

Appendix 1: OCCG Inequalities Commission Recommendations Relevant to Oxford City Council

	Recommendations	Work already underway	Comments
1	Statutory funding bodies need to do more to demonstrate their commitment to reducing inequalities. Their policies and plans should be scrutinized by HWB on an annual basis	The City Council Corporate Plan has addressing inequalities as a key priority. The council targets its resources to reduce health inequalities and to promote life chances, across all service areas.	
3	Local indicators on progress towards reducing inequalities should be developed, with regular reporting on progress to the Health and Wellbeing Board. This should be in place by the end of 2017	The City Council fully supports the recommendation. Local indicators are essential for targeting resources effectively in geographic areas or to different community needs.	
12.	Benefits Advice should be available in all health settings, including GPs networked into local areas to support CABs	Oxford City Council provides @£500k in grants to Advice Centers and part of this funding is to enable people to access the benefits that they are entitled to. The City Council Welfare Report Team also provides benefit advice and support to those affected by the changes to the benefit system.	
13	A sub group working on income maximization should be established, and asked to report back to the HWB/CCG within a year	If a sub group on income maximization is established the City Council would be happy to participate and actively contribute to its work.	
14.	District Councils should be approached to seek matched funding for benefits in	See above.	

	Practice, dependent on existing contribution (for benefits maximization)		
16.	<p>Public agencies, universities and health partners should work together to develop new models of funding and delivery of affordable homes for a range of tenures to meet the needs of vulnerable people and key workers.</p> <p>Specifically, public agencies should work together to maximise the potential to deliver affordable homes on public sector land, including provision of key worker housing and extra care and specialist housing by undertaking a strategic review of public assets underutilized or lying vacant</p>	<p>The City Council has established a Housing Company, to deliver new affordable homes with a range of tenures to help address the city's acute housing need.</p> <p>It has invested £20m in refurbishment of the city's tower blocks to improve their appearance and structure, upgrade insulation, windows, heating, and electrics and refurbish lifts.</p> <p>Construction of 900 new homes in Barton is underway through our joint venture company with Grosvenor Developments Ltd.</p> <p>There are agreed plans for the construction of new homes in Cowley and Oxpens, and the redevelopment of Blackbird Leys District Centre, and Knight's Road.</p>	
17.	<p>Consideration should be given to the potential of social prescribing for improving the health and wellbeing of Oxfordshire residents, addressing health inequalities in particular, and learning from other areas</p>	<p>There is an OCCG pilot scheme at the Burry Knowles Health Centre.</p> <p>The City Council is keen to pursue social subscribing in other areas and to develop closer relationships between our community and leisure centers and local GP surgeries and health centers.</p>	
18	<p>In 2014 9.1% of households were fuel poor. This should be reduced in line with the targets set by the Fuel Poverty</p>	<p>The City Council has improved energy efficiency in private homes so they are warmer and cheaper to heat. We have provided grants and encouraged positive action by landlords.</p>	<p>The Health Improvement Boars is due to hold a workshop on addressing</p>

	Regulations of 2014.	We work closely with the Affordable Warmth Network.	<p>fuel poverty and health inequalities in March/April (date tbc)</p> <p>The aims are:</p> <p>To encourage greater join up between organisations tackling fuel poverty and identify areas for further targeted work.</p> <p>To set the strategic direction for Oxfordshire fuel poverty work.</p>
19.	<p>All public authorities are encouraged to continue their collaboration and invest in supporting rough sleepers into settled accommodation, analyzing the best way of investing funding in the future. Homelessness pathways should be adequately resourced and no cut in resources made with all partners at the very least maintaining in real terms the level of dedicated annual budget for housing support.</p>	<p>The City Council provide £1.4m grants to homelessness organisations.</p> <p>It has invested £5m in a £10m fund for our Real Lettings Scheme to acquire properties to house local families in temporary accommodation.</p> <p>It has launched a new Rent Guarantee Scheme to provide access to the private rented sector, for 40 households a year.</p> <p>It has protected services for homeless people to mitigate reductions in county funding through joint commissioning of services with the County Council, NHS and district councils.</p>	<p>There is the Homelessness Support Sub Group of the Health Improvement Board who oversees and coordinates homelessness activities across the county and report to the health Improvement Board annually.</p>

		It has secured £790K of government funding to help prevent homelessness and improve services for homeless people.	
20.	The numbers of people sleeping rough in Oxfordshire should be actively monitored and reduced.	The numbers of people sleeping rough are monitored at the Health Improvement Board. Monitoring and activities to address homelessness is planned and coordinated through the Supported Housing Group (see above).	
25.	Funding for locally enhanced services for refugees and asylum-seekers should be made available to all GP practices, with the expectation that funding for this service would primarily be drawn on by practices seeing large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers.	<p>The City Council is actively engaged in the VPRS scheme to support the resettlement of Syrian refugees. To date it has helped 14 families.</p> <p>The City Council facilitates a Refugee and Asylum Seeker Group aimed at improving the coordination of services to refugee and asylum seekers. This group is actively working with the OCCG to identify resources to provide enhanced services at GP practices with large numbers of asylum seekers and refugees.</p>	
27.	Outreach work in communities with high numbers of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, should be actively supported and resources maintained, if not increased, especially to the voluntary sector, to improve access to the NHS, face to face interpretation /advocacy and awareness	<p>The City Council Communities Team undertakes outreach into areas of the city with high numbers of refugee and asylum seekers.</p> <p>The City Council is also working with voluntary sector organizations to improve access to ESOL provision and to improve access to health provision</p>	

	raising amongst health care professionals	and other services.	
28.	A set of Oxfordshire-grounded targets for increasing activity should be developed, targeting people living in deprived areas, older people, and vulnerable groups.	<p>Oxford City Council already has a range of targets to promote increased activity for people living in deprived areas and for particular groups, such as young people, older people and other vulnerable groups.</p> <p>These are targets are set for the delivery of: Leisure services Cultural services Youth provision</p>	
29.	Continuing investment and coordination of existing initiatives should be maintained supported by social marketing and awareness-raising of the benefits of physical activity to targeted populations.	<p>The City Council has a Wellbeing Strategy to ensure that services are delivered in line with county-wide strategies, such as the Healthy Weight Strategy.</p> <p>The City Council uses a host of social marketing techniques to promote its leisure, cultural and youth activities. These include Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Each building has its own Facebook account, including the Museum and community centers.</p> <p>Posts are targeting particular communities are made almost daily.</p>	
58.	Promoting general health and wellbeing through a linked all ages approach to physical activity, targeting an increase in	The City Council has a Wellbeing Strategy promoting general health and wellbeing in the city	

	activity levels in the over 50s, especially in deprived areas, using innovative motivational approaches such as 'Good Gym' and Generation Games	aimed at all ages. See above.	
<u>42.</u>	Use of food banks needs to be carefully monitored and reported to HWB	The City Council is working closely with 'Good Food Oxford' and 'Managing the Gaps' to map services which support those in food poverty. These will be made available on Good Food Oxford Website. The information will also be used to identify any gaps in provision.	
<u>47.</u>	Promoting the health of those in work should be a priority and examples of good practice shared by establishing a county wide network.	The City Council has a comprehensive programmer of support and activities to promote the good health of their staff.	