
Annex 1

Structure and organisation of the review

In November 2008, Professor Sir Michael Marmot was asked by the Secretary of State for Health to chair an independent review to propose the most effective evidence-based strategies for reducing health inequalities in England from 2010. The strategy will include policies and interventions that address the social determinants of health inequalities.

The Review had four tasks

- 1 Identify, for the health inequalities challenge facing England, the evidence most relevant to underpinning future policy and action**
- 2 Show how this evidence could be translated into practice**
- 3 Advise on possible objectives and measures, building on the experience of the current PSA target on infant mortality and life expectancy**
- 4 Publish a report of the Review's work that will contribute to the development of a post-2010 health inequalities strategy**

Structure and organisation of the Marmot Review

The Review has been steered by a Commission chaired by Professor Sir Michael Marmot and comprising ten commissioners:

- Professor Sir Michael Marmot (Chair)
- Professor Sir Tony Atkinson
- Professor Sir John Bell
- Professor Dame Carol Black
- Professor Patricia Broadfoot
- Baroness Cumberledge
- Professor Ian Diamond
- Professor Ian Gilmore
- Professor Chris Ham
- Baroness Meacher
- Professor Geoff Mulgan

The tasks set down for the Review were shaped by three working committees, supported by expert-led task groups.

Working Committee 1

Working Committee 1 (WC 1) was asked to identify new evidence in the key policy areas where action is likely to be most effective in reducing health inequalities in the short (2010–15), medium (2016–19) and long term (2020 and beyond). WC 1 assessed evidence about the efficacy of interventions to reduce health inequalities in nine policy areas:

- 1 Early child development and education
- 2 Employment arrangements and working conditions
- 3 Social protection
- 4 Built environment
- 5 Sustainable development
- 6 Economic analysis
- 7 Delivery systems and mechanisms
- 8 Priority public health conditions
- 9 Social inclusion and social mobility.

This Committee made recommendations identifying potentially effective actions in reducing health inequalities for Working Committees 2 and 3 to develop.

The Committee ran from January to May 2009. The report based on its work can be found at www.ucl.ac.uk/ghcg/marmotreview/Documents.

Working Committee 2: Monitoring progress

Working Committee 2 was asked to identify new targets for improving health equity and the metrics needed to monitor progress both in the short and long term. It assessed the evidence identified by WC 1 and indicated what data sources exist, or could realistically be developed, to measure progress and set targets in the short, medium and long term. WC 2 ran from May to September 2009, contributing to the interim report submitted to the Department of Health at the end of September 2009.

Working Committee 3: Policy and implementation

Working Committee 3 explored how the evidence produced by the first working committee could be translated into practical and effective policy recommendations. It assessed the best systems and levers for delivery across government and local agencies. WC 3 ran from April 2009 to September 2009, contributing to the interim report submitted at the end of September 2009.

Health Inequalities Programme Board

A senior level government cross-departmental reference group supported and informed the work of the Review, with regular meetings and a working level group.

Running alongside the Review were numerous meetings, discussions and consultations, presentations and seminars with community groups, health sector representatives, housing associations and organisations, the Local Government Association, IDeA (the Improvement and Development Agency for local government), health care organisations, regional government, other government departments, local public health and local government leaders, Primary Care Trusts, third sector and other delivery organisations, and the public. The Review was also be informed by the European Commission expert working group on social determinants and health inequalities and a range of national governments.

The Review ran a consultation on the first interim report which had 6,289 visits to the website and 135 responses, and which helped shaped the Review's direction. The consultation responses are summarised at www.ucl.ac.uk/ghcg/marmotreview/consultation.

Three policy dialogues were based on policies relating to the social determinants of health. Presentations and transcripts are at www.ucl.ac.uk/ghcg/marmotreview/Documents/PDDocuments.

Qualitative work

The Review team commissioned qualitative work to explore the impact of inequalities and community empowerment with particular groups.

The work was undertaken by Opinion Leaders on behalf of the National Social Marketing Centre and University College London.

The main task of the qualitative work was to explore the concept of empowering communities to improve well-being from the perspective of disadvantaged groups – single parents, people with mental health problems from black and minority ethnic backgrounds, and people with low-level stress and mental health problems. Perceptions of inequalities and potential solutions were explored.

The work can be found at www.ucl.ac.uk/ghcg/marmotreview/documents. Further documents and reports from the Review can also be found at that address.