

# Birmingham City Council

## Report to Cabinet

21<sup>st</sup> March 2023



**Subject:** **TRIPLE ZERO STRATEGY AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

**Report of:** **Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health**

**Relevant Cabinet Member:** **Cllr Mariam Khan – Health & Social Care**

**Relevant O &S Chair(s):** **Cllr Mick Brown – Health & Social Care**

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Are specific wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – All wards affected
If yes, name(s) of ward(s):		
Is this a key decision?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, add Forward Plan Reference: 011043/2023		
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential: N/A		

### 1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 Birmingham Public Health are seeking approval of the Triple Zero Drug and Alcohol Strategy and its supporting documents following public consultation
- 1.2 The strategy is named after the three ambitions for Birmingham:
  - Zero deaths due to drug or alcohol addiction

- Zero overdoses due to drug or alcohol addiction
- Zero people unable to receive support for their addiction when they need it

- 1.3 The Council, led by Public Health has been working closely with the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and other strategic partners to develop ambitions for the City's response to drug and alcohol misuse.
- 1.4 The first draft of the Triple Zero Drug and Alcohol Strategy was produced in early 2020 and approval to consult was sought from Cabinet in March 2020. However public consultation was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the public consultation ran for 12 weeks over the summer of 2021.
- 1.5 Approximately 900 responses were received, and a team of analysts worked on the qualitative and quantitative feedback and produced a summary report. Following consultation, amendments were made to the strategy, and these are presented in a 'You Said .... We Did' document which makes it clear to citizens, how we have responded to their views.
- 1.6 In addition, a substance use needs assessment was carried out in the Autumn of 2021 to support the development of the final strategy.
- 1.7 The strategy provides our high-level vision, aims and direction for tackling drug and alcohol addiction. This strategy isn't a detailed action plan, nor a list of performance measures and targets. As we progress through the strategy period detailed action plans will be developed to support and deliver our ambitions and themes.
- 1.8 We are seeking approval to publish the Triple Zero Strategy and its supporting documents

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
  - 2.1.1 Approve the Triple Zero City Strategy and its associated documents as set out in this cover report.

## **3 Background**

- 3.1 Birmingham is a diverse, global, vibrant city with over a million citizens, however too many of our citizens' lives are being damaged by addiction to alcohol or drugs.
- 3.2 Addiction to drugs comes in many forms and the landscape of drugs has evolved significantly over the last twenty years. The Triple Zero City Strategy will address a broad definition of drug addiction including novel psychoactive substances, steroid abuse, club drugs and prescription drug addiction as well as the more traditional opioid based drug addiction models.
- 3.3 Alcohol addiction is often described in the context of harmful and hazardous drinking. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) defines harmful drinking as a pattern of alcohol consumption that causes health problems,

including psychological problems such as depression, alcohol-related accidents, or physical illness such as acute pancreatitis. Harmful drinkers can become alcohol dependent, which NICE defines as characterised by craving, tolerance, a preoccupation with alcohol and continued drinking in spite of harmful consequences.

- 3.4 Tackling alcohol and drug addiction and the harm that it causes requires partnership working across the city. Preventing addiction requires action across the life course to reduce access, reduce demand and give people other pathways to managing life challenges. Supporting those living with addiction to reduce the risk of death and overdose requires early identification, brief interventions as well as, for some, longer term treatment and support. Enabling those living with addiction to manage and overcome their addiction and regain balance means working with educators and employers, as well as health and social care providers, to provide opportunities for individuals to achieve a healthy and productive life.
- 3.5 There are specific approaches that we will undertake with Children and Young People (CYP), parents with drug and alcohol misuse issues, and CYP moving from the children's support service to the adult one.
- 3.6 Led by Birmingham City Council in partnership with the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, the Triple Zero City Strategy sets out a refreshed approach to creating a healthier and safer city for all the residents of Birmingham.
- 3.7 In recent months the Government has published 'From Harm to Hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives.' Local work to plan for the delivery of the targets in the plan is ongoing and this Birmingham Strategy will sit alongside that at an important time as we deliver a world-class drug and alcohol treatment system in Birmingham.
- 3.8 A Triple Zero Action Plan will be developed and implemented to facilitate the delivery of the Strategy. A multi-agency partnership Birmingham Combatting Drugs and Alcohol Partnership group (BCDAP) will be established and will be chaired by an Independent Chair. The BCDAP will monitor progress towards the Strategy ambitions and progress against the Triple Zero Action Plan. The Birmingham City Council Public Health Division will facilitate the action plan, commissioning of treatment services, monitoring of delivery, and report into the BCDAP
- 3.9 Birmingham Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (CSP) will be jointly responsible for strategic oversight, and committed to, ensuring that Birmingham's vision for substance use (alcohol and drugs) is delivered.
- 3.10 The Birmingham Combatting Drugs and Alcohol Partnership, with its Independent Chair will provide assurance (through the respective governance structures of the partnership members) on the implementation of the TZ Action Plan to the West

Midlands Combatting Drugs and Alcohol Partnership (Chaired by WM Police and Crime Commissioner)

- 3.11 The Birmingham partnership will bring together relevant local statutory and voluntary and community sector organisations with a role or interest in the implementation of the Triple Zero Strategy.

## **4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal**

### **4.1 Alternative options considered**

- Not having a strategy or needs assessment – Strategy outlines direction for the city underpinned by needs assessment. Without which action risks being uncoordinated and not driven by need.
- Non- publication of amended strategy and associated documents – not a suitable option as citizen views have been sought during a consultation period. Without publication, consultation becomes as tokenistic exercise, and may impact on participation in future consultations Our Citizens should be made aware of our aims and strategic direction and the reasons why.

### **Recommended Proposal**

- Publication of the Triple Zero Strategy and associated documents

## **5 Consultation**

- 5.1 The strategy and its supporting documents were approved by the Community Safety Partnership on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Health and Wellbeing Board on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023
- 5.2 12 weeks of consultation with citizens was undertaken during the summer of 2021 and amendments to the strategy contents and wording were made in response.

## **6 Risk Management**

<b>6. Risk Analysis</b>			
<b>Identified Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Actions to Manage Risk</b>
If the Strategy and supporting information isn't published there may be a failure to deliver progress against the 2032 ambitions and measurable improvements to	Low	High	The Strategy and supporting information have been consulted on, and has been approved by Public Health SMT, Council Leadership Team and the Cabinet Member so it is expected to be suitable for publication. Work will continue to delivery against all relevant national and local

health inequalities and outcomes for citizens			targets. The Health and Wellbeing Board will oversee the delivery of health and treatment activity against the ambitions set out in the strategy, supported by a multi-level regional and local governance process and to guide and enable us to deliver a world-class drug and alcohol treatment system in Birmingham.
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## **7 Compliance Issues:**

### **7.1 How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council's priorities, plans and strategies?**

7.1.1 The Triple Zero Drug & Alcohol Strategy aligns to the following Council priorities:

- An aspirational city to grow up in
- A fulfilling city to age well in
- A great city to live in

7.1.2 These priority areas are supported by the overarching commitment to reduce health inequalities (a duty of the Local Council under the Health and Social Care Act 2012).

### **7.2 Legal Implications**

7.2.1 Section 12 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 introduced a new duty at Section 2B of the NHS Act 2006 Act for all upper-tier and unitary local authorities in England to take appropriate steps to improve the health of the people who live in their areas. The Triple Zero Drug and Alcohol Strategy outlines an approach to reduce health inequalities experienced by and improve health outcomes for those with drug and alcohol addictions.

### **7.3 Financial Implications**

7.3.1 Local authorities receive an annual ring-fenced Public Health grant from the Department of Health. The core condition of this grant is that it should be used only for the purposes of the Public Health functions of local authorities. Drug and alcohol treatment is one of the recommended functions that can be commissioned from the Public Health Grant.

7.3.2 This will be funded by the £95,969,930 Public Health ring-fenced grant that the Council receives. The grant funds statutory services such as Sexual Health, Children's 0-5s and Health Checks and non-statutory services such

as Children's 5-19s, weight management, stop smoking etc. and staff who work in the Public Health service at the Council.

- 7.3.3 The current draft of the strategy doesn't suggest any change in the current contract and financial arrangements but will provide a basis for the future commissioning plans both for the Council and partners.

#### **7.4 Procurement Implications (if required)**

- 7.4.1 None identified

#### **7.5 Human Resources Implications (if required)**

- 7.5.1 None identified

#### **7.6 Public Sector Equality Duty**

- 7.6.1 The proposals within this report have no adverse impact on people with protected characteristics (see appended Equality Impact Assessment EQUA1077). This work has provided a better understanding on the needs of individuals, which is anticipated to impact positively on future service delivery and action planning.

#### **7.7 Environmental and Sustainability Implications**

- 7.7.1 There are no Environmental and Sustainability implications associated with this decision.

### **8 Appendices**

- 8.1 Triple Zero Drug and Alcohol Strategy (p.7)
- 8.2 Substance Use Needs Assessment Executive Summary (p.33)
- 8.3 Full Substance Use Needs Assessment (p.43)
- 8.4 Consultation Analysis (p.132)
- 8.5 'You said...we did' summary of findings and actions taken (p.157)
- 8.6 Equality Impact Assessment EQUA1077 (p.160)

### **9 Background Documents**

- 9.1 Report to Cabinet 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (Forward Plan Ref. No. 007503/2020) -Triple Zero Strategy - Permission to Consult