

	<b>Brent Health and Wellbeing Board</b> 29 January 2026
	<b>Report from the Director of Public Health</b>
	<b>Lead Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Leisure – Cllr Neil Nerva</b>
<b>Public Health Annual Report (2025)</b>	

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Key or Non-Key Decision:</b>	N/A
<b>Open or Part/Fully Exempt:</b> <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
<b>List of Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Brent Public Health Annual Report 2025
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b> <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	Janice Constance Principal Public Health Strategist Janice.constance@brent.gov.uk

## 1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report presents the Public Health Annual Report (PHAR) to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.2. The purpose of this report is to highlight how Public Health in Brent is addressing health inequalities through community centred approaches, with a focus on Community Engagement, Social Capital, and Radical Place-Based Leadership. The PHAR uses case studies to demonstrate how these approaches are being applied in practice and how they contribute to prevention, access and improved experiences for residents.

## 2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 The Board is asked to:
  - Note the content and key messages of the Public Health Annual Report.
  - Endorses the continued use of community-centred and place-based approaches to reduce health inequalities across Brent.

## 3.0 Detail

- 3.1 **Contribution to Borough Plan Priorities & Strategic Context** *(to be used for all corporate reports)*

- 3.1.1 The Public Health Annual Report supports delivery of the Brent Borough Plan 2023-2027, by focusing on prevention, reducing health inequalities and strengthening communities. The report also aligns with local NHS priorities, including neighbourhood-based care, by using place-based insight to inform how services are delivered. This has supported more targeted use of resources, such as community-based vaccination delivery, improving access for residents.

The report aligns with a number of other relevant Brent Strategies and plans including:

- Brent Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027: The borough's collective vision for improving health and reducing inequalities, developed in partnership with residents, health organisations and the voluntary sector.
- Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025: By highlighting work supporting people with housing insecurity and related health barriers.
- Brent Local Plan 2019-2041: Which sets out long-term development priorities including access to community infrastructure that supports health and wellbeing.
- Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Strategy 2024-2028: Reinforcing commitments to tackling inequality and ensuring services are accessible for diverse communities.
- Data and Insight Strategy 2023-2027: Supporting the use of data to understand local needs (including health inequalities) and inform targeted interventions.

These strategies provide the strategic and corporate context for the report's recommendations and the ways in which Public Health is working alongside other council functions and partners to achieve shared outcomes.

## **3.2 Background**

- 3.2.1 The Public Health Annual Report is a statutory responsibility of the Director of Public Health. For 2025, the report adopts a thematic approach rather than focusing on a single health topic. This reflects the increasing importance of trust, relationships and local delivery in addressing complex and persistent health inequalities.

The report draws on examples from across the Public Health department and partner organisations, illustrating how community-centred approaches support prevention, improve access to services, and strengthen system working.

## **4.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement**

- 4.1 The Public Health Annual Report was informed by extensive engagement with internal Public Health teams, council departments, NHS partners, voluntary and community sector organisations, and residents. Many of the case studies included in the report are based on co-produced work with communities. While

the report itself does not require formal consultation, its content reflects ongoing engagement and partnership working across the borough.

## **5.0 Financial Considerations**

5.1 None at this stage

## **6.0 Legal Considerations**

6.1 There is no legal implications arising from this report. The publication of the Public Health Annual Report supports the Director of Public Health's statutory responsibilities under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

## **7.0 Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations**

7.1 The Public Health Annual Report has a strong focus on addressing health inequalities and supporting groups protected under the Equality Act 2010. The case studies demonstrate how services are designed and delivered in ways that improve access for communities experiencing disadvantage, including ethnic minority communities, people with disabilities, asylum seekers and refugees, and those experiencing social exclusion. The report therefore positively supports the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty and health equity objectives.

## **8.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations**

8.1 The report does not have direct climate change implications. However, several approaches highlighted in the report, such as delivering services locally, using community assets, and working in neighbourhood settings, support more sustainable ways of working by reducing travel and making better use of existing spaces.

## **9.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)**

9.1 None

## **10.0 Communication Considerations**

10.1 The Public Health Annual Report will be published and shared with partners, stakeholders and the wider public. Key messages from the report may also be used to support internal and external communications, including engagement with communities and partners, and to inform future strategic discussions.

**Report sign off:**

***Ruth du Plessis***

Director of Public Health