

Full Council 17 July 2025 – Schedule of written responses to Members' questions not answered at the meeting

Note: Questions A to L were answered during the meeting. These questions and responses are set out in the minutes of the meeting.

Member Question M – Councillor Vye asked the Chairperson of Health and Wellbeing board, Councillor Teresa Murray, the following:

“Can the Portfolio Holder confirm the full financial cost, including any committed or anticipated expenditure, associated with Medway’s participation in the Marmot Place initiative to date, specifying what concrete, measurable health outcomes or cost-benefit assessments have been recorded to demonstrate value for money for residents?”

Response:

Thank you for your question. The Marmot Initiative expenditure is primarily a contract with the Institute of Health Equity who we paid £48,000 in the 24/25 financial year and will be paying £61,500 in this current year. For the launch event we used an internal council building but spent £575 on tea, coffee and fruit for the attendees.

For this investment we have secured a leading international expert in Sir Michael Marmot and his highly skilled team to help realise our ambition of halving health inequalities over the next ten years. Sir Michael himself chairs the Medway Marmot Advisor Group and is heavily involved in our work.

The initial two year contract includes Sir Michael’s team reviewing all Medway system partners existing work around health inequalities, expert data analysis and helping identify examples of best practice from elsewhere (as we are now part of the national Marmot network).

The multi-partner advisory group have identified specific outputs for 2025 including a community asset mapping exercise, development of a communications plan and website, resident engagement to understand their priorities and an independent report from Sir Michael which will include recommendations to realise our ten year ambition.

Medway Council will be using the Marmot initiative to inspire and motivate all local residents and organisations to support our ambition to tackle health inequalities. The volume of partners that attended the launch event and have expressed an interest since, shows the power of being part of such a movement.

System partners are already proudly stating that they are part of a local Marmot programme and using this to help leverage funding for Medway initiatives. A great example of this is the Sport England Active Place partnership bid which we are awaiting feedback from. Of course it is worth noting Kent County Council has also signed up to the Marmot initiative.

All Members are encouraged to attend the special member briefing of the Marmot programme on Tuesday 22nd July to find out more and discuss how you can assist with tackling health inequalities in Medway.