WELLBEING, EQUALITIES, COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND ENGAGEMENT CITY POLICY COMMITTEE.

Hybrid meeting, 10th August 2023.

Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee.

Present: Laura Doherty (Chair), Holly Bruce, Anthony Carroll, Annette Christie, Audrey Dempsey, Stephen Dornan, Fiona Higgins, Angus Millar, Margaret Morgan, Cecilia O'Lone, Jill Pidgeon, Thomas Rannachan, Ms Martina Johnston-Gray and Ms Irene Loudon.

Also present: Allan Casey and Anne McTaggart.

Attending: C Jack (Clerk); C Edgar, Head of Communication and Strategic Partnerships; S Anderson, K Strachan and C Quinn (for the Chief Executive); D Dornan (for the Chief Executive, Glasgow Life); A Conacher, Public Health Scotland and C Dineen and F Howard, Fast Forward.

Gambling Harms – Update noted.

1 There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive regarding the multi-agency Gambling Related Harms Group providing an update on progress to embed a whole systems approach to tackle gambling harms across Glasgow, advising

(1) that in January 2020 the Council, in partnership with Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN) established a Glasgow Gambling Harms Group, with representation across the Council family, NHS, third sector and academia to provide strategic leadership, advice and support in the development, implementation, evaluation and sustainability of a whole system approach to preventing and reducing gambling harms in Glasgow ("the Glasgow Project");

(2) of engagement and mapping exercises which had been undertaken to build a shared understanding of gambling harms and potential solutions;

(3) of funding secured by ScotPHN to support the development, embedding and evaluation of a work programme that included local and national work streams to tackle gambling harm and included 2 part-time posts within Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (GHSCP) and Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector;

(4) of work carried out by COSLA/SOLACE in conjunction with the Gambling Commission;

(5) of the Council's Gambling Workforce Support Policy;

(6) of the resources to support the Glasgow Project's gambling harms work and engage with wider stakeholders involved in delivering gambling harms training, prevention and education and treatment and support to understand what was going on in Glasgow;

(7) of the development of a Local Action Plan led by GHSCP, the Gambling Harms Small Grant fund and details of training collaboration;

(8) of the partnership approach to respond to actions within the Local Action Plan that focussed on children and young people and that the Multiple Risk Task Group had liaised with Fast Forward to provide introductory training on gambling harms and training on the link between gambling and gaming within the health improvement training calendar;

(9) of plans to align the gambling related harms action plan with Glasgow's Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan and engage with those with lived experience to bring their voice to the development of the action plan;

(10) of the local and national data development being undertaken and evaluation and learning;

(11) of the White Paper review of the Gambling Act 2005, as detailed in the report; and

(12) that funding had been secured to take forward gambling harm related work until early 2024.

After consideration, the committee noted that further consideration should be given to the following:

(a) building relationships and developing areas not fully addressed within the action plan;

(b) building on work started in the third sector including input from organisations with the ability to receive funding and contribute directly to the action plan eg a targeted second round of grant funded projects;

(c) developing the initial mapping work with a focus on priority groups such as women, black and minority ethnic communities and those at risk of homelessness;

(d) developing partnerships to promote a co-ordinated training offer to increase awareness of gambling harms;

(e) working with the Licensing Department with a view to reducing clustering of harmful products particularly in areas of multiple-deprivation which would build on any roll-out of the SOLACE/COSLA pilots on licensing compliance;

(f) addressing poverty and inequality through the dual lenses of gambling and Financial Inclusion, building on the experience of other local authorities (eg Birmingham);

(i) incorporating more effectively the voice of lived experience, to assist with the implementation of the action plan;

(j) promoting partnership working and using new resources such as One Last Spin, to raise awareness and encourage discussion about gambling harms and suicide;

(k) utilising opportunities within local and national campaigns to develop gambling harms communications which challenge shame and stigma; and

(l) identifying and securing funding streams and human resource to embed the action plan in the operational activity of all partners across the system. Funding is required in the short term to ensure momentum is continued.