- 3.5 Reducing alcohol related harm is a Nottingham joint health and wellbeing strategic priority. Alcohol-related hospital admissions in Nottingham have increased over the previous five years by 17% from 2010/11 to 2014/15. Nottingham has the highest level of alcohol-related hospital admissions of the core cities

4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Not to bring forward a Declaration on Alcohol. A Local Authority Alcohol Declaration and an associated NHS Statement of Support in reducing alcohol related harm provides a good opportunity for Nottingham City Council and the local NHS to commit to taking further evidence-based action in protecting the local community from the harm caused by alcohol. For this reason, this option was rejected.

5 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 5.1 The Local Government Declaration on Alcohol (appendix 1) was initially developed in the North East of England in response to alcohol-related harms. It is a pledge to take evidence-based action and a statement about the local authority's commitment to protecting their local communities from the harm caused by alcohol. It was introduced following the success of the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control (over 80 local authorities across England have signed up to the Tobacco Declaration).
- 5.2 The key aim of the Alcohol Declaration is to demonstrate local authority leadership on tackling alcohol harm and to make a collective statement about the importance of this issue both locally and nationally. It is intended that the commitments set out in the declaration will result in action across the system to address the harm that alcohol causes.
- 5.3 The Declaration commits local authorities to act at a local level to reduce alcohol harm and health inequalities by:
- Influencing national government to take the most effective, evidence-based action to reduce alcohol harm, particularly via the introduction of greater regulations around the price, promotion and availability of alcohol
 - Influencing national government to rebalance the Licensing Act in favour of local authorities and communities, enabling local licensing authorities to control the number, density and availability of alcohol outlets according to local requirements
 - Developing evidence-based strategies and commissioning plans with our local communities and partners including the local NHS Trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Police
 - Ensuring that public health and community safety are accorded a high priority in all public policy-making about alcohol
 - Making best use of existing licensing powers to ensure effective management of the night-time economy
 - Raising awareness of the harm caused by alcohol to individuals and our communities, bringing it closer in public consciousness to other harmful products such as tobacco.
- 5.4 Based on the success of the NHS Statement of Support for Tobacco Control, there is an opportunity to consider the implementation of a similar alcohol version to allow NHS organizations to show their support in reducing alcohol related harm.
- 5.5 Nottingham signed up to a Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control in 2014 – this has proved to be success in taking forward tobacco control strategies in Nottingham.

6 FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY)

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

8.1 An EIA is not required because this proposal does not relate to a new or changing policy, service or function. It relates to the adoption of a charter.

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

9.1 None.

10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

10.1 None.

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