

Policy Briefing: Merton - The Place for a Good Life
Merton Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015/2016-2017/18

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Original Document: <http://www.merton.gov.uk/merton-health-and-wellbeing-strategy-web.pdf>

Purpose of document

The Merton Health and Wellbeing Strategy document for 2015-2018 is Public Health Merton's first ever annual public health report which focuses on prioritising the most significant influences on health, as well as good health, for Merton residents. Merton Council and its partners (Merton Clinical Commissioning Group, the Voluntary Sector and Healthwatch Merton) aim to successfully bridge the gap in life expectancy and inequalities between areas within Merton so that all residents have equal opportunities for a good life.

Summary of contents

The document begins with an introduction to the strategy and a mention of the most significant achievements to date in the 2013-2015 Health and Wellbeing Strategy. It then describes Merton's vision, where Merton is at the moment with regards to health and wellbeing, and how they will get to their goal using a combination of methods such as prevention work, effective partnership working, early intervention and community participation. The document then goes on to discuss in detail, the 5 priority themes that will be used as the basis to address health and wellbeing inequalities, and includes outcomes to be achieved by 2018.

Summary of outcomes

The Health and Wellbeing Board has overall responsibility for the strategy. However, the actions for each theme are managed by the relevant partnership board. A number of objectives have been set out for the themes in a detailed delivery plan for Year 1 (2015/2016) of the strategy. This is available to view online (see below). The progress in meeting these objectives will be tracked by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The actions will be reviewed towards the end of each year and a new plan developed for the next year.

Summary of recommendations

- Ensure that children and young people acquire good skills, healthy habits and educational achievement in early life for a productive adulthood.
- Support and improve life skills and training for adults to increase levels of employment and ensure access to good work.
- Tackle crime to improve feelings of safety and wellbeing, and create connected safer communities by involving and engaging residents.
- Develop healthy, environmentally friendly areas which provide access to healthy options on the high street, green spaces, houses and parks.

Further information and resources

Link to Public Health Merton, Merton Health and Wellbeing Board & Health and Wellbeing Strategy Delivery Plan 2015/16

<http://www.merton.gov.uk/health-social-care/publichealth.htm>

Merton Clinical Commissioning Group

<http://www.mertonccg.nhs.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

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