

Haringey Council

**London Borough of Haringey's bid to become a Scrutiny
Development Area for Health Inequalities
'Corridor of Deprivation'**

Contact: Melanie Ponomarenko, Senior Policy Officer, 0208 489 2933

Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Cllr Gideon Bull

Why you would like to become a Scrutiny Development Area

Haringey's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is committed to reducing the health inequalities of its residents and ensures that health inequalities are addressed in all reviews it undertakes. In addition, to demonstrate this commitment:

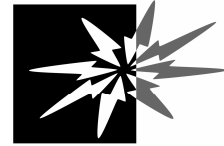
- An OSC event was held in late 2008 for Councillors and Senior Officers and Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) to highlight '*health as Everyone's Business*'.
- A second event was held focusing on specific areas where there are health inequalities in the borough and bringing the HSP together to discuss next steps for reducing them.

In late 2009 the Department of Health National Support Team for Health Inequalities visited the borough and praised the work of a 'strong and active' OSC in its focus on reducing health inequalities.

Following the successful transfer of Public Health to Haringey Council in March 2011, we set up a Cross Party Working Group on Health Inequalities. The group is helping to determine priority areas to be addressed in the borough's forthcoming health and wellbeing strategy.

It is proposed that one of these priorities forms the basis for the review to be undertaken as a scrutiny pilot and that the review would feed into the work being done by the Cross Party Working Group.

Becoming a Scrutiny Development area would enable us to build on the work we have undertaken to date but also assist us in targeting Haringey's '*corridor of deprivation*' (a specific geographic area in the East of the borough). We feel that the expert advice given would also equip us with the tools to undertake further work in this area.



Haringey Council

The health inequalities that you would like to address through scrutiny - including research that you have done.

Using the Dahlgren and Whitehead model the review would build on previous work to **tackle the life expectancy gap**. It would aim to develop recommendations to increase male life expectancy in the ethnically diverse east of the borough – *the corridor of deprivation*. We will focus on cardiovascular disease and how we engage the local population in:

- **Prevention:** smoking, physical activity, alcohol, obesity
- **Early intervention** (adults over 40): cardiovascular disease

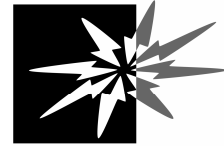
Key facts:

- Circulatory diseases are one of the major causes of death and illness locally, accounting for 33% of all deaths in 2006/08.
- Deaths from circulatory disease are not evenly distributed across Haringey, with significantly higher rates observed in the East of the borough.
- Male life expectancy in Haringey is lower than the England and London average and within Haringey there are significant inequalities (of up to 6.5 years between the more affluent West and the more deprived East).
- People in lower socio-economic groups are less active than those in the higher socio-economic groups, at levels of 14.4% and 24.6% respectively.
- 23.2% of the adult population took part in moderate sport and physical activity three times a week for at least 30 minutes in 2008/09; the participation rate is lower in the East of the borough.
- Obesity varies considerably across the borough with an estimated 25% of residents in the East of the borough obese.
- There is an over representation of hospital admissions for circulatory diseases in ethnic minorities in the borough.

Following a decrease in the male life expectancy gap between England and Haringey 2002/04, the gap has again increased over the recent few years. Therefore this remains a key challenge for the borough.

What it would mean to your authority and community to address this issue

Haringey has a significant history working to tackle health inequalities and continues to address these at a strategic level across as demonstrated by the



Haringey Council

rolling programme of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and in our key partnership strategies and plans including the:

- Housing strategy
- Greenest Borough strategy
- Children and Young People's Plan

However, despite many initiatives there are still areas of significant challenge and opportunity to reduce the borough's health inequalities.

Haringey OSC has strong working relationships with the local voluntary and community sector and winning the bid to become a Scrutiny Development Area would allow us to continue partnership working and to help deliver a solution to one of the most entrenched health issues in Haringey.

Receiving expert advice and support for this review has the potential to make a real difference to the lives of some of the most deprived communities in England.

Words: 732

Bid endorsed by:

Cllr Gideon Bull, Chair of Haringey Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Cllr David Winskill, Deputy Chair of Haringey Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Opposition Spokesperson for Health & Adult Social Care

Dr. Jeanelle de Gruchy, Joint Director of Public Health

Eve Pelekanos, Head of Policy, Intelligence and Partnerships

Helena Pugh, Policy, Equalities and Partnerships Manager