

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to:** Accounts and Audit Committee  
**Date:** 11 February 2014  
**Report for:** Information  
**Report of:** Director of Public Health

### **Report Title**

**Annual Governance Statement 2012/13 – update on significant governance issue : Public Health**

### **Summary**

This brief report provides an extract from the 2012/13 Annual Governance Statement outlining one of the significant governance issues identified for further development through 2013/14 i.e. Public Health.

It also includes a brief update on the Public Health governance arrangements, Public Health grant allocation 13/14, review of commissioned services, key updates and the Public Health outcomes framework.

### **Recommendation**

The Accounts and Audit Committee is asked to note the report for information.

### **Contact person for access to background papers and further information:**

**Name:** Abdul Razzaq  
**Extension:** 1300

### **Background Papers:**

## **Annual Governance 2012/13 Statement – Significant Governance Issue : Public Health**

### **1. Introduction**

Detailed below is an extract from the 2012/13 Annual Governance Statement followed by a brief update on actual progress made to date in respect of one of the significant governance issues referred to in the Statement i.e. the ongoing development of governance arrangements in respect of Public Health following the transfer of responsibility to the Council.

### **2. Annual Governance Statement 2012/13 Extract**

The following detail was included in sections 5.3 and 5.4 of Trafford Council's 2012/13 Annual Governance Statement :

*The Council is committed to achieving its objectives through good governance and continuous improvement. Going forward, the Council will continue to transform service delivery arrangements, to ensure the Council effectively delivers its objectives and manages its resources to meet the ongoing financial challenges being faced.*

*Detailed below are significant governance issues and a summary of the actions planned to address these in 2013/14.*

#### **2012/13 Issues and Action Planned 2013/14**

##### **4. Public Health**

*Responsibility for Public Health transferred to Trafford Council on 1 April 2013.*

*The Council provides a lead on health and wellbeing priorities to improve local health outcomes. Plans focus on commissioning existing, new and innovative public health services, with a range of partners across public sector, private and voluntary sector partnerships. From 1 April 2013, the Council also has responsibility for ensuring areas such as emergency planning, immunisation and screening programmes, infection control, outbreaks and incidents are effectively co-ordinated to preserve and protect the lives of Trafford residents.*

*Following on from work undertaken in 2012/13 to prepare for the transfer of responsibility to the Council, further action will be taken to ensure effective governance arrangements are in place to support the Council meeting its responsibilities effectively. The Council's Public Health Business Delivery Group has been established which is led by the Director of Public Health. In addition a Public Health Review Programme Board has been convened which will oversee a collaborative review of all key work streams linked to the current Public Health Programme to determine future commissioning intentions and spend. This includes the development of a detailed risk register which will be informed by the review.*

### **3. Updated position (January 2014)**

3.1 This report provides an update on the following:

- Public Health governance arrangements;
- Public Health grant allocation 2013/14;
- Review of commissioned services;
- Key developments in Public Health programmes and activity;
- Public Health outcomes framework.

#### **3.2 Public Health Function**

The specialist Public Health and health improvement staff are part of the Children, Families and Wellbeing (CFW) directorate within the Council. The staff work across the Council in a matrix approach to deliver the Public Health outcomes framework.

#### **3.3 Public Health Mandated Services**

Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 the Council is responsible for ensuring that the following mandated Public Health services are fulfilled as part of its Public Health function responsibilities from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013:

- Sexual health services – ensure open, free at point of access and universal services;
- Health protection – working with Public Health England (PHE) provide assurance on immunisation, screening, emergency planning;
- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) core offer – provide healthcare population advice and support through a memorandum of understanding;
- National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) – ensure that the national programme is effectively implemented locally on an annual basis;
- NHS Health Checks – ensure that local residents are invited to have a health check with their GP or pharmacy and encourage uptake.

In addition the Council is responsible for commissioning services in drugs and alcohol, obesity and weight management and smoking cessation services.

#### **3.4 Public Health Grant Allocation - 2013/14**

Each local authority is given a Public Health grant allocation to meet its responsibilities to commission Public Health services for its residents. A two year national announcement was made on the Public Health grant allocations for 2013/14 and 2014/15 with a small uplift in the second year.

In 2013/14 the Trafford Council Public Health grant allocation is £10.1M and £10.4M in 2014/15.

## **4. Progress to-date**

### **4.1 Public Health Governance Arrangements**

The Director of Public Health chairs a monthly council wide membership Public Health Business Delivery Group that reports to the Children, Families and Wellbeing SLT (senior leadership team). Regular monthly briefing meetings on Public Health are held with the elected member lead for Health and Wellbeing Cllr Karen Barclay. The Director of Public Health attends the CCG management team and the CCG Governing Body as per the CCG core offer support from the Local Authority.

An additional Consultant in Public Health post (0.4WTE) has been appointed with a late April 2014 expected start date. Trafford Council is a Public Health training location. The Public Health team have two Speciality Registrars in Public Health (one first year 0.2WTE and one final year 0.4WTE).

The current Infection Control Steering Group is being revised to become the Health Protection Group from April 2014 that will oversee the assurance of the commissioning and outcomes of infection control and healthcare associated infections, screening and immunisation programmes, emergency planning resilience and response. It has been agreed that the Health Protection Group will provide assurance to the Trafford Health and Well Being Board on the health protection assurance responsibilities of the Council. The Health Protection Group will meet on a bi-monthly basis and report to the Health and Well Being Board twice yearly.

A new group is being established to oversee the clinical governance, patient safety and quality aspects of Public Health services commissioning.

### **4.2 Public Health Grant Allocation 2013/14**

The ring fenced public health grant is paid to Local Authorities by Public Health England (PHE) and the Chief Executive of PHE is therefore the Accounting Officer for the totality of this spend, some £2.66 billion nationally, with clear responsibility to demonstrate that the grant has been spent on the purposes intended by Parliament.

PHE has developed its assurance arrangements setting out the various elements of assurance which can be taken from existing arrangements in place across the public health system. There are a number of such forms of assurance, most fundamental of which is the annual year end Statement of Assurance to be received from each upper tier local authority. This Statement will confirm compliance with the grant conditions as set out in Local Authority Circular LAC(DH)(2013)1 on 10 January 2013.

The PHE Chief Executive, as Accounting Officer, requires assurance that local authorities have applied the ring fenced public health grant, provided to them by PHE, in accordance with the grant conditions set out in the 'Ring fenced Public Health Grant Determination 2013/14: No 31/2100' in order to support him in attesting that the expenditure in the PHE accounts has been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament. The assurance framework developed by PHE has been shared with the National Audit Office (which audits PHE's accounts).

A Preliminary Statement of Assurance is to be provided by Trafford Council by 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014 latest to enable PHE's accounts to be certified and laid before Parliament in June 2014; and all Local Authority Chief Executives (or Director of Finance/Section 151 Officer) have been asked to prepare and sign off the Statements of Assurance on the basis of adequate appropriate evidence that grant conditions have been adhered to. This process of local assurance has been agreed with a finance schedule of the grant to enable the Council Chief Executive to sign off the statement of assurance.

#### 4.3 Review of Public Health Commissioned Services

A thorough review of Public Health commissioned services was led by the Director of Commissioning and Service Development (Adult Social Care) during the period April – September 2014 and a detailed risk register was compiled. The review findings were reported to the Children, Families and Wellbeing (CFW) SLT.

#### 4.4 Key Developments in Public Health programmes

- Regular systematic on going updating of the Trafford JSNA (joint strategic needs assessment).
- Development of the Joint Health and Well Being Strategy and action plan overseen by a Programme Board chaired by the Director of Commissioning and Service Development (Adult Social care).
- The tender for an integrated all age sexual health was awarded to Bridgewater Community NHS Trust and the service commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. The new service provision includes improved children and young people service element.
- Community alcohol and detoxification services have been reviewed by the drugs and alcohol commissioners and are being tendered based on new service specifications.
- Improved performance on NHS Health checks as at Quarter 3 with 5,019 Trafford residents having had a health check.

- Trafford Council has signed the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco and is one of 28 local authorities nationally that have done so.
- Continuation of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) and results are shared with child health commissioners to inform planning of healthy weight pathways and delivery of services.

#### 4.5 Public Health Outcomes Framework

The Public Health Outcomes Framework *Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency* sets out a vision for public health, desired outcomes and the indicators that will help us understand how well public health is being improved and protected.

The framework concentrates on two high-level outcomes to be achieved across the public health system, and groups further indicators into four 'domains' that cover the full spectrum of public health. The outcomes reflect a focus not only on how long people live, but on how well they live at all stages of life.

The Public Health Outcomes Framework Data Tool currently presents data for available indicators at England and upper tier local authority levels, collated by Public Health England.

The tool available at <http://www.phoutcomes.info/> allows local authorities to:

- Compare your local authority against other authorities in the region
- Benchmark your local authority against the England average

Trafford performs well on a wide range of Public Health outcome measures and is involved in a Greater Manchester programme of sector led improvement reviews on the following key priorities in Round 2:

- Vaccination coverage - Flu (Age 65+ and vulnerable people);
- Suicide rate;
- Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children;
- Breastfeeding (prevalence, initiation);
- Under 18 conceptions.