

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

7 SEPTEMBER 2023

JOINT LOCAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

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Summary

This short report summarises the work that has been on-going since January 2023 to create a new Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS). The JLHWS is the strategy of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Appendix 1 shows the themes that have emerged from engagement exercises and a review of the data and will be used to structure the writing of the full strategy.

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to comment on the key themes for the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy that have emerged from consultation with the public and system leaders.

2. Budget and policy framework

- 2.1. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places a statutory duty on upper tier Local Authorities and Integrated care Boards (ICBs), to develop a Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS). The priorities within a JLHWS 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 JLHWS 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 JLHWS should stay in force. It is up to the Local Authority and ICB to determine the period to be covered by a JLHWS.
- 2.2. The Health and Social Care Act was amended in 2022 to require the JLHWS to take note of the Integrated Care Strategy, and for the Integrated Care Strategy to take note of the JLHWS.
- 2.3. The JLHWS is central to the delivery of the Council Plan and acts as a key link between a number of other council strategies, as set out in Appendix A to the report.

3. Background

- 3.1. The JLHWS is the strategy of the Health and Wellbeing Board, and it should guide the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board over the time period covered by the strategy. The last Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy was published in 2018 and covered the period 2018 to 2023.
- 3.2. From January 2023, we have been engaging with the public and system leaders, including those from Medway Council, the NHS and the voluntary and community sector and have been reviewing the findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to determine the current areas of importance in improving health and wellbeing in Medway.
- 3.3. In addition, the Kent and Medway Integrated Care System (ICS) published its interim Integrated Care Strategy in December 2022, and work has been ongoing since then to engage with people across Kent and Medway to inform an update of the IC Strategy which will be published later this year.
- 3.4. The plan is for the JLHWS and the IC Strategy to make their way through the governance route together. The proposed governance route is Health and Wellbeing Board on 27 November 2023, Health and Adult Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 December 2023 and Cabinet on 19 December 2023.
- 3.5. The JLHWS team consulted with people in Medway in a number of ways. Three online surveys were conducted, one for adults (n=526), another for children (n=148) and a third specifically for organisations in Medway (n=14). These surveys comprised both quantitative and qualitative questions.
- 3.6. In addition, focus group discussions were held with a number of groups to draw out more detailed information from people, some of whom are often seldom heard. Focus group discussions were held with:
 - Homeless men
 - Older women
 - Older men
 - Rough sleepers and sex workers
 - IMAGO Clients
 - Parish Councillors
 - The Barracks
- 3.7. The information gathered from the surveys and focus group discussions was combined with a review of key statistics regarding health and wellbeing in Medway and presented to a workshop of system leaders, with representatives from Medway Council officers, elected members, the NHS, and voluntary

sector organisations. The information was reviewed at the workshop and key areas of importance were discussed.

- 3.8. After the workshop, the JLHWS team reviewed the inputs from the workshop and identified four key themes, each with a number of sub themes, as summarised in Appendix 1.
- 3.9. The themes identified have been communicated to system partners and opportunities provided for comment and feedback.

4. Options

- 4.1. The options for the Health and Wellbeing Board are to:
 - 4.1.1. Accept the key themes and sub-themes proposed in Appendix 1 so that the writing team can proceed with writing the JLHWS.
 - 4.1.2. Make recommendations for changes to the key themes or sub-themes proposed in Appendix 1 and allow the writing team to proceed with writing the JLHWS once those changes have been made.
 - 4.1.3. Reject the key themes and sub-themes proposed in Appendix 1 and provide guidance to the report author regarding how to re-frame the themes.

5. Advice and analysis

- 5.1. It is reasonable to ask why we need a Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS) in Medway if we have the Integrated Care Strategy for Kent and Medway. The Integrated Care Strategy sets out the strategy for the whole of Kent and Medway and is produced by the three statutory partners: the Integrated Care Board of Kent and Medway, Kent County Council and Medway Council. The JLHWS is the strategy of the Medway Health and Wellbeing Board and provides an opportunity to for Medway to highlight areas of local importance and provide nuance that may be different to that in the rest of Kent.
- 5.2. Compared to the 2018-23 strategy, the themes that have arisen from the engagement work make a greater and more explicit reference to the wider determinants of health.
- 5.3. The themes and related priorities (Appendix 1) are consistent with the People Strategy, the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Strategy, and several other local strategies, whilst reflecting a slight difference in emphasis based on the input received during the engagement exercises.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1. There are no direct financial implications as a result of the recommendations of this report.

7. Legal implications

7.1. Under the Health and Social Care Act, 2022:

7.1.1. 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.

7.1.2. 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.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Proposed themes of the JLHWS

Background documents

None