

ever before and to reorientate itself towards prevention and a focus on population health and wellbeing and health inequalities.

The Panel will have the involvement of each of 4 Directors of Public Health (DsPH), both Universities, NHS representatives, the VCSE and the chair of the LEP. It will also have the support external expertise from the Health Foundation and Sir Michael Marmot's Institute of Health Equity. It has the support of the Senior team of the Integrated Care Board.

The LEP Board are asked to note the formation of the expert panel, make any comments and agree to receive and engage with the findings and recommendations of the panel.

2. The issue and connection to delivering on our economic objectives:

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.

Socioeconomic and health outcomes are not the same across our region. South Yorkshire suffers from persistent, entrenched health inequalities and poor population health outcomes. Too many people in SY are living shorter lives and experiencing poor health at an earlier age. Life expectancy gains have stalled and even fallen for the poorest.

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 poorer job prospects, less wealth creation and investment and poorer communities.

The Strategic Economic Plan sets out a vision for an economy that works for everyone, one that is stronger, greener and fairer. An economy that reduces health and social inequalities and leads to people living longer, healthier lives. We will be unable to deliver a stronger economy if our population and workforce are unhealthy. The Mayor of South Yorkshire has also 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. We need a new prospectus for grow and prosperity and health, one which creates a virtuous circle where improved health outcomes support economic productivity; economic growth supports better health and wellbeing.

3. What are we doing in South Yorkshire already – and what could we do?

The Mayor is Chair of the ICP board, which has been responsible for the recent development of the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Strategy. The strategy will be published shortly, focussing on improving healthy life expectancy for people in South Yorkshire and reducing health inequalities. It also recognises the need to improve economic participation and deliver a fair, inclusive and sustainable economy.

A lot of work is already going on at place-level to deliver improvement in healthy life expectancy and reduce health inequalities, but the aim of the Expert panel is to draw on this and broader evidence to deliver recommendations which will accelerate progress and do so at pace.

SYMCA, the NHS and other local partners are also engaged in a programme of work with Bloomberg - Harvard to collaborate more effectively on improving school readiness for children in South Yorkshire.

4. Discussion points

Are board members supportive of the concept of the expert panel and/or have any comments or reflections to share which could support the work of the panel.

5. Next Steps

To convene the Expert Panel.

6. Risk Management

There is a risk of partners not engaging with the recommendations. This risk is mitigated by the expert panel being supported by the ICP and significant engagement seen by health and wellbeing boards to work collectively together to tackle health inequalities at a recent health inequalities event.

7. Financial and Legal Considerations

It is anticipated that any financial implications will be supported within existing SYMCA budgets with additional support from the University of Sheffield.

List of Appendices Included:

A Terms of Reference for the Independent Expert Panel