

	<u>Agenda Item: 20</u>
Report to:	Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board
Date:	27th July 2021
TITLE:	BIRMINGHAM AND LEWISHAM AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN HEALTH INEQUALITIES REVIEW (BLACHIR)
Organisation	Birmingham City Council
Presenting Officer	Monika Rozanski, Service Lead Inequalities

Report Type:	Information
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1. Purpose:
1.1 To report on the progress of Birmingham and Lewisham African and Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR).

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
It is recommended that the Board:
3.1 Acknowledge the progress made by the BLACHIR project.

4. Report Body

4.1 Background and Purpose of BLACHIR

The Birmingham and Lewisham African & Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR) is a 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 focuses on the Black African and Black Caribbean communities. The partnership aims to jointly undertake a series of reviews to explore in-depth the health inequalities being experienced by Black African and Black Caribbean population.

An external advisory board, consisting of individuals with lived experience, and an academic advisory board were recruited to review, critique and discuss the findings. 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 all of the themed reviews and a series of recommendations being referred to as opportunities for action. The final report will also include data analysis conducted by the review group throughout the 18-month period.

The Review includes 9 topics for discussion, these are:

- Racism & discrimination role in health inequalities
- Early years, Pregnancy & Parenthood
- Children and Young People
- Ageing well
- Behavioural (lifestyle) factors
- Mental health & wellbeing
- Chronic disease
- Acute disease and death
- Wider determinants of health.

4.2 BLACHIR Progress so far

Four of the above nine themes of the review have now been completed. The advisory board for the last Ageing Well completed review met on 30 June 2021.

A public engagement activity has been planned to further review, refine and prioritise the opportunities for action identified from the first three themed reviews (Racism & discrimination role in health inequalities, Early years, Pregnancy & Parenthood and Children and Young People). It will consist of a public survey to be launched w/c 5 July 2021 and will be followed by a stakeholder engagement workshop, which will take place on 20 July 2021.

At present, the outputs from the Ageing Well themed review meetings are being collated.

Work has also commenced on the fifth thematic review (Behavioural factors) led by Lewisham and the sixth one (Mental health and wellbeing), commissioned by Birmingham Public Health from the University of Wolverhampton. University of Wolverhampton along with Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust have been commissioned to produce an evidence summary.

We are also in the process of commissioning the rapid systematic reviews for the last two themes.

4.3 Next Steps

- Public engagement activity throughout July 2021.
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- Findings from the rapid research for the Mental Health and Wellbeing theme to be released early August 2021.

The last two systematic reviews to commence in September 2021.

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 address any issues or risks highlighted that may hinder required outputs and outcomes.

5.2 Management Responsibility

Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council
 Dr Maria Rivas – Interim Assistant Director, Birmingham City Council
 Monika Rozanski – Service Lead - Inequalities

6. Risk Analysis

Identified Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Actions to Manage Risk
Risk of delay in progress and outputs due to pressures on the review team in Lewisham and capacity issues and delays in engagement activity across both LA areas due to summer holidays.	High	High	Robust monitoring and reporting mechanisms to ensure collaborative working to promote positive workable solutions. Commissioning of a larger proportion of the thematic systematic reviews and engagement activity by Birmingham Public Health.

Appendices

None

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

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