

## **Scrutiny review proposal**

### **1 What is the review?**

Reducing health inequalities through council services

### **2 What outcomes could realistically be achieved? Which agency does the review seek to influence?**

Improving the uptake by disadvantaged communities of the following Council and health services:

- free swim and gym offer
- parks and green spaces
- walking and cycling routes and pathways
- community activities
- community activism
- **General Practice**

Ensuring that the planning process, local estates management, and wider social regeneration agenda plays its part in improving the health of residents, particularly for those experiencing multiple social and economic disadvantages.

### **3 When should the review be carried out/completed? i.e. does the review need to take place before/after a certain time?**

**March 2019**

### **4 What format would suit this review? (e.g. full investigation, q&a with executive member/partners, public meeting, one-off session)**

Scrutiny review comprised of:

Officer report providing statistics on current usage of council services across the 8 protected characteristics and any other disadvantaged cohorts (e.g. income deprivation) and any current scheme to improve take-up.

Public Health report on:

- Evidence base, data and programmes to promote health amongst disadvantaged people and those with poor health
- Behaviour change
- Social regeneration
- Healthy communities

Field work comprising of community research on an estate experiencing multiple deprivations with support from officers in Resident Involvement, Public Health and local TRAs.

**5 What are some of the key issues that you would like the review to look at?**

Economic deprivation and precarious employment.

Poverty and the intersection with health inequalities generally; and the impact on children in particular.

Multiple deprivation.

How the Free Swim and Gym offer could develop to be most impactful on those who need it most.

How the wider environment impacts on health (e.g. opportunities to walk and cycle, and the availability of affordable and good quality food) and the levers the council has to positively influence this.

Behaviour change leading to more healthy lives.

The extent engaged and active communities impact positively on health and how to promote this.

**6 Who would you like to receive evidence and advice from during the review?**

Officers involved in delivering FSG

Public Health

Local residents

**7 Any suggestions for background information? Are you aware of any best practice on this topic?**

Consider the following reports and initiatives:

- A matter of justice: Local government's role in tackling health inequalities <https://www.local.gov.uk/matter-justice-local-governments-role-tackling-healthinequalities>
- Making Every Adult Matter MEAN <http://www.themeamapproach.org.uk/>
- Be Active Birmingham <https://theaws.co.uk/>

**8 What approaches could be useful for gathering evidence? What can be done outside committee meetings?**

e.g. verbal or written submissions, site visits, mystery-shopping, service observation, meeting with stakeholders, survey, consultation event

Officer reports

Community research on a local estate with local resident groups.