



## PEOPLE (HEALTH) OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE – 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

**Subject Heading:**

Havering Youth Wellbeing Census

**ELT Lead:**

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**Policy context:**

The Havering Youth Wellbeing Census is a key part of delivering against our Corporate Plan aim of ‘*Supporting our residents to stay safe and well*’, and our Integrated Starting Well Plan priorities, for children to be *Well* and to be *Heard*.

### SUMMARY

The Havering Youth Wellbeing Census is part of Havering Council’s commitment to amplifying the voice of young people in the borough. The census was based on the #BeeWell survey and locally adapted by University College London (UCL) Partners in collaboration with Havering Council.

The #BeeWell survey was originally developed as part of the #BeeWell programme, an initiative originating in Greater Manchester that combines academic expertise with youth-led change to make the wellbeing of young people everybody’s business.

The Havering Youth Wellbeing Census used core questions from the #BeeWell survey, plus additional questions to meet locally identified needs as voiced by Havering’s young people and the local organisations and services that support them.

10 schools took part in the Havering Youth Wellbeing Census during June and July 2023. This was a total of 2,287 students across year groups 8 and 10, representing 36% coverage of the target demographic.

The results of the survey are helping us to understand the state of wellbeing in adolescents, including variations across different populations, and consider actions that can be taken to support young people’s mental wellbeing.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

A core principle of the original #BeeWell programme, and of our delivering the Havering Youth Wellbeing Census, is that young people's wellbeing is everybody's business.

It is recommended that:

- The Committee notes the observations highlighted; and
- Committee Members take time to explore the interactive neighbourhood dashboard and consider how the results can be used to inform local policy, with the aim of improving the wellbeing of young people in Havering.

## **REPORT DETAIL**

A presentation and an overview of the Havering Youth Wellbeing Census results, which are available on the published neighbourhood dashboard, will be delivered to the meeting.

The neighbourhood dashboard can be viewed at Appendix 1 and the presentation at Appendix 2.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Financial implications and risks:**

The cost of implementing the Havering Youth Wellbeing Census in 2023 was primarily in programme management costs paid to our implementation partner, UCLPartners. Costs were shared across Havering Council, North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT) and Havering's Place based Partnership. The total cost to the Council was £20,000 and this was shared across three service areas: Starting Well, Public Health and Insight.

The internal project team working on the Youth Wellbeing Census were careful to ensure the sustainability of the census for future waves. For example, the Council's corporate consultation platform, Citizen space, was used to deliver the survey, and the analysis of data has been transitioned to a permanent member of the Public Health Intelligence team. This means that while future waves will require on-going resource (time) in terms of the staff working on this, actual expenditure will be

significantly lower as the work is now embedded as business as usual across the various officers' work plans.

The project received £37,022 in Health Inequalities Funding for 2023/24 following a successful bid via the Place based Partnership. The funding was to pay for a part time youth worker, who would work with young people to identify their priorities for action based upon the results, and to support them in commissioning small projects to improve wellbeing. At the time of writing, the Youth Service has been unable to successfully recruit to this post and only a small portion of the funding has been used for communications, including a series of videos that were produced with three Havering schools and their pupils, discussing the results. The remainder of the funding was carried over into the next financial year.

**Legal implications and risks:**

There are no apparent legal implications in noting the content of the report.

**Human Resources implications and risks:**

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

**Equalities implications and risks:**

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

The inclusion of certain protected characteristics in the Youth Wellbeing Census allows analysis to be undertaken for these groups, highlighting differences in the experience of different populations across the domains and drivers of wellbeing.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

No significant detrimental climate change implications or risks are expected as a direct outcome of this report.

The Havering Youth Wellbeing Census includes a question on climate change, which was added locally, and provides a useful insight into how young people in Havering feel about this topic.

The Havering Youth Wellbeing Census was delivered digitally on school premises and resource packs were also provided electronically.

The results have been published as a Power BI dashboard to encourage interaction digitally. Whilst the dashboard can be exported for printing, this would be a lengthy document and officers encourage that printing is kept to a minimum to reduce organisational CO2 emissions.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Appendix 1:** Interactive Neighbourhood Dashboard -  
<https://www.haveringdata.net/youth-wellbeing-census/>

**Appendix 2:** Overview presentation