

Meeting:	NHS Grampian Board
Meeting date:	10 October 2024
Item Number:	8
Title:	Director of Public Health Annual Report 2023: Working Together to Help Health Happen
Responsible Executive:	Susan Webb, Director of Public Health
Report Author:	Paul Southworth, Consultant Public Health Shantini Paranjothy, Deputy Director of Public Health

1 Purpose and recommendations

Each year, the Director of Public Health is required to produce an independent report on the health of the local population.

This is presented to the Board for:

- **Endorsement** – endorse the Director of Public Health Report

This report relates to:

- NHS Grampian Strategy: Plan for the Future – (People, Places, Pathways, with a focus on health inequities)

This aligns to the following NHS Scotland quality ambitions:

- Safe
- Effective
- Person Centred

2 Report summary

Last year's report highlighted four threats to population health: the higher cost of living; increase in need and demand for health, social care and community support services; infectious diseases; and climate change. These threats remain with us and this year's report focuses on the work we are doing collectively across Grampian to protect and improve our population's health and reduce inequalities.

As well as discussing the current state of the population's health, the report highlights cross-system work across the wider determinants of health; our health behaviours; Grampian's places and communities; and our health and social care system.

2.1 Situation

After decades of continuous improvement, the health of the population of Grampian is worsening (as with elsewhere in Scotland and wider in the UK). For example, healthy life expectancy has been decreasing since 2015-17. Inequalities in health are also widening.

2.2 Background

The report uses the King's Fund Population Health Framework as a lens through which to look at the health issues facing our local populations. This consists of four overlapping "pillars" of population health: the wider determinants of health; our health behaviours; the places and communities we live in and with; and an integrated health and care system.

2.3 Assessment

The substantial challenges detailed in last year's report continue, but there is much cross-system work to celebrate: from tackling stigma for people with substance use issues; to the development of the Aberdeen City Vaccination and Wellbeing Hub which aims to contribute to a wide range of issues which impact upon population health. The worsening health and widening inequalities seen in our populations will not be reversed overnight, but through work like this addressing all four pillars of population health, we are confident that we are having a meaningful impact to prevent poor health and enable wellbeing.

2.3.1 Quality/ Patient Care

In response to the increasing demand and need for health and social care, the report highlights the need to sharpen our focus on embedding prevention at all levels within the NHS and transform the delivery of services to shift towards community-based models of care.

2.3.2 Workforce

-

2.3.3 Financial

-

2.3.4 Risk Assessment/Management

-

2.3.5 Equality and Diversity, including health inequalities

This report is for information purposes only, so the Impact Assessment process does not need to be applied.

2.3.6 Other impacts

-

2.3.7 Communication, involvement, engagement and consultation

The development of the DPH annual report has been informed by work done with our partners in the three Local Authority areas, Health and Social Care Partnerships and Community Planning Partnerships, as illustrated by the content of the report.

2.3.8 Route to the Meeting

This has been previously considered by the following committee meeting as part of its development:

- Population Health Committee 27 September 2024

2.4 Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- **Endorsement** – endorse the Director of Public Health report

3 Appendix

The following appendix/appendices are included with this report:

- Appendix 1 – Director of Public Health Annual Report 2023