

**DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**GOOD HEALTH SELECECT COMMITTEE**

**6<sup>th</sup> July 2005**

**JOINT REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF DUDLEY SOUTH AND DUDLEY BEACON AND  
CASTLE PCTS**

**Draft Health Inequalities Strategy**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To share a final draft Health Inequalities Strategy for Dudley Borough with the Good Health Select Committee (GHSC) and to seek any comments and support for further development and implementation.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Under the sponsorship of the Dudley Health and Well-Being Partnership (DHWP) the work of developing a Health Inequalities Strategy for Dudley Borough was launched with a Workshop held at Himley Hall in December 2004. This activity generated knowledge about cross-cutting links within the Borough as well as aspirations for future development.
- 2.2 An Editorial Team was formed to assist in bringing the material generated through the Workshop and other relevant material together as detailed at the end of this Report. In addition to the positive approach developed through the Local Authority / NHS partnership aspect of this Group, an added extra dimension was the participation and active support of the Director of the Dudley Community Partnership (DCP.) Further work with and support from the DCP will be important in helping the Health Inequality Strategy meet its aims.
- 2.3 A draft Strategy is attached as an Appendix to this Report. It was considered by the DHWP on 16/05/05. The Councils' Corporate Board also considered the draft Strategy on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2005 and directed referral of the document to the GHSC.
- 2.3.1 The draft Strategy uses the main priorities identified by central Government as themes through which our local activity that links to health inequalities can be linked. A summary giving overall context to the Strategy is followed by an Action Plan. This also links to the activities of the DCP theme groups.

- 2.4 Whilst the current version represents an achievement, it is acknowledged that we will need to build on this achievement in continuing to develop every aspect of this work over time.

### **3.0 PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 That the GHSC note the completion of the draft Health Inequalities Strategy and comment on any aspect of the content they so wish.

### **4.0 FINANCE**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial issues linked to this Report. However changes to the distribution of funding across the Borough can be implied. The Strategy seeks to make links across agencies addressing health inequalities which will help GHSC be confident that expenditure is giving value for money in Dudley.
- 4.2 Equally, the experience of health inequalities amongst local people is linked to their access to a living income and activity undertaken to address that is a central feature of this Strategy.

### **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- 5.1 The Health Inequalities Strategy link to Equal Opportunities principles and practices in virtually every way because it seeks to actively address inequality issues connected to the experience of local people in relation to health.

### **6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 That the GHSC comment on and support the draft Health Inequalities Strategy as proposed in para. 3.1.



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