

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

13 APRIL 2023

KENT AND MEDWAY DRAFT JOINT FORWARD PLAN

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Summary

This report outlines the requirement for the development of an NHS Joint Forward Plan (JFP) in response to the Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy. The draft JFP has been developed in partnership between NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board and its partner NHS trusts and foundation trusts, as required by national guidance. The draft JFP is being shared with Medway Health and Wellbeing Board as part of our consultation across the Integrated Care System, specifically to seek views on whether the plan takes proper account of the Medway Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

1. Budget and policy framework

1.1. NHS England Guidance requires NHS Kent and Medway to consult Medway Health and Wellbeing Board on whether the draft JFP takes proper account of the Medway Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2. Background

2.1. The Health and Care Act 2022 requires integrated care partnerships to write an integrated care strategy to set out how assessed needs (from the joint strategic needs assessments) can be met through the exercise of the functions of the integrated care board, partner local authorities or NHS England (NHSE).

2.2. The Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy was developed in partnership between the NHS and lead local authorities including Medway Council to meet this requirement and was published in December 2022, with the short deadline required to ensure it would influence the development of the JFP.

- 2.3. The National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended by the Health & Care Act 2022) requires that Integrated Care Boards (ICB) and their partner NHS trusts and foundation trusts prepare and publish their JFP before the start of each financial year. For this first year, however, the NHS planning timetable has been extended and the date for publishing the final plan is 30 June 2023.
- 2.4. NHS England guidance on the development of the JFP was published at the end of December alongside, and with reference to, the 2023/24 priorities and operational planning guidance. The NHSE guidance lists a number of specific statutory requirements the plan must meet as well as additional recommendations on subject areas to be considered, see appendix 1. As a minimum, the JFP should describe how the ICB and its partner NHS trusts and foundation trusts intend to meet the physical and mental health needs of their population through arranging and/or providing NHS services. This should include delivery of universal NHS commitments, meet legal requirements and address the four core purposes of Integrated Care Systems (ICS), namely to:
- improve outcomes in population health and healthcare
 - tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access
 - enhance productivity and value for money
 - help the NHS support broader social and economic development.
- 2.5. In future years NHSE suggests that the JFP should be a shared system delivery plan for the Integrated Care Strategy. However, in this initial year it will form the NHS delivery plan for the Integrated Care Strategy in Kent and Medway.

3. Options

- 3.1. The draft JFP is being shared with Medway Health and Wellbeing Board as part of NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board's consultation across the Integrated Care System to seek views on whether the plan takes proper account of the Medway Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Although we recognise this is currently being refreshed, so will the Joint Forward Plan be refreshed next year.

4. Advice and analysis

- 4.1. As noted above the draft JFP has been developed in response to the Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy. The structure of the document follows that of the strategy and addresses each of the shared outcomes in turn, with a focus on actions that will be taken across the NHS to deliver the outcomes, as well as where links will be made to ensure partnership working across the ICS in delivering the outcomes.

4.2. As an example, the draft JFP includes reference to the system wide investment of £5.94m committed by NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board to address health inequalities in outcomes, experience, and access. Although there is no specific national requirement associated with the funding, the expectation is that it is used to help systems maintain work to reduce inequalities such as Core20Plus5 approach and the five NHS inequalities priorities. Working closely with the Medway and Swale Health and Care Partnership a range of programmes are being prioritised for support through the allocation of this resource including a focus on reducing inequalities in hypertension, improving outcomes for children with asthma in deprived population, Making Every Adult Count (MEAM), Increasing Voluntary Sector Capacity (to support Social Prescribing) and Tier 3 Childhood Obesity Services.

5. Risk management

5.1. The Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy was approved by Medway Council in December 2022. A key risk in achieving the aims of the strategy is the ability of all partners to deliver the action required at a time of significant pressure and with limited resources. The NHS draft JFP addresses how the NHS is intending to deliver this strategy and in turn meet the needs of the population of Medway.

6. Consultation

6.1. The draft JFP has been developed by NHS Kent and Medway and its partner provider trusts and foundation trusts. Through their provider leads Health and Care Partnerships have also contributed to its development. In addition the Integrated Care Strategy Steering Group, which includes the Medway Director of Public Health, has reviewed and commented on the plan as it was in development.

7. Climate change implications

7.1. The draft JFP includes actions that will be taken as part of the Kent and Medway Green Plan to embed sustainability across the Integrated Care System.

8. Financial implications

8.1. There are no financial implications for Medway Council.

9. Legal implications

9.1. The National Health Service Act 2006 requires NHS Kent and Medway to produce a Joint Forward Plan and consult with Health and Wellbeing Boards on whether this plan takes proper account of the Medway Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. There are no legal implications for Medway Council.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1. Following extensive partnership working between the Public Health team at Medway Council and the Strategy and Population Health directorate at NHS Kent and Medway, the Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the report and support the Kent and Medway Draft Joint Forward Plan as a plan that takes proper account of the Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy and the Medway Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – The legislative requirements the Joint Forward Plan must address
Appendix 2 – Kent and Medway Draft Joint Forward Plan

Background papers

None