

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

23 NOVEMBER 2023

JOINT LOCAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

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Summary

This report provides a brief update for members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to inform them that the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS) is on-going and will be brought to the Health and Wellbeing Board at its next meeting.

1. Recommendations

1.1. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the development of the draft Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

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 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 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 guides 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 is presented at this same meeting.
- 3.4. The key themes for the JLHWS were presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in September 2023 and since then work has begun on writing the narrative.

4. Advice and analysis

- 4.1. The draft strategy is being finalised taking account of the recent outputs and findings within the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Strategy. The four key themes are:
 - Healthier and longer lives for everyone
 - Reduce poverty and inequality
 - Safe, connected and sustainable places
 - Connected communities and cohesive services
- 4.2. The JLHWS will be circulated to board members for final comment once completed with formal signoff to be agreed at the board meeting in February 2024.

5. Financial implications

- 5.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the JLHWS. There may, however, be potential benefits or costs arising from future commissioning or place-based service decisions that could impact on Medway. These will be explored in specific papers relating to the action plans that develop from the JLHWS. The financial impact of any such decisions will be taken through the appropriate governance route.

6. Legal implications

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

6.2. 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.

6.3. 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