

	<u>Agenda Item: 11</u>
Report to:	Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board
Date:	19 January 2020
TITLE:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING FORUM UPDATES
Organisation	Birmingham City Council
Presenting Officer	Dr Justin Varney Director of Public Health

Report Type:	Presentation
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1. Purpose:
1.1 To detail the progress of the partnership project between Birmingham City Council and Lewisham Council who are collaborating to address health inequalities faced by the African and Caribbean communities.

2. Implications:		
BHWB Strategy Priorities	Childhood Obesity	N
	Health Inequalities	Y
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		N
Creating a Healthy Food City		N
Creating a Mentally Healthy City		N
Creating an Active City		N
Creating a City without Inequality		Y
Health Protection		N

3. Recommendation
<p>It is recommended that the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge the progress made by the BLACHIR project. • Note the new model that is being developed between the two Local Authorities. • Agree to support the identified recommendations and promote outcomes to reduce health inequalities.

4. Report Body

4.1 Background:

The Birmingham and Lewisham African & Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR) is a new partnership between Birmingham City Council and Lewisham Council to share knowledge and resources through a collaborative review process. It follows the work of both Councils as national Childhood Obesity Trailblazers.

BLACHIR will initially focus on the Black African and Black Caribbean communities, this will enable a more detailed and culturally sensitive approach. The partnership aims to jointly undertake a series of reviews to explore in-depth the inequalities experienced by Black African and Black Caribbean groups and their drivers.

An external advisory board and an academic advisory board were recruited through an open advert and structured interview process. The boards support the review process through examining the evidence with the review team and shaping the recommendations.

The main objective of the review is to produce a joint final report, that brings together the findings from the advisory board, stakeholder events, online forum, and other research. The final report will also include data analysis conducted by the review group throughout the 18 month period.

4.2 Purpose of BLACHIR:

This is the first of a planned series of reviews to be carried out jointly between Birmingham City Council and other partners, the initial review on African and Caribbean Health Inequalities is being done jointly with Lewisham Council. Further reviews for different ethnic communities and minority groups plan to be undertaken over subsequent years (potentially with different local authority partners). They will use a similar model, making necessary amendments where lessons have been learned from the initial process. The initial review will be conducted over an 18 month period. Future reviews will be approximately 12 months, with the initial process being extended to allow for COVID-19.

The Review includes 9 topics for discussion, these are:

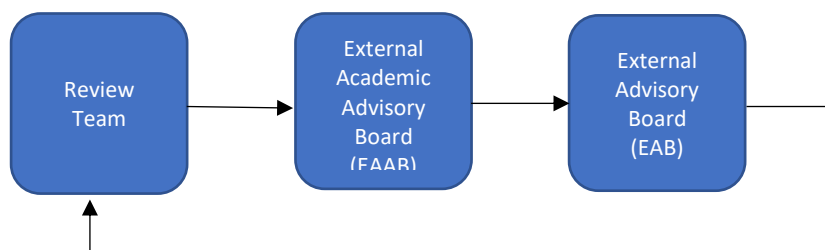
- Racism & discrimination role in health inequalities
- Early years, Pregnancy & Parenthood
- Children and Young People (e.g. youth violence, NEET, opportunities)
- Ageing well (e.g. Dementia & Frailty)
- Lifestyle factors (e.g. smoking, physical activity, nutrition & diet, drugs & alcohol)
- Mental health & wellbeing
- Chronic disease (e.g. diabetes, hypertension)
- Acute disease and death (e.g. hospital admissions)
- Wider determinants of health (e.g. housing, employment, education, poverty)

4.3 Objectives of the BLACHIR review

- Explore health inequalities experienced by Black African and Black Caribbean communities in Birmingham and Lewisham.
- Support the development of BLACHIR a new model growing processes and delivery of a strategic action plan to deliver a first-time impact on citizen's lives in Birmingham and Lewisham.
- Foster and develop partnership arrangements to deliver improvements in health and wellbeing for Black African and Black Caribbean communities in Birmingham and Lewisham.
- Work to the BLACHIR timeline with the External Advisory Board members to ensure all are on course to make a difference to the citizens of Birmingham and deliver on outcomes.
- Work with the External Advisory Board members who are community group and voluntary organisations members to ensure their voices are heard on matters of health inequalities.
- Support research, data collection, and monitoring

4.4 Timelines of engagement

The impact of COVID-19 has caused delays in the BLACHIR timeline. The Review intends to meet in a 6-week cycle with the External Academic and Advisory Boards to share evidence-based research and lived experienced knowledge.



The discussions will be conducted in an ongoing cycle of meetings. These meetings will involve discussing one theme at a time. One cycle will begin with the Review Team (who are members of BCC and Lewisham council). They will collate information on the chosen theme to enable the academics to have informed discussions at the meetings. The evidence gained from the academic meetings will be put forward to inform the Advisory Board meetings. This information will be returned to the Review Team for use in producing the final report.

A written report will be produced at the end of the 18-month review process for the two Health and Wellbeing Boards. This will be a culmination of the findings from the monthly Advisory Board meetings and additional research undertaken by those involved in the review. This report will be informed and co-produced by the Public Health Divisions in Lewisham and Birmingham and members of the Advisory Board, with work being delegated appropriately between those involved. The final report will be made publicly available.

4.5 BLACHIR findings and outputs:

The outputs from the series of Review meetings will be recorded. Documents and information from the Review meetings will be shared with the External Board members by email. They will also be held on the networking platform Knowledge Hub. External Board members will be invited to ensure inclusivity and ensure the views and experience of the community are captured. BLACHIR is invaluable to the success of exploring health inequalities faced by the Black African and Black Caribbean communities.

The review will make recommendations to the Health and Wellbeing Boards of both Lewisham and Birmingham.

4.6 BLACHIR progress so far:

The first review meetings have taken place discussing the role “Racism & discrimination in health inequalities”.

The feedback from the advisory board following discussion of the findings focused on:

- Language about racism and discrimination:
 - Ethnicity Monitoring (the use of the word “black” to identify ethnicity)
 - How we describe racism
- Adverse childhood events
 - Microaggression
 - Racism as an ACE
- Health professional's education
 - Implicit bias/cultural competency sessions review
- Role of community in tackling racism and discrimination and link to health
 - Improve public engagement
 - Address mistrust of healthcare
 - Improve access to higher education and medical/health courses.

At present, the outputs from the meetings are scheduled to be collated, analysed and to complete a thematic analysis to draw from the External Advisory Board meetings by the Review working group for both DPH's to approve as recommendations.

4.7 Next steps/Delivery:

The second pillar/theme meeting will discuss “Pregnancy, Early Years & Parenthood” on 20th January 2021.

A review of the existing processes is ongoing. The model continues to evolve based on learning to make it as effective as possible.

Walsall NHS have been commissioned to produce an evidence summary. This will be collate evidence-based research on the relevant topic to support

the Academics research. It will identify the successful interventions, barriers, and facilitators that affect the Black African and Black Caribbean communities.

A proposal for a survey of experiences of Early years, Pregnancy & Parenthood among Birmingham and Lewisham communities' part of BLACHIR review is in progress collaborating with the 'Lewisham Maternity Voices Partnership' as a target audience to collect insightful information of lived experiences.

5. Compliance Issues

5.1 HWBB Forum Responsibility and Board Update

5.1.1 A brief update to be provided to the Health and Wellbeing Board on progress to ensure steady progress and any issue or risks highlighted that may hinder required outputs and outcomes.

5.2 Management Responsibility

Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council
Dino Motti Public, Health Registrar, Birmingham City Council

6. Risk Analysis

Identified Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Actions to Manage Risk
The External Advisory Board members fail to deliver on their assigned actions	Medium	Medium	Robust monitoring and reporting mechanisms to ensure collaborative working to promote positive workable solutions specific to BLACHIR.

Appendices

Appendix 1: BLACHIR – HWB Jan 2021

The following people have been involved in the preparation of this board paper:

Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council
Dino Motti, Public Health Registrar, Birmingham City Council
Avneet Matharu, Public Health Graduate, Birmingham City Council