

	<u>Agenda Item: 15</u>
Report to:	Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board
Date:	28 March 2023
TITLE:	CREATING A CITY WITHOUT INEQUALITY FORUM ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022
Organisation	Birmingham City Council
Presenting Officer	Monika Rozanski – Inequalities Team Service Lead

Report Type:	Information
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1. Purpose:
1.1. The purpose of this report is to update the Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board on the activity of the Creating a City Without Inequality Forum from 2021-2022 and any future activity planned for 2023.

2. Implications (tick all that apply):		
Creating a Bolder, Healthier, City (2022-2030) – Strategic Priorities	Closing the Gap (Inequalities)	X
	Theme 1: Healthy and Affordable Food	
	Theme 2: Mental Wellness and Balance	
	Theme 3: Active at Every Age and Ability	
	Theme 4: Contributing to a Green and Sustainable Future	
	Theme 5: Protect and Detect	
	Getting the Best Start in Life	
	Living, Working and Learning Well	
	Ageing and Dying Well	
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		

3. Recommendation
3.1. The board is asked to note the content of the report.

4. Report Body

Background

- 4.1 The Creating a City without Inequality Forum (CCWIF) is a subcommittee of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). The CCWIF is aligned with the priorities of the HWB and the Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System (ICS). The forum focuses on disparities in health between various population groups and seeks solutions that can help mitigate or tackle those disparities. The CCWIF and its partners work collaboratively to explore and address the health inequalities impacting different communities across Birmingham.
- 4.2 The CCWIF focuses on the 5 key areas of inequalities highlighted in the HWB's strategy '*Creating a Bolder, Healthier City 2022-2030*'. These are:
- Inequalities linked to deprivation
 - Inequalities affecting disabled communities
 - Inequalities affecting inclusion groups (e.g. people experiencing homelessness)
 - Inequalities affecting different ethnic communities
 - Inequalities of locality (i.e. variation/inequalities between wards)
- 4.3 The CCWIF functions under 3 broad themes:
- Programme delivery – to deliver and oversee inequalities projects for the HWB
 - Shining the light – to shine a light on inequalities in Birmingham to encourage action across the system
 - Enabling – to deliver enabling functions for the HWB to underpin the system's work on health inequalities
- 4.4 The CCWIF has previously provided reports to the HWB, and this annual report will provide an update to the board an overview of the work that took place in 2021-2022 and any future activity planned for 2023.

4.5 Content

The report covers the key areas of work overseen by the CCWIF under the functions of 'programme delivery' and 'shining the light' and 'enabling'. A brief summary is listed below.

4.5.1 Programme Delivery

4.5.2 BLACHIR

- The Birmingham and Lewisham African Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR) was launched in 2020. The review explored 8 themes in detail and

the review was completed in early January 2022, followed by the launch of the BLACHIR report in early June 2022.

- The implementation phase of BLACHIR was launched at a wider stakeholder and community event on 19 October 2022 and was introduced to MPs, relevant government departments' representatives and thinktanks at its parliamentary launch on the 20 October 2022. To ensure the BLACHIR findings are implemented successfully, 3 community engagement partners have been commissioned and a programme organisation has been developed.

4.5.2 Birmingham Poverty Truth Commission

- The Public Health Division at BCC commissioned Thrive Together to establish the Birmingham Poverty Truth Commission (BPTC), which is a citizen engagement approach that aims to highlight the local experiences of poverty to the Council and its strategic partners. It was launched on 19 May 2022 with 10 Community Commissioners and 8 Civic Commissioners.
- Commissioners have been involved in work regarding 4 themes: 'housing', 'poverty and health', 'children and families' and 'poverty and health – food'. The impact of the BPTC has extended beyond the Commission within Birmingham, but also nationally.

4.5.3 Gender Health Inequalities Project

- The Gender Health Inequalities Project aims to identify gaps and in turn possible solutions to gender related health inequalities that are impacting communities across Birmingham.
- Work is underway regarding a Sex Health Worker Health Needs Analysis and a period literacy training and toolkit for the homeless sector. A working group has also been formed to provide a narrow focus on the issues and themes impacting women in Birmingham.

4.5.4 Community Health Profiles

- Community Health Profiles are short evidence summaries which provide a deeper insight into the diverse communities across the city. There have been 14 Community Health Profiles completed.
- There are a further 4 Community Health Profiles being completed internally and 7 Community Health Profiles externally.

4.5.5 Empowering Young Adults with Learning Disabilities

- In May 2022, CCWIF members voted to deliver a health literacy information pack for young people with learning disabilities and a support pack for parents, carers, staff and professionals.
- These information packs will be co-produced with young people with learning disabilities and will allow them to manage their own health, know where to go

for help, foster healthy relationships with other people and support them to live independently.

4.6 Shining the light

- The CCWIF aims to influence partnerships to remain committed to addressing health inequalities impacting communities across Birmingham. In CCWIF meetings, this is achieved by ‘shining a light’ on key issues within the city. The Forum explores the inequality priority areas and makes recommendations to system partners.

4.6.1. Inequalities linked to deprivation

- The CCWIF has received updates from the Cost of Living Programme which aims to address the challenges the cost of living crisis will pose to communities across Birmingham.
- Forum members are collaborating with those leading on the response to the cost-of-living crisis to ensure that any opportunities to address health inequalities are intertwined within the Cost of Living Programme.

4.6.2 Inequalities affecting disabled communities

- Inequalities affecting disabled communities is another priority area that has been explored by the Forum with a specific focus on learning and sensory disabilities.
- Forum members are identifying solutions to address the health inequalities impacting disabled communities and are helping to shape key strategies.

4.6.3 Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System

- The update provided by Birmingham and Solihull ICS at Forum meetings informs Forum members on the work taking place to tackle health inequalities within Birmingham and Solihull.
- The Forum seeks to support and strengthen the delivery on the ICS priorities within Birmingham and acts as a catalyst for local more detailed exploration, identification and showcasing of best local practice and piloting of new approaches.

4.7 Enabling

- The Forum continues to explore and promote best toolkits and frameworks to enable whole system and asset-based approaches to tackling health inequalities.

Summary

As a subcommittee of the HWB, the CCWIF has oversight on the delivery of different projects and programmes. Since the restart of the CCWIF meetings, the work that has been going on across the system has been presented to Forum members. Coupled with effective partnership working between

Birmingham City Council, Birmingham and Solihull ICS and their partners, the CCWIF is improving projects and programmes to ensure that the aim of reducing health inequalities across Birmingham remains a key priority for all.

5. Compliance Issues

5.1. HWB Forum Responsibility and Board Update

5.1.1. The annual report will be circulated to board members.

5.2. Management Responsibility

Monika Rozanski – Inequalities, Service Lead – Public Health

6. Risk Analysis

Identified Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Actions to Manage Risk
Risk of duplication with the ICS Inequalities programme of work	Low	Medium	<p>The CCWIF new Terms of Reference and Forward Plan have been developed to align with the Birmingham Health and Wellbeing Board's specific inequality priorities and outputs from the forum feed into the wider ICS strategies and work. The ICS Inequalities Programme Lead is a member of the CCWIF and have contributed to the development of the Forum's new plan and ToR.</p> <p>There is an ongoing dialogue and collaboration between the DPH, the PH Inequalities Team and the ICS to ensure the activity of the Forum adds value to the health inequalities agenda in the city and across the ICS.</p> <p>The risk is being monitored and the CCWIF Forward Plan and functions will be reviewed again in December 2023 once the existing plan comes to an end.</p>

Appendices

Creating a City Without Inequality Forum Annual Report 2021-2022

Creating a City Without Inequality Forum Terms of Reference

Creating a City Without Inequality Forum Forward Plan 2022-2023

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

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