



## SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Full Council

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**Report of:** Director of Public Health

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**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014

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**Subject:** Director of Public Health Report for Sheffield 2014

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**Author of Report:** Jeremy Wight

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### Summary:

Directors of Public Health have a statutory duty to produce an annual report on the health of the local population. This year's report focuses on what the World Health Organisation has described as the greatest threat to public health and the defining issue of the 21st century – the impact of climate change on health, principally through increased greenhouse gas emissions. The report firstly describes the scale of the challenge and then draws attention to the actions that can be taken to mitigate, or adapt to, the impact of climate change. As well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, these actions also benefit health.

The report concludes by making recommendations about improving the health of the Sheffield population by addressing issues that affect climate change. These recommendations are directed towards particular organisations or groups.

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### Recommendations:

To note the information contained in the report.

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### Background Papers:

The summary and full text versions of the report may be accessed online at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport) . *(Please note this will not be available until after December 3<sup>rd</sup>)*. All councillors are being sent a printed copy of the summary report.

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**Category of Report:** OPEN

## Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

<b>Financial Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Legal Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Equality of Opportunity Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Tackling Health Inequalities Implications</b>
YES
<b>Human rights Implications</b>
NO
<b>Environmental and Sustainability implications</b>
NO
<b>Economic impact</b>
NO
<b>Community safety implications</b>
NO
<b>Human resources implications</b>
NO
<b>Property implications</b>
NO
<b>Area(s) affected</b>
All
<b>Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Leader</b>
Cllr Mary Lea
<b>Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in</b>
Health
<b>Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?</b>
NO
<b>Press release</b>
YES

**REPORT TITLE: Climate Change and Health:  
Director of Public Health Report for Sheffield 2014**

**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Directors of Public Health have a statutory duty to produce an annual report on the health of the local population
- 1.2 This year's report focuses on what the World Health Organisation has described as the greatest threat to public health and the defining issue of the 21<sup>st</sup> century – the impact of climate change on health, principally through increased greenhouse gas emissions. The report firstly describes the scale of the challenge and then draws attention to the actions that can be taken to mitigate, or adapt to, the impact of climate change. As well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, these actions also benefit health.
- 1.3 The report concludes by making recommendations about improving the health of the Sheffield population by addressing issues that affect climate change. These recommendations are directed towards particular organisations or groups.

**2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE**

- 2.1 If unaddressed, continued global warming has the potential to increase the likelihood of floods, storms, heatwaves and severe cold weather. Sheffield is already experiencing increasing average temperatures This in turn has the potential to threaten the availability of clean water supply and affordable food. The risk of disease is also increased. Changes at the global level have an impact on the sustainability of local resources and infrastructure. The most vulnerable in society are likely to be those most affected.
- 2.2 Sheffield people should expect organisations responsible for their health and social care to have plans in place to address the impact of increased greenhouse gas emissions on their health

**3.0 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY**

- 3.1 The report makes fifteen key recommendations for taking up a number of opportunities for responding to climate change whilst at the same time improving health for people in Sheffield.

**4.0 MAIN BODY OF THE REPORT**

Including Legal, Financial and all other relevant implications (if any)

- 4.1 The full report may be accessed from [www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport) A summary version is also available to download from this website. *(Please note this will not be available until after December 3<sup>rd</sup>)* All councillors have been sent a printed copy of the summary report.

## **5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 Not applicable

## **6.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 It is good practice for Director of Public Health reports to contain recommendations aimed at improving the health of the population. This year's report makes fifteen such recommendations based on identifying the co-benefits of responding to climate change and improving health.

## **7.0 REASONS FOR EXEMPTION (if a Closed report)**

7.1 Not applicable

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S REPORT**

8.1 The Council should develop and implement a programme of signposting walking routes with the time it takes to reach the destination.

8.2 Sheffield people should consider traveling short distances on foot or by bicycle rather than by car, and sign up to 'Move More' at [www.movemoresheffield.com](http://www.movemoresheffield.com).

8.3 The Council should commit to increasing the number of 20 mph zones within the City as quickly as possible.

8.4 Sheffield City Council and local hospital Trusts should develop their food purchasing arrangements to reflect environmental and health factors, including reduced reliance on meat and dairy in menus.

8.5 Sheffield people should consider reducing the amount of meat they eat by adopting at least one meat free day per week.

8.6 The Council's forthcoming fuel poverty strategy should include steps to increase the standards of insulation in the private rented sector, so that the average SAP for the sector is 65 by 2020, and the minimum SAP is 65 by 2025.

8.7 Health and care professionals should systematically identify the people and properties most vulnerable to fuel poverty, and ensure that advice and assistance is available to them to address that.

8.8 Sheffield City Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership should work to implement the findings of the *Mini-Stern Review* and explore opportunities for low carbon infrastructure investment and the

development of low carbon technologies.

- 8.9 Sheffield City Council, working with voluntary sector and other organisations, should continue work to develop social capital in local communities.
- 8.10 The Health and Wellbeing Board, and Sheffield's NHS Foundation Trusts, should adopt an explicit sustainability policy aimed at ensuring that Sheffield meets its carbon reduction obligations by 2020. This should be underpinned by the adoption of a sustainability manifesto for the health and social care system in the City.
- 8.11 The Health and Wellbeing Board should give urgent consideration to the ways in which the implications for carbon emissions of different approaches to the delivery of health and social care in the City can be evaluated. A system of carbon accounting needs to be developed.
- 8.12 The Health and Wellbeing Board should consider how to enforce and report on actions set out in the Heatwave Plan for health and social care facilities such as care homes before next summer.
- 8.13 All organisations should promote uptake of The Environment Agency's 'Floodline Warnings Direct' service <https://fwd.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/home> for local residents and businesses to help preparedness for flooding. This could be promoted by providing a link to sign up for the alerts on organisations internet sites.
- 8.14 The Local Health Resilience Partnership (LHRP), and Local Resilience Forum (LRF), should audit local organisations' plans for dealing with the health consequences of severe weather events, and ensure that they are adequate.
- 8.15 The Council should ensure that health issues are built into local development and regeneration plans and integrating adaptation principles into the local planning framework

## 9.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 The Council is recommended to note the information contained in this report.

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