

HEALTHY WORKPLACE UPDATE

Health Liaison Board - 11 May 2016

Report of Chief Officer Environmental & Operational Services

Status: For Information

Key Decision: No

Executive Summary: This report provides Members with an update on the Workplace Health initiative as part of the Kent Healthy Business Award programme

This report supports the Key Aim of improving health and wellbeing

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Dickens

Contact Officer(s) Annie Sargent Ext. 3085

Recommendation to Housing And Health Advisory Committee: That the report be noted.

Introduction and Background

- 1 In 2014, Kent County Council's Public Health Team set up the Kent Healthy Business Award programme and funded district councils to engage and support local businesses to deliver healthier workplaces.
- 2 The aim of this project is to engage businesses in improving public health, prior to a national workplace health programme being introduced nationally.
- 3 This programme supports the local objectives within the Community Plan of improving health and wellbeing. It also helps to deliver dynamic and sustainable economy priorities by supporting employers in the District to improve performance through supporting their employee's health and wellbeing.

Kent Healthy Workplace Award

- 4 This Council is funded annually by Kent Public Health Team to use local knowledge and data to engage businesses in the Kent Healthy Business Award programme. This work is undertaken by Officers in the Environmental Health Team who are responsible for delivering the project within Sevenoaks District.
- 5 Kent County Council provides training, marketing materials and expert support for the delivery of the programme.

- 6 The programme supports local businesses which may result in the following improvements:
- Economic performance through improved workforce health and wellbeing, measured by human resource indicators such as reduced sickness absence, reduced turnover and increased productivity and
 - Public health through increasing the number of adults who can return or stay in the workforce for longer, therefore stemming the flow of adults who fall out of employment due to ill health and long term conditions.
- 7 Businesses can work towards the Award at three levels: Committed; Achieved and Excellence through nine themes:
- Leadership
 - Attendance management
 - Health and Safety
 - Mental health and wellbeing
 - Smoking (and tobacco related ill health)
 - Physical activity
 - Healthy eating
 - Alcohol and substance misuse
 - Environment
- 8 Members will be updated at the meeting with a presentation on this work.

Key Implications

Financial

- 9 This Council received £10,000 from Kent County Council for the delivery of the Kent Healthy Business Award programme in 2014/15 and 2015/16. A reduced annual funding amount of £9,250 has been confirmed for 2016/17, which includes a 7.5% reduction.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

- 10 There are no legal implications for the Council associated to this report.

Equality Assessment

- 11 No decision is required as part of this paper and therefore no perceived impact on end users.

Conclusions

- 12 For Members to note the work of this Council to work with local businesses to deliver the Kent Healthy Workplace Award programme.

Appendices

Background Papers:

Kent County Council website - Kent Healthy Business Award

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/business/grow-your-business/business-awards-and-events/kent-healthy-business-awards>

Richard Wilson

Chief Officer Environmental & Operational Services