

Committee: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 28 September 2021

Wards: All

Subject: Health and Wellbeing Board Community Subgroup Extension

Lead officer: Dr Dagmar Zeuner, Director of Public Health

Lead member: Councillor Rebecca Lanning, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

Contact officer: Clarissa Larsen, Health and Wellbeing Board Partnership Manager

Recommendations:

- A. To agree to an extension of the Health and Wellbeing Board Community Subgroup to 1st March 2022.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To propose that members agree to the extension of its Health and Wellbeing Board Community Subgroup to 1st March 2022.

2 BACKGROUND

In September 2020, members agreed to establish a time limited Community Subgroup in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Subgroup focus was on those experiencing a disproportionate impact of COVID-19 and work in partnership to both understand and help address this inequality.

3 DETAILS

- 3.1. The Community Subgroup met for the first time, in public, on 4 August 2020, originally planned as fixed term to end in April 2021. However, it was agreed that the Subgroup continue to meet until August 2021, with renewed focus on vaccination equity. This was informed by a broad programme of engagement, undertaken with voluntary and community groups that gave an insight into residents' experiences of the pandemic.
- 3.2. At its meeting on 14th September the Community Subgroup agreed to that this partnership work has proved valuable, and to recommend that the Subgroup should be extended for a further three meetings, to March 2022. Moving forward it is proposed to have a dual focus on:
- (i) The ongoing vaccination programme, including children and young people, the booster and flu vaccines, and helping to identify those not yet vaccinated and how they can be engaged, encouraged and supported.
 - (ii) Post Covid Syndrome (previously referred to as long Covid) and specifically its link to wider inequalities. To help identify opportunities for engagement, and action to address this, and promote wider health equity and wellbeing across all communities.

3.3 Taking account of LB Merton's existing Corporate Calendar and core HWBB meetings, the planned additional dates for future Community Subgroup meetings are:

- Tuesday 19 October 5.00 – 6.30pm
- Tuesday 14 December 5.00 – 6.30pm
- Tuesday 1 March 5.00 – 6.30pm

All Subgroup meetings are currently planned to be virtual via Zoom and will be live streamed to the public and thereafter available via You Tube.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The alternative option is for the Subgroup not to meet again. This would not allow for the continued partnership work to help support the ongoing vaccination programme, and impacts of Post Covid Syndrome.

5 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

Members of the Community Subgroup agreed to recommend the proposed extension at its meeting on 14 September 2021.

6 TIMETABLE

The Community Subgroup will meet for an extended period up to March 2022 at dates included in this report.

7 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The Community Subgroup will continue to report to the core Health and Wellbeing Board.

9 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

The focus of the Community Subgroup is on promoting health and wider equity across Merton's communities.

10 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

N/A

11 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

12 APPENDICES

None