

## Health and Wellbeing Board

Meeting Date: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### Healthy Lives update

**Responsible Officer:** Val Cross, Health and Wellbeing Officer, Shropshire Council

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### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This short paper provides information about the 'Shaping Places for Healthier Lives' successful bid.
- 1.2 An Expression Of Interest (EOI) for funding was submitted to the Local Government Association (LGA) and Health Foundation in February 2020. The focus of the work being addressing food insecurity for families living in south west Shropshire.
- 1.3 The bid detail was well supported alongside our colleagues in the Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance, and a working group which was formed when the bid was being developed. Partners in this working group and supporting organisations included representation from; Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance, Citizens Advice, Shropshire Youth Association, Healthwatch Shropshire Council; (Early Help, Healthy Child Programme; Public Health; Early Years and Childcare; Adult Social Care; Shropshire Outdoor Partnerships); Elected Members; a local GP; Shropshire STP and Shropshire CCG.
- 1.4 Following the EOI submission, we learned we had been successful in getting to Stage 2 the same month. We were pleased to have been one of the 30 Councils selected from 110 applications.
- 1.5 The submission date for stage 2 applications was extended from April 2020 to October 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our submission was one of the 14 successful other applications and we will receive £20,000 grant funding for what is called the 'Discovery phase'. Stage 3. The Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance were key partners in this application, and their contribution is greatly acknowledged.
- 1.6 Work for stage 3 will now commence. A Project group comprising of; Public Health, Shropshire Council, Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance, Healthwatch and Shropshire Citizens Advice has met to discuss and agree; the project plan, governance structures, budget breakdown submission to the LGA and arranging the first operational group meeting which will meet on the 11<sup>th</sup> January. This operational group will start to plan the engagement process.
- 1.7 The objectives of the programme can be seen below:

Objectives:

1. Map access to affordable healthy food for key communities within SW Shropshire
2. Identify challenges/barriers affecting either access to or consumption of healthy food
3. Identify local assets, opportunities and lever for change to improve the local food environment

These objectives are key foundations in understanding the factors that drive food insecurity within bespoke communities.

1.8 Governance for this project will come through 'Healthy Lives' and through reporting to the HWBB.

1.9 Work for stage 3 (the Discovery phase) is anticipated to take 14 weeks. Much of this involves community engagement, and we are mindful of the impact that the new lockdown will have on this. We will keep dialogue with the LGA about this.

1.10 If we are successful in the stage 3 process, grant funding of £300,000 over 3 years will be awarded. This is to put what we have found out in the 'Discovery phase,' into action. Although phase 3 is currently focussed on south west Shropshire, Stage 4 would then look at the county more widely.

1.11 Information about the LGA Shaping Places for Healthier Lives application process including aims and objectives of the programme can be found [here](#).

## **2.0 Conclusions**

2.1 We are delighted to be at the stage we are now, and to be in a position to start working with our community and partners to meet the objectives stated in 1.7.

2.2 Progress will be reported on to the HWBB.

## **3.0 Recommendations**

3.1 Key to the success of this work is a Whole Systems Approach. Although the Project Group will 'do the doing' to find out how we can address food insecurity for families living in south west Shropshire, all organisations represented on the HWBB are asked to engage with this work when approached. Food insecurity has been heightened with the COVID-19 pandemic and is one of the priorities of the HWBB.

## **4.0 Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal**

(NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)

4.1 There are no Human Rights, Environmental Consequences, Community or Equality issues identified with the provision of these updates, but the Board is asked to note:

4.1 The COVID-19 pandemic and current lockdown is likely to impact on our ability to engage in the 14-week timescale. We will continue to engage with the LGA to advise of any issues and potential delay to the project.

4.2 Food insecurity is a highly sensitive area, and we have confidence in the experience and skills of our partners, The Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance and Healthwatch to do this well when engaging with the community and others.

## **6.0 Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications that need to be considered with this update

<b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>
<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b> Cllr. Dean Carroll Portfolio Holder for Adult Services, Climate Change, Health and Housing
<b>Local Member</b>
<b>Appendices</b>  None

