

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

Governing Body meeting

E

4 December 2014

<b>Author(s)</b>	Professor Jeremy Wight, Sheffield Director of Public Health
<b>Is your report for Approval / Consideration / Noting</b>	
Consideration	
<b>Are there any Resource Implications (including Financial, Staffing etc)?</b>	
The City Council and NHS should consider the resource implications of how they respond to the recommendations in the report.	
<b>Audit Requirement</b>	
<b><u>CCG Objectives</u></b>	
<b><i>Which of the CCG's objectives does this paper support?</i></b>	
Objective 7 – through the Health and Wellbeing Board develop innovative ways to re-commission services from our providers that are consistent with providing a joined up predominantly community orientated health and care service	
<b><u>Equality impact assessment</u></b>	
<b><i>Have you carried out an Equality Impact Assessment and is it attached?</i></b> No	
The issues and topics covered by the report relate to all communities in Sheffield although emphasis is placed on those communities most at risk from/vulnerable to poorer health and wellbeing outcomes and on some of the opportunities for improving their health and reducing the health inequalities they experience.	
<b><u>PPE Activity</u></b>	
<b><i>How does your paper support involving patients, carers and the public?</i></b>	
The report is published and disseminated via a range of media to support ongoing feedback and dialogue on the topics and issues raised. The summary and full text versions of the report are available for Governing Body members under item 17i of today's agenda. Hard copies of the report will be circulated to members in early December. The summary and full text versions of the report may also be accessed online at <a href="http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport">www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport</a> .	
<b>Recommendations</b>	
The Governing Body is asked to note the publication of the report and consider its recommendations.	

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**1. Introduction / Background**

- 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.
- 1.4. Summary and full text versions of the report may be accessed online at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/publichealthreport) . They are also available for Governing Body members under item 17i of today's agenda and hard copies of the report will be circulated to members in early December

**2. What this means 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. Implications for the NHS and the Council**

- 3.1 The report makes 15 key recommendations to local organisations and individuals for mitigating, or adapting to, the impact of climate change, whilst at the same time benefitting the health of the population.
- 3.2 Responding to these recommendations is necessary to address the fundamental and universal impact of climate change that has the potential to undermine the public health achievements over recent years.

#### **4. Recommendations**

The Governing Body is asked to consider the report and the recommendations it makes.

Paper prepared by John Skinner, Research and Evaluation Manager, Sheffield City Council

On behalf of Professor Jeremy Wight, Sheffield Director of Public Health

November 2014