Recommendations of the Health Inequalities Report July 2004

Recommendation

Recommendation 1

The partner organisations should seek to address the key factors (determinants) linked to ill health in addressing health inequalities

Crime and Disorder

The Crime and Disorder Partnership establishes a strategy for addressing crime linked to older people

Education

The Education Service focuses greater attention and provides more resources to improving the level of attainment amongst children in the deprived communities

Road Traffic Collisions

The Highways and Transport Division in collaboration with the Education Service provides greater level of support to schools to tackle traffic problems caused by journeys to and from school and minimise the potential health risks

Public Health

The Commission welcomes the development of the Public Health Strategy jointly by the Environmental Health Division and the Central and Greater Derby Primary Care Trusts. The Commission recommends that progress on its implementation be presented every 12 months to the Social Care and Health Commission as part of its overview role

Housing

The Housing and Advice Service should:

- Ensure the housing allocations policy doesn't contribute to the concentration of people with multiple needs in small geographical areas
- Identify potential health hazards such as the risk of fire and accidents due to poor internal design and establishes minimum housing standards as part of licensing HMOs and private rented sector
- Lobby the Government to make a greater level of resources available for addressing the risks associated with pre- 1919 properties

The Council should consider making more land available for affordable housing to meet the increasing demand for social housing in the city

<u>Unemployment</u>

Derby City Council takes the lead and develops an employment strategy for the city. The strategy should include measures for addressing the high levels of unemployment in deprived communities

The Council works in partnership with key organisations and undertakes a survey to determine:

• The number and percentage of employees recruited from inner city areas with the statistics broken down by gender and ethnicity

- Whether employers have equal opportunities policies and strategies
- What steps if any are being taken to recruit people from the high unemployment areas

Sport and Leisure

The Sport and Leisure Service establishes a physical activity strategy for city and seeks to increase the level of physical activity in the local community in line with national targets

The physical activity strategy should demonstrate targeting of policies on groups least likely to have healthy levels of physical activity such as the people from deprived areas and the involvement of people for whom it is intended

It is recommended that the LEA needs to:

- Encourage and work with schools to provide at least two hours per week of high quality Physical Education and sport to pupils aged 5 16
- Encourage and work with schools to provide a wide range of PE and sporting activities to pupils outside the core curriculum
- Encourage and work with schools to achieve The Health Promoting Schools
 Award
- Work with voluntary sports clubs, governing bodies of sport and other agencies to strengthen and develop the infrastructure in the city

Recommendation 2

The partner organisations should continue to reduce the level of smoking in the city

It is recommended that the Council Cabinet examine issuing local orders for banning smoking in public places when legislation is passed and establishes structures for enforcing the ban.

It is recommended that health bodies consider increasing resources to Fresh Start to enable it to carryout more work with partner organisations such as schools and voluntary bodies to reduce the level of smoking amongst groups most at risk and particularly target children. The campaigns to reduce smoking could emphasise the amount of money people could save by stopping smoking.

It is recommended that Fresh Start undertake a specific campaign to raise the level of awareness of the dangers of smoking amongst South Asians and increase the proportion of quitters to at least reflect the make up of the local community.

Recommendation 3

The partner organisations need to target intervention measures at the groups considered to be most at risk of developing health problems

Older People

The Housing Services should seek to improve the home environment by addressing potential health risks associated with unsuitable internal design of houses occupied by older people

Children

The Primary Care Trusts should continue to focus on infant mortality in line with national priority, address dental health problems and promote MMR vaccination, particularly targeting groups where the take up is low

Areas of high deprivation

The Commission reaffirms the principle that the partnership bodies need to take account of the make-up of the local communities and develop strategies to meet specific needs rather than adopt blanket policies for all areas

The Primary Care Trusts should seek to improve the take up of screening programmes and flu vaccinations

Recommendation 4

The Primary Care Trusts should prioritise tackling health problems associated with coronary heart disease, cancer and diabetes in line with national priorities

<u>CHD</u>

The partnership bodies led by the Primary Care Trusts should:

Establish a strategy to increase public awareness of the causes and prevention of heart disease in areas and communities with high levels of deprivation

Encourage greater level of participation in physical activities including where appropriate offering exercise on prescription

Work with employers to establish healthy work places and establish opportunities for staff to participate in exercise

Cancer

The Primary Care Trust should ensure groups most at risk from developing cancer are targeted with screening programmes, particularly amongst those where the take up is low and undertake a publicity campaign to raise awareness of how to reduce the risk of developing certain cancers

<u>Diabetes</u>

The Primary Care Trusts should develop strategies and ensure services are available to reduce the risk of developing diabetes particularly amongst groups that are most at risk.

The Primary Care Trusts should seek to routinely screen people who are most at risk of developing diabetes to minimise the complication that may be developed from having diabetes

Recommendation 5

The Environmental Health Division takes the lead to establish an agreed set of local priorities and indicators to address health inequalities