

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 30 MAY 2013  
title: Ribble Valley Year of Health & Wellbeing 2013/14  
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
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## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 This report asks members to consider the following:

- progress being made on the new County-wide Public Health Structures
- proposals for the 'Ribble Valley Year of Health & Wellbeing'
- developing local partnership arrangements for health & wellbeing

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- **Corporate Priorities** - to make people's lives safer & healthier
- **Other Considerations** – to improve the health of people living and working in the area

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 After being in shadow form for the last twelve months or so, the Lancashire Health & Wellbeing Board became formally responsible for the delivery of Public Health in the County from 1 April 2013.

2.2 A Health & Wellbeing Strategy sets out how the Board, in partnership with others, will deliver the new arrangements in health improvement to Lancashire's citizens and communities. (see appendix 1)

2.3 The Strategy identifies four priority outcomes:

- 1 New and expectant families
- 2 Mental Health & Wellbeing
- 3 Long term conditions
- 4 Improving the Health & Independence of older people

There are ten priority interventions also identified to help focus work on achieving the priority outcomes. These will form the basis of work programmes over the next three years to help demonstrate the effectiveness of the new 'collaborative approach'.

2.4 The new staffing structure for Public Health Lancashire is now almost complete, and includes officers who will have area/district responsibilities, along with specialists who will deliver specific services across the County.

2.5 It is proposed that district-based Health & Wellbeing Partnerships, and associated local work programmes, are established to address issues and inequalities specific to the locality, and provide a connection to the broader public health system. Although such partnerships will be supported through Public Health Lancashire, there will be a role for District Councils in providing local co-ordination.

### 3 CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 It has been acknowledged that Public Health Lancashire will have to work closely with District partners in jointly planning future services. Appendix 2 outlines some areas where the relationship between the County and District Councils could be strengthened.
- 3.2 Although there is a lot of activity at County level, establishing new structures and staff teams, partnership working at a local level has suffered, partly due to NHS staff moving into new roles with Public Health Lancashire, and uncertainty on how Public Health will work with CCGs.
- 3.3 From a Ribble Valley perspective, this has meant that the Ribble Valley Health Improvement Group (RVHIG) has ceased to function, creating some uncertainty on how things will move forward.
- 3.4 The Health sub group feels that it is important to maintain some momentum to ensure a continuation of local partnership working until the new formal arrangements are established. Any such activity should tie into the priorities of the Lancashire Health & Wellbeing Strategy, but also ensure that they have local relevance.
- 3.5 The Year of Health & Wellbeing promoted by Ribble Valley Borough Council aims to build on the theme of “Working Together Towards a Healthier Ribble Valley” and reflect the work done by partner agencies and community groups within the Borough in trying to redress the imbalance of resources available to the predominantly rural Ribble Valley and the resultant health inequalities experienced by the residents.
- 3.6 The Year of Health & Wellbeing will identify the health and wellbeing priorities for Ribble Valley residents, the problems with access to, and gaps in, services, along with difficulties in delivering to hard-to-reach communities and perceived lack of need for those services through showcasing partnership projects.
- 3.7 The project will showcase and celebrate the exemplar work of partners in Ribble Valley and the leadership of the Borough Council.
- 3.8 There will be specific outcomes from the Year:
  - Celebrate the Partnership’s contribution to Ribble Valley Health & Wellbeing in 2013/4;
  - Work towards becoming a dementia-friendly Council, and encourage other Ribble Valley organisations to join the project;
  - Promote Healthier Individual Lifestyles and demonstrably reduce the costs of providing healthcare to Ribble Valley residents;
  - Reduce the level of fuel poverty in Ribble Valley
- 3.9 An action plan will be developed for each outcome to demonstrate its impact and connectivity to wider public health priorities.

### 4 ISSUES

- 4.1 The specific outcomes have been selected as they can demonstrate the Council’s commitment to the Year of Health & Wellbeing by building on existing projects / work programmes.

4.2 It is also hoped that the 'Year of Health & Wellbeing' could be developed into an example of good practice within the County by demonstrating the value of the new collaborative approach.

4.3 There will be a formal launch at the Year of Health & Wellbeing, once the individual work programmes have been established.

## 5 RISK ASSESSMENT

Approval of this report may have the following implications:

- **Resources** – There is no additional funding identified at this stage to deliver the Year of Health & Wellbeing, although the Council does have some remaining funds from previous health-related schemes that could be used to 'pump prime' one-off activities. We will also explore sources of external funding, where possible.
- **Technical, Environmental and Legal** - none
- **Political** – The project demonstrates the Council's commitment to new partnership arrangements in Public Health.
- **Reputation** – the report demonstrates the Council's commitment to addressing the health & wellbeing needs of its citizens.

## 6 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

6.1 Notes the contents of the report and supports the proposal to establish 2013 as Ribble Valley's 'Year of Health & Wellbeing';

6.2 Agrees to the four specific outcomes identified at 3.7;

6.3 Extends the remit and membership of the current Health Sub Group to oversee the Year of Health & Wellbeing, and to work with Public Health Lancashire towards the establishment of a Ribble Valley Health & Wellbeing Partnership.

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Health & Housing 30.5.13 / RV Year of Health & Wellbeing / Chris Hughes / IW