

Health and Wellbeing Board

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Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Report from: James Williams, Director of Public Health

Author: David Whiting, Deputy Director of Public Health

Summary

This report presents the final draft of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS) to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). The JLHWS has been developed through extensive engagement with the people of Medway, key stakeholders from the health and care system and the voluntary sector and sets out the key issues identified through the engagement process. The JLHWS is the strategy of the HWB and therefore drives the work of the HWB over the next five years. The JLHWS makes note of the Integrated Care strategy for Kent and Medway and works synergistically with it while providing a focus on issues that are important for Medway.

1. Recommendation

- 1.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to provide their support for the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy and consider how they can help to deliver on the key themes through their roles on the Health and Wellbeing Board.

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) has recently updated its Integrated Care Strategy, which will be published formally in March 2024.

3.4. The key themes for the JLHWS were presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in September 2023 and since then work has been underway on writing the narrative.

4. Advice and analysis

4.1. The strategy has been finalised taking account of the recent outputs and findings within the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Strategy. The four key themes of the JLHWS are:

- Healthier and longer lives for everyone
- Reduce poverty and inequality
- Safe, connected and sustainable places
- Connected communities and cohesive services

4.2. Compared to previous Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategies, this strategy goes further in showing the connection between the building blocks of health, such as education, housing, employment and the environment, and demonstrates the importance of working collectively to improve health and wellbeing.

4.3. The strategy is intentionally succinct and high-level, reflecting the nature of the HWB as a system leadership forum. Achieving it will require members of the HWB to translate the strategy into action within their respective organisations.

4.4. A detailed logical framework (logframe) matrix is being developed to provide indicators that will be reported to the HWB to demonstrate how the strategy is improving health and wellbeing outcomes.

5. Risk management

5.1. Risk assessment:

Risk	Description	Action to avoid or mitigate risk	Risk rating
The JHLWS is marginalised	The Kent and Medway Integrated Care strategy dominates the health and care agenda, marginalising local Medway priorities	Extensive consultation with the public and system leaders to ensure the JHLWS is relevant and addresses local needs. Close working with system partners and close involvement in the development of the IC strategy	CIII

For risk rating, please refer to the following table (please **retain** table in final report):

Likelihood	Impact:
A Very likely B Likely C Unlikely D Rare	I Catastrophic II Major III Moderate IV Minor

6. Consultation

6.1. If appropriate set out details of the nature and extent of any consultation with stakeholders and the outcome of that consultation. If appropriate this section can include feedback from other committees.

7. Climate change implications

7.1. Climate change is one of the priority areas identified by the strategy and actions to improve health and wellbeing, such as active travel, use of public transport and shifting to a healthier, more plant-based diet, will also contribute to reducing the impact of human activity on the environment.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1. 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.

9. Legal implications

- 9.1. Under the Health and Social Care Act, 2022:
- 9.2. 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.
- 9.3. 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.

Lead officer contact

David Whiting, Deputy Director of Public Health, Medway Council. 01634 332636
david.whiting@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1 Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Background documents

None