

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Health and Wellbeing Board
MEETING DATE:	24 January 2022
TITLE:	Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priorities – For Sign Off
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report:	

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The Bath and North East Somerset (B&NES) Joint Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory duty to develop a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the local population. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy Team began work to create a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy in June 2022. The Strategic Evidence Base for Bath and North East Somerset, published in June 2022, is the primary source of evidence being used to decide health and wellbeing priorities for the new strategy. The public consultation phase ran from September 29 – October 31, 2022. This gave people who live and work in B&NES the opportunity to help determine the strategy's key priorities. We have evaluated the findings from the public consultation and stakeholder engagement phases. Using evidence from the Strategic Evidence Base, the findings from the public consultation and stakeholder engagement sessions, the priorities for the new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2030 have been drafted, sense checked with the necessary partners and are now being brought to the Health and Wellbeing Board for sign off.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Board is asked to;

2.1 Sign off on the proposed priorities for the new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2030.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The health and wellbeing strategy team has continued to make progress in developing the new health and wellbeing strategy following the public consultation period which ran from 29th of September to 31st of October 2022.
- 3.2 To guide the process, the Health and Wellbeing Strategy Steering Group (drawn from Health and Wellbeing Board members and other stakeholders) continues to meet monthly to review strategy related documents and discuss the overall progress of the strategy development. The steering group uses these meetings to discuss challenges, potential risks and key achievements.
- 3.3 Following the public consultation and drafting of identified priorities, the health and wellbeing strategy team met with the steering group and discussed the alignment of the priorities with the evidence, and public consultation findings. A decided action from that meeting was the need to ensure that identified priorities are the right ones through further meetings and engagement with related partnerships and partners in the form of sense checking.
- 3.4 The sense check meetings served to ensure that Health and Wellbeing Board partners and others, were aware of the identified priorities and could help to tailor priorities to be in line with their departmental and organisational goals. In these meetings, we discussed current and future plans and considered what would be achievable during the life span of the strategy.
- 3.5 During these meetings, priorities were consistently updated following each meeting, taking into consideration the views of the various partners. They were then fed back to the steering group members for further comments and changes.
- 3.6 The Strategic Evidence Base (SEB), the primary source of evidence for the new strategy, is being used to guide the strategy development process. During the priority identification and sense checking processes, the SEB was referenced to ensure an evidence-based approach was consistently being utilised as we reframed the priorities based on the feedback.
- 3.7 The health and wellbeing strategy team began writing the new joint Health and wellbeing strategy in December 2022.
- 3.8 An implementation plan is being drafted to sit under with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This will further map out actions to be taken under the four priorities to improve health and reduce inequalities.
- 3.9 The priorities being proposed for the new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy are:

- 1. Ensure that children and young people are healthy and ready for learning and education**

- 1.1 Strengthen family resilience to ensure children and young people can experience the best start in life.

- 1.2 Improve timely access to appropriate family and wellbeing support.

1.3 Reduce the existing educational attainment gap for disadvantaged children and young people.

1.4 Ensure services for children and young people who need support for emotional health and wellbeing are needs-led and tailored to respond and provide appropriate care and support (from early help to statutory support services).

2. Improve skills, good work and employment

2.1 Support and mentor individuals to engage in work opportunities.

2.2 Work with local employers to encourage, incentivise and promote good quality work.

2.3 Support the development of and access to an inclusive labour market, focusing on engaging our disadvantaged and vulnerable populations to support them to participate in meaningful work opportunities.

2.4 Prioritise inclusiveness and social value as employers, purchasers and investors in the local economy.

3. Strengthen compassionate and healthy communities

3.1 Continue to develop the infrastructure that encourages and enables individuals, organisations and networks to work together, with the shared aim of supporting people in need and building strong local communities.

3.2 Encourage proactive engagement in healthy lifestyle practices at all ages for good quality of life.

3.3 Develop a strategic approach to social prescribing to enable people to remain healthy and manage physical and mental health conditions.

4. Create health promoting places

4.1 Utilise the Local Plan as an opportunity to shape, promote and deliver healthy and sustainable places and reduce inequalities.

4.2 Improve take up of low carbon affordable warmth support for private housing; and encourage B&NES social housing providers to provide low carbon affordable warmth for existing social housing to help prevent damp and mould, and cold-related illnesses.

4.3 Maximise opportunities in legislation to facilitate targeted private rented sector inspection programme to ensure the minimum statutory housing and energy efficiency standards are met.

4.4 Improve access to physical and mental health services via the development of Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs), community-based specialist services and our specialist centres.

3.8. Next Steps

- (1) The Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be drafted and sent to the steering group for review.
- (2) A near final version of the strategy will be taken to key groups for final review, including the Senior Management Team (SMT) in the council and the Integrated Care Alliance (ICA). The Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be brought to the Health and Wellbeing Board for final sign off in March 2023.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The statutory considerations are set out in section 1 of this report.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 The report contains 4 priorities and 15 objectives for the new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. No specific resource implications are identified in this report.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 Priorities for the new strategy have been decided with an aim of reducing inequalities in B&NES, particularly to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for low-income households, vulnerable groups, and people with specific accessibility needs. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) was been carried out for the engagement process and updated now that this process is complete.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 8.1 One of the cross-cutting themes of the strategy will be environmental sustainability, acknowledging that climate change is having a direct impact on the health and wellbeing of residents in B&NES due to rises in temperatures during summer months and extreme cold weather during the winter periods. Additionally, the identified priority - 'Creating health promoting places', aims to have a positive impact on the current climate position by encouraging the development of and access to green spaces in local neighbourhoods.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 None. The creation of a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is a statutory duty of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board.

10 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 The public consultation period ran from September 29th to October 31st, 2022.

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Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	