

	<u>Agenda Item:18</u>
Report to:	Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board
Date:	30th November 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
3.1 The Health & Wellbeing Board is recommended to 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:

1. Racism & discrimination role in health inequalities
2. Early years, Pregnancy & Parenthood
3. Children and Young People
4. Ageing well
5. Mental health & wellbeing
6. Behavioural (lifestyle) factors
7. Wider determinants of health
8. Long Term Physical Health Conditions (*previously named 'Chronic disease'*)
9. Emergency Care and Preventable Mortality (*previously named 'Acute disease and death'*)

4.2 BLACHIR Progress so far

Six of the above nine themes of the review have now been completed (1-6 above). At present, preparation is underway for the next topic which is Wider determinants of health. The academic board meeting for this is scheduled for 2 November 2021, we have been able to co-opt one academic board member, who is a Senior public health fellow at The Health Foundation and, who has an interest in this area. The advisory board meeting for Wider determinants of health is scheduled for 30 November 2021.

The engagement events for BLACHIR themes one, two and three (Racism & discrimination role in health inequalities, Early years, Pregnancy & Parenthood and Children and Young People) have been completed and the Be Heard survey has closed. For future themes, there will be two engagement events, one specialised for children and young people and another for the general population. All results from engagement events have been pulled together and analysed in an engagement report. This is currently being reviewed by Dr Justin Varney.

Further to the update in September, the procurement processes for the systematic reviews for the remaining themes (*Emergency Care and Preventable Mortality, Long Term Health Conditions and Wider Determinants of Health*) have been

completed. We have appointed the contractors for these themes. We have received the reports for the systematic reviews from both the Wider Determinants of Health and Emergency Care and Preventable Mortality provider.

Work is underway for the draft of the Pregnancy, Parenthood and Early Years chapter of the final report. This is currently being reviewed by Dr Justin Varney and will be shared with the Lewisham review team, in order to establish a structure for the final report.

4.3 Next Steps

- Wider Determinants of Health Advisory Board meeting on 30 November.
- Public engagement activity scheduled for 16 December 2021.
- Establish a structure for the final report with Lewisham Council.

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.	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:
Atif Ali, Programme Officer – Inequalities, Birmingham City Council