

Mayoral Combined Authority Board

06 March 2023

Health Action Advisory Panel

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
<i>Reason why exempt:</i>	Not applicable
Purpose of this report:	Discussion
Is this a Key Decision?	No
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	Not a Key Decision

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

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Executive Summary

People in South Yorkshire are living shorter lives and in poorer health for longer than they should. Health inequalities within South Yorkshire are stark and despite our collective efforts, the gap is widening. As part of the Mayor's manifesto long term commitment to improve healthy life expectancy the Mayor committed to establishing a task and finish expert panel. The panel will advise the MCA, Local Authorities, the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and other partners what we could collectively be doing more of or differently to accelerate progress across South Yorkshire.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

The expert panel will produce evidence-based recommendations for action to accelerate progress on improving healthy life expectancy and reducing health inequalities in South Yorkshire.

Recommendations

The MCA Board are asked to support the creation of the expert panel and agree to receive and engage with findings and recommendations of the panel.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Local Enterprise Partnership, 9th March 2023

NHS ICB, TBC

1. Background

- 1.1 Our economy has huge untapped potential but has consistently underperformed and we remain a low waged, low skilled, economy with resulting low levels of productivity and poor health. As such, The Mayor has identified health and wellbeing and addressing health inequalities as priorities for his Mayoral term and has set out a bold ambition to make our region the healthiest region in the country.
- 1.2 The Strategic Economic Plan sets out a vision for an economy that works for everyone, one that is stronger, greener and fairer. However, we will be unable to deliver a stronger economy if our population and workforce are unhealthy. We need an economy that reduces health and social inequalities and leads to people living longer, healthier lives. We want to create a virtuous circle of prosperity and health, where improved health outcomes support economic productivity and economic growth supports better health and wellbeing.
- 1.3 A whole system approach is necessary to create this cycle - based on consensus, collaboration and a common and honest assessment of where the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats lie. A task and finish expert panel will be created to advise the MCA, Local Authorities, the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and other partners on this approach. It will draw on the breadth of expertise inside South Yorkshire and bring in national and international experience, evidence and expertise to provide advice on the response to this challenge.
- 1.4 The Panel will have the involvement of each of 4 Directors of Public Health (DPH), both Universities, NHS representatives, the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) and business representatives. It will also have the support of external expertise from the Health Foundation and Sir Michael Marmot's Institute of Health Equity. It has the support of the DPHs, the ICB Chief Executive and chair of the LEP.
- 1.5 The establishment of an expert panel is a manifesto commitment made by Mayor Oliver Coppard. The role of the expert panel is to advise the MCA, Local Authorities, the ICB and other partners what we could be doing more of or differently to accelerate progress across South Yorkshire to improve healthy life expectancy and reduce health inequalities. There is the potential of further complementary, exploratory work with the Institute of Health Equity, bringing in their experience on delivering Marmot Cities/city regions, to inform the South Yorkshire response.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 There are stark inequalities in socioeconomic and health outcomes across our region. Too many people in the region are living shorter lives and experiencing poor

health at an earlier age. Life expectancy gains have stalled and even fallen for the most deprived communities.

- 2.2 The health of our local economy and the health of our population are interlinked and mutually dependent; one cannot prosper without the other. We know that poor population health and wellbeing is a drag on prosperity and productivity and a major reason why our economy struggles. A struggling economy contributes to fewer and less prosperous jobs, a reduction in wealth creation and investment and increasing deprivation.

3. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

3.1 Option 1

Support the creation of the Expert Panel and engage with its findings and recommendations.

3.4 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Risk of partners not engaging with the recommendations. This risk is mitigated by the expert panel being supported by the ICP and significant engagement by health and wellbeing boards to work collectively together to tackle health inequalities. This was evidenced by the success of recent health inequalities event hosted by Rotherham MBC.

3.5 Option 2

Not to support the creation of the Expert panel.

3.8 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

Reputational risk with partners who have already been engaged with this agenda and failure to deliver on the Mayor's manifesto commitment.

3.13 Recommended Option

Option 1

4. Consultation on Proposal

- 4.1 The proposal has been discussed with individuals within the MCA and with key individuals from across the South Yorkshire system.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 Informal conversations with the panel members, including Institute for Health Equity and Health Foundation have taken place. If MCA Board approve this paper, the panel will be mobilised and a formal public launch arranged.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

- 6.1 This is being supported within the MCAs existing budgets and with additional support from Sheffield University.

7. Legal Implications and Advice

- 7.1 None foreseen

8. Human Resources Implications and Advice

8.1 None foreseen

9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

9.1 The proposed Panel will have a diverse composition and will ensure diversity is a central consideration in its work.

10. Climate Change Implications and Advice

10.1 Not relevant

11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

11.1 No issues foreseen

12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

12.1 Communications support will be required around the launch of the panel and when distributing the findings.

List of Appendices Included

A Terms of Reference for Expert Panel

Appendix A

The Independent Expert Panel

The Mayor's Manifesto included a commitment to establish a panel of health experts, drawn from across the region, 'dedicated to driving that agenda forward with the urgency it demands'. On taking office the Mayor invited Professor Alan Walker, Co-director of Sheffield University's Healthy Lifespan Institute (HELSI) to develop a proposal for the membership and terms of reference of the expert panel.

Terms of reference

Mindful of the Mayor's emphasis on urgency and the existence of a rich evidence-base for action, including good practices in operation in Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield, the primary task of the Independent Expert Panel is to produce an action plan to extend Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) and reduce inequalities in HLE outcomes. Therefore, the proposed terms of reference are:

- To take stock of the current relative position of South Yorkshire with regard to HLE and the extent of inequalities both within the region and in comparison to other UK regions.
- To identify the key priorities for action to extend HLE and reduce inequalities. In doing so the panel will draw on national and international evidence as well as existing good practices in the four authorities.
- To produce an action plan setting out the steps required to meet the goal of raising the health of the region to the highest possible level. The plan will:
 - Establish a timeline
 - Identify actions that could be taken immediately and can be actioned within current arrangements
 - Identify actions that require further discussion and collaboration with local partners
 - Identify actions that require further discussion and collaboration with Government

It is expected that the panel will co-opt additional expertise and commission specific pieces of work as required. It is also expected that the panel will produce its report within 6 months.

The University of Sheffield have agreed to support the expert panel through the appointment of a Post-Doctoral Fellow to gather and review data, evidence and information to inform the work. SYMCA will provide administrative and communications support and cover time and travel requirements of members.

Proposed membership

The membership is intended to reflect expertise across the region while keeping the size of the group commensurate with the need for fast action. All of those contacted have agreed enthusiastically to join the group.

Professor Alan Walker (Co-Director of HELSI) Chair
Jessica Allen (Institute for Health Equity)
Ben Anderson (DPH Rotherham)
Jo Bibby (Health Foundation)
Julia Burrows (DPH Barnsley)
Barbara Coyle (ICB)
Chris Dayson (Sheffield Hallam University)
Greg Fell (DPH Sheffield)

Dan Holman (Sheffield University)
Lisa Kell (ICB)
Akeela Mohamed (Doncaster Inclusion and Fairness Forum)
Shahida Siddique (CEO FaithStar)
Ruth Speare (MCA public health lead)
Richard Stubbs (LEP representative)
Rupert Suckling (DPH Doncaster)