

## **Cabinet**

**9 April 2024**

### **Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Teresa Murray, Deputy Leader of the Council

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 Cabinet. 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 Health and Wellbeing Board (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.

The JLHWS was considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 15 February 2024, the minutes of which are set out at section 6 of this report below.

#### **1. Recommendations**

- 1.1. The Cabinet is asked to note the comments of the Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out in section 6 of the report.
- 1.2. The Cabinet is asked to approve the final Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024-2028, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

#### **2. Suggested reasons for decision**

- 2.1. The strategy sets out the health and wellbeing issues for the community based on evidence from the Medway Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, what can be done to address them and what outcomes are intended to be achieved.

#### **3. Budget and policy framework**

- 3.1. 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.

- 3.2. 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.
- 3.3. 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 1 to the report.

## 4. Background

- 4.1. 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.
- 4.2. 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.
- 4.3. In addition, the Kent and Medway Integrated Care System (ICS) has recently updated its Integrated Care Strategy, which will be published formally in April 2024.
- 4.4. 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.

## 5. Advice and analysis

- 5.1. 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

- 5.2. 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.
- 5.3. 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.
- 5.4. 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.

## 6. Health and Wellbeing Board

- 6.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board considered the report on 15 February 2024 and the minutes of the discussion are as follows:
- 6.2. The Public Health Registrar introduced the Joint Local health and Wellbeing Strategy which underpins the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board. This strategy had a stronger emphasis on the connectivity of building blocks of health such as education, housing, employment, and environment.
- 6.3. The team was commended for the work undertaken to produce the strategy and the consideration given to the inclusion of intelligence gathered from the various consultations that took place.
- 6.4. In response to a comment that the data presented on mental health disorders dated back to 2017 and more up to date information should be contained in the Strategy the officer said that the data presented was based on a survey that took place every seven years and this was the latest available data. A recent survey had now taken place and the information would be updated later this year with the latest findings.
- 6.5. It was commented that the Strategy was integral to the Integrated Care Board Strategy and it important to recognise the links and connections with the Local and Medway Plan, and the importance of different mechanisms working together on shared priorities to produce the best outcomes for the people of Medway.
- 6.6. The Chief Strategy Officer ICB welcomed the aspirations of the Strategy and commented that one of the areas of focus for them was how the NHS aligned to local place based improvement plans. It had been agreed with the NHS to develop a shared delivery plan to support local place based plans whilst maintaining contribution to the wider system. A consultation on this would be brought to a future session of Health and Wellbeing Board.

## 6.7. Decision:

1. The Health and Wellbeing Board noted the report.
2. The Health and Wellbeing Board identified that collaboration on shared priorities was vital to the delivery of the key themes of the strategy and was a priority for all the partners on the Board.
3. The Integrated Care Board to work with the Director of Public Health and the Democratic Services Officer on a consultation workshop for the Health and Wellbeing Board on the shared delivery plan that was being developed.

## 7. Risk management

### 7.1. 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:

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

## 8. Climate change implications

- 8.1. 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.

## 9. Financial implications

- 9.1. 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.

## 10. Legal implications

- 10.1. Under the Health and Social Care Act, 2022:

- 10.2. 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.

- 10.3. 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 Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy

## Background papers

None