

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

9 FEBRUARY 2023

KENT AND MEDWAY INTERIM INTEGRATED CARE STRATEGY

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Summary

The Health and Social Care Act, 2022, requires Integrated Care Partnerships (i.e., the Joint Committee consisting of Medway Council, Kent County Council (KCC) and the Kent and Medway NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB)) to prepare a strategy setting out how the assessed needs in relation to its area are to be met. On 29 July 2022, the department of health published guidance detailing how integrated care systems should create an integrated care strategy. There is a requirement for an interim strategy to have been published by December 2022. The Inequalities Prevention and Population Health Committee (IPPHC) of the Kent and Medway ICB was tasked with developing the Integrated Care Strategy. This IPPHC established a steering group, chaired by the ICB Chief Strategy Officer, supported by the Directors of Public Health for Medway and Kent, to produce the strategy for Kent and Medway. The aim was to deliver a concise high-level strategy document circa 50 pages in length, that identified the key issues for Kent and Medway.

For Medway, the strategy was taken to Cabinet on 13 December for approval. The strategy was also approved by the two other partners (KCC and ICB), prior to publication on 31 December 2022.

1. Budget and policy framework

1.1 Approval of the Integrated Care Strategy is a matter of each partner authority on the Integrated Care Partnership, i.e., Medway Council, Kent County Council and the Kent and Medway NHS Integrated Care Board.

2. Background

2.1. On 29 July 2022, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) published guidance setting out how integrated care systems should create an integrated care strategy. There is a requirement for an interim strategy to be published by the 31st December 2022.

2.2. The strategy development guidance includes a requirement to engage with the wider public as well as key stakeholders within the area. Given the short deadline

for strategy production, the DHSC acknowledges the December deadline did not allow sufficient time for the desired level of in-depth engagement with the community and stakeholders. The guidance emphasises that the December version of the Integrated Care Strategy is an interim strategy that will be developed and refined further over the following months. The Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) has directed that there should be full stakeholder and public engagement on the strategy aims, objectives and format in the new year.

- 2.3. The Inequalities Prevention and Population Health Committee (IPPHC) of the Kent and Medway ICB was tasked with developing the Integrated Care Strategy. It formed a steering group to develop the strategy, led by colleagues from the NHS, with representation from Public Health. An external organisation, called Attain, was contracted by the NHS to support the production of the strategy.
- 2.4. The aim was to produce a document no more than 50 pages long, aimed at professionals and “interested members of the public”. Other versions will be developed in due course for the general public and specific communities as part of the engagement work.
- 2.5. Upper tier local authorities are still required to produce a place focussed Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS) and Medway will be refreshing its JLHWS in 2023. The two strategies are required to take note of each other.
- 2.6. Plans for engagement on the IC strategy are being developed and will be based around people’s views on the interim strategy. The Medway Council Public Health team has just begun engagement on the JLHWS for Medway and will be using insight from the engagement events to inform the development of the JLHWS. Once it has been drafted, Medway Public Health will consult on the draft.

3. Analysis

- 3.1. The requirement to deliver an interim strategy by December 31st meant that it wasn’t possible to undertake extensive engagement with professionals across the system, nor with members of the public. Therefore, the ideas represented in the strategy are high-level. They are aligned to address existing and predicted key issues affecting the local population and the health and care system across Kent and Medway. The ICB plans full engagement in the review and refresh of the strategy post 31st of December, with a view to bring the strategy back to Medway Council’s Cabinet in the autumn of 2023.
- 3.2. For Medway, the interim strategy was approved by Cabinet on the 13 December 2022. It was then taken to the ICB and KCC for approval.
- 3.3. An Equalities Impact Assessment is attached at Appendix 2.

4. Financial and Legal implications

- 4.1. There are no direct financial implications as a result of the recommendations of this report.
- 4.2. Under the Health and Social Care Act, 2022:
 - 4.2.1 An integrated care partnership must prepare a strategy (an “integrated care strategy”) setting out how the assessed needs in relation to its area are to be

met by the exercise of functions of— (a) the integrated care board for its area, (b) NHS England, or (c) the responsible local authorities whose areas coincide with or fall wholly or partly within its area.

- 4.2.2 The responsible local authority and each of its partner integrated care boards, must prepare a strategy (“a joint local health and wellbeing strategy”) setting out how the assessed needs in relation to the responsible local authority’s area are to be met by the exercise of functions of— (a) the responsible local authority, (b) its partner integrated care boards, or (c) NHS England.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Board is asked to note the interim integrated care strategy (attached at Appendix 1) and members of the board are asked to consider how they and the organisations that they represent can contribute to delivering the outcome defined in the strategy.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 - Interim Care Strategy, dated 23 November 2022
Appendix 2 - Equality Impact Assessment

Background papers

None

Acronyms/Glossary

- **ICS** – Integrated Care System: the integrated care system is a partnership that brings together NHS organisations, local authorities and others to take collective responsibility for planning services, improving health and reducing inequalities across a geographical area
- **ICB** – Integrated Care Board: a statutory body that is responsible for planning and funding most NHS services in the area
- **ICP** – Integrated care partnership: a statutory committee that brings together a broad set of system partners (including local government, the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector, NHS organisations and others) to develop a health and care strategy for the area
- **IC strategy**: Integrated Care Strategy
- **JLHWS**: Joint local health and wellbeing strategy (Medway Council)

