People Select Committee
Review of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)
Outline Scope

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Which of our strategic corporate objectives does this topic address?

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012-18 includes the following policy objectives:

- Give every child the best start in life
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention (specific action tackle the drinking culture and reduce the harmful impact of alcohol on communities, families, and individuals)

The Annual Report of Director of Public Health 2012-13 prioritised FASD as an issue that needed greater focus, and this was further reflected in the 2013-14 Report.

What are the main issues and overall aim of this review?

'FASD is the most common, non-genetic case of learning disability in the UK; it is a lifelong disability that has no cure but is preventable. FASD is a term given for a range of disabilities that can be caused when a baby is exposed to alcohol during pregnancy, including behavioural, emotional, physical and neurological issues.' (Director of Public Health Annual Report for The Borough of Stockton-on-Tees 2013 -2014)

The review will determine the levels of awareness, preventative actions that are currently taken, what support is in place, and whether improvements can be made.

The Committee will undertake the following key lines of enquiry:

- What is meant by Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and how does it affect those with it and their families?
- What are the levels of public and professional awareness? What data is there on drinking during pregnancy?

- Is the advice to the public consistent?
- What preventative measures do we currently take?
- What more can SBC and partners do to prevent FASD?
- What are the issues around diagnosis and routes into specialist support?
- What support measures are in place for those with condition and their families?

Who will the Committee be trying to influence as part of its work?

Cabinet, Council Services, Local NHS, Local Residents

Expected duration of review and key milestones:

Review to report to Cabinet in April 2016.

What information do we need?

Existing information (background information, existing reports, legislation, central government documents, etc.):

SBC Public Health - FASD Case Study, and Educational Materials Balance (North East Alcohol Office) - Promotional Materials

New information:

An understanding of the availability of prevalence data.

Information on the effects/impact, support available, and preventative measures taken.

Who can provide us with further relevant evidence? (Cabinet Member, officer, service user, general public, expert witness, etc.)	What specific areas do we want them to cover when they give evidence?
SBC Public Health and Licensing	Role, public health prevention work, information on the condition and impact, views of Pub Trade,
North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust – Maternity, Community and Paediatric Services	Levels of awareness, preventative measures, effects on the child
Primary Care / CCG	Awareness amongst primary care professionals / Expectations around Provider service delivery regarding prevention of FASD
SBC Children's Services (Social Care / Early Years)	Usage and promotion of preventative messages, support measures in place

Schools / Education Usage and promotion of preventative

messages, support measures in place

FASD Network UK Information on FASD and the role of the

Network

Lifeline (Commissioned Alcohol Service

Provider)

Service provision to this client group

How will this information be gathered? (eg. financial baselining and analysis, benchmarking, site visits, face-to-face questioning, telephone survey, survey)

Committee meetings

How will key partners and the public be involved in the review?

Engagement with FASD Network, key NHS and public sector partners as outlined above.

Levels of awareness to be determined using appropriate means (eg. Existing surveys, appropriate groups/forums).

How will the review help the Council meet the Public Sector Equality Duty?

The review will assess access and take up of prevention services, and the role of support services. This should identify any key issues in relation to engagement with those with a protected characteristic.

How will the review contribute towards the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), or the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

The review will consider existing information within the JSNA. New information gathered on FASD will be fed into the review of the JSNA.

Recommendations for improvement will contribute to the relevant actions in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy specifically: Give every child the best start in life; Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention.

Provide an initial view as to how this review could lead to efficiencies, improvements and/or transformation:

Increased awareness of the condition leading to improved preventative measures, fewer cases, and reduced impact on families and local services.

Project Plan

Key Task	Details/Activities	Date	Responsibility
Scoping of Review	Information gathering	Prior to 14 / 12 / 15	Scrutiny Officer Link Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss aims and objectives of review	7/12/15	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Corporate Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Agree Project Plan	Scope and Project Plan agreed by Committee	14 / 12 / 15	Select Committee
Obtaining Evidence	Briefing on main issues from Public Health	14/12/15	Select Committee
	Information from partners	18/1/16	
	Information from partners	22 / 2 /16	
Members decide recommendations and findings	Review summary of findings and formulate draft recommendations	22 / 2 /16 / Special Meeting	Select Committee
Circulate Draft Report to Stakeholders	Circulation of Report		Scrutiny Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss findings of review and draft recommendations	TBC XXX	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Corporate Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Final Agreement of Report	Approval of final report by Committee	21 / 3 15	Select Committee, Cabinet Member, Corporate Director
Consideration of Report by Executive Scrutiny Committee	Consideration of report		Executive Scrutiny Committee
Report to Cabinet/Approving Body	Presentation of final report with recommendations for approval to Cabinet	21 / 4 / 16	Cabinet/ Approving Body