

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

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JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY THEME 5 REVIEW

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Summary

This report asks the members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to identify how they and the organisations that they represent can encourage the system to improve health and wellbeing with respect to the future state describe for theme 5 of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy: Reduce health inequalities.

1. Budget and policy framework

- 1.1. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012 place a statutory duty on upper tier Local Authorities and NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), to develop a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS). The priorities within a JHWS are derived from a range of sources. The primary source of evidence is generally the area's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). Additional information to assist in the development of JHWS priorities comes from a range of partners and key stakeholders and the specific views of local people. National guidance does not specify how long a JHWS should stay in force. It is up to the Local Authority and CCG to determine the period to be covered by a JHWS."
- 1.2. The Health and Wellbeing Board is a statutory committee of the council whose role is to build strong and effective partnerships to improve the commissioning and delivery of services across NHS and local government.
- 1.3. In practice the Council, the NHS and Healthwatch work together to improve population health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.
- 1.4. The Health and Wellbeing Board agrees priorities based on need and promotes integrated working between health and social care commissioners.

2. Background

2.1. The [Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#) is based around five themes:

- Giving every child a good start;
- Enabling our older population to live independently and well;
- Preventing early death and increase years of healthy life;
- Improving physical and mental health and well-being; and
- Reducing health inequalities.

2.2. At the Health and Wellbeing Board briefing on 2 July 2019 sub-groups of members of the board considered each of the themes and began to explore ways in which actors in the system can collaborate to improve the situation with respect to each theme.

2.3. Through June to September 2019 Medway Council's internal audit team conducted an audit of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. A summary of the report was presented to the [Audit Committee on 7 January 2019](#). One recommendation was made which relates to introducing a process whereby the Board are advised of individual strategy outcomes.

3. Advice and analysis

3.1. There are many factors that influence the health and wellbeing of the population of Medway and changes in different areas are required to improve health and wellbeing. The JHWS listed a number of existing key strategies or action plans that contribute to each theme.

3.2. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are in a unique position to be able to encourage key stakeholders in the system to improve health and wellbeing.

3.3. Regular review of each theme of the strategy will help to ensure that the focus is maintained on the key areas of the strategy so that members of the Board, as key system leaders, are able to identify how they and the organisations they represent can encourage the system to make changes that will improve health and wellbeing.

3.4. Health inequalities do not exist in isolation, and they are considered through the other four themes of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. However, several high-level measures have been selected to monitor this theme, some of which will take time to show improvement (see Appendix B). The latest data for each measure come from before the COVID-19 epidemic, and there is evidence nationally that COVID-19 has highlighted and exacerbated health inequalities; we may see the effect of this in Medway data over the next year or two.

3.5. Appendix A contains a summary of information about theme 5: Reduce health inequalities. The "future state" section contains the priorities from the Strategy

rephrased to describe how these priorities will look in a successful future state.

4. Risk management

Risk	Description	Action to avoid or mitigate risk	Risk rating
Focus is not maintained on five themes	If focus is not maintained on the key areas of the strategy the HWB may not drive change as effectively as it could	The HWB will regularly review each theme as per this paper	D-II

5. Consultation

- 5.1. Engagement with members of the public about the health and wellbeing needs of different areas of Medway took place through a series of community listening events. These events took place in six localities across Medway and formed part of a wider initiative to engage with local people and inform them about future developments taking place in the provision of health and social care services in Medway.

6. Climate change implications

- 6.1. Many of changes that will improve health and wellbeing will also result in positive improvements in the environment and will contribute to reducing the adverse effects of climate change. For example, increasing active travel, such as cycling and walking, as an alternative to using private cars will reduce emissions from cars. Moving to a more healthy diet that has more vegetables and fruit and less meat will help to drive a shift to more sustainable agriculture.

7. Financial implications

- 7.1. There are no direct resource implications that arise from this paper. Funding of delivery actions is contained within relevant organisational budgets. Specific projects will be funded through the submission of business plans using the existing financial governance arrangements.

8. Legal implications

- 8.1. S. 116A(vi) of the Local Government and Public Health Involvement Act 2007 as inserted by s.193 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 places a statutory duty on Medway Council and NHS Medway CCG, through the Health and Wellbeing Board, to publish a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The period

that a JHWS must cover is not defined, however, the current JHWS covers 2018-2023.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to consider how they and the organisations they represent can encourage the system to make changes that will improve health and wellbeing with respect to theme 5 of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

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Appendices

Appendix A — JHWS theme 5 overview
Appendix B — Theme 5 indicators
Appendix C — Examples of good practice

Background papers

None