

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Health and Wellbeing Board
MEETING DATE:	24 January 2023
TITLE:	Aligning work in B&NES with the implementation of the B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) Inequalities Strategy 2021-2024
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Please list all the appendices here, clearly indicating any which are exempt and the reasons for exemption.</p> <p>B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) Inequalities Strategy 2021-2024</p>	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Partnership (BSW ICP) has developed an Inequalities Strategy 2021-2024, published in May of 2022. It was brought to the B&NES Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2022 to note for information, due to the already committed agendas in the summer.
- 1.2 This report is the first chance for the Health and Wellbeing Board in B&NES to consider the strategy and in particular how local ambitions for reducing inequalities in life experience in B&NES can align with this wider work across the system in BSW.
- 1.3 The strategy is in the process of a refresh, which will incorporate recently published NHS guidance on reducing inequality, along with an implementation plan for Phase 1 of the strategy (more detail is given in section 3.1 below). Feedback from the Health and Wellbeing Board can be included in this refresh.
- 1.4 Reporting against the implementation plan will start in February 2023 with progress updates given to the BSW Population Health Board. The B&NES

Health and Wellbeing Board are invited to receive these progress updates if they wish to or may prefer a less regular update over a broader time frame.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to;

- 2.1 Support the ambitions of the BSW Inequality Strategy
- 2.2 Provide any feedback for the refresh of the Strategy.
- 2.3 Consider the status of tackling inequalities as an objective or cross cutting principle in the forthcoming refresh of the B&NES Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- 2.4 Identify how best to align this BSW system wide strategy with B&NES partnerships and plans, including receiving updates on the Strategy's progress.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The strategy is attached. It sets out the three phases of the work:
 - (1) To make inequality everybody's business through engagement and awareness raising
 - (2) To tackle healthcare related inequalities
 - (3) To focus on prevention, social, economic and environmental factors, also known as 'wider determinants'.
- 3.2 Each of these phases has more detailed objectives, as set out in the strategy.
- 3.3 Recent publication by NHSE of guidance on inequality and the Core 20 Plus 5 approach for children and young people has recently been published. The BSW Inequality Strategy is being updated in light of this. The focus is largely on clinical areas for particularly patient groups within young people.
- 3.4 In B&NES, the Integrated Care Alliance (ICA) has set out its priorities including one to 'Improve population health and reduce health inequalities'. Progress on putting the infrastructure in place to deliver this work has included a commitment that by Spring of 2023 we will have:
 - Secured health inequality funding for new fixed term posts (a health inequalities coordinator, two posts within primary care and one at the RUH)
 - Established a Health Inequality Network (organised by the health inequalities coordinator)
 - Established Community Wellbeing Hub and spoke model at the RUH
- 3.5 B&NES has also led a workshop on identifying the key priorities for the wider determinants of health – which will support Phase 3, described above.

3.6 A recent Inequality Summit in B&NES also set out key local issues relating to the economy, education and health. Aligning next steps on that work with the work described above will be important to maintain focused and coordinated efforts rather than disparate programmes of work.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty places a responsibility on local organisations to eliminate discrimination, advance quality of opportunity and foster good relations for people with protected characteristics. Work to understand and tackle inequities in access to preventative or treatment services and inequalities in health and social outcomes supports achievement of this duty.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 The majority of resources involved in this work are fixed-term staff capacity, which will largely come from NHSE funding awarded to the BSW area.

5.2 In 2022/23 B&NES was able to access £600k from a £2.4m NHSE allocation to the ICS for health inequalities work. This was to support any or all of:

- Elective recovery from the pandemic (with a focus on inequalities)
- Wider determinants
- Population Health Management to support understanding inequalities
- Core20+5 with focus on prevention
- Community engagement

5.3 The aim in B&NES is to build a health inequalities network in B&NES by providing dedicated capacity, building system capability, supporting collection, analysis and utilisation of data, and coordinating activity across B&NES and with the BSW Integrated Care Board (ICB).

5.4 This will fund the following fixed term posts:

- Health Inequalities Coordinator and increased analytic capacity, employed by the Council
- Two project managers for population health management work employed in Primary Care Networks
- A project manager at the RUH focused on health inequalities

5.5 The funds will also support the Community Wellbeing Hub provision at the RUH.

5.6 Although the ICB has only been able to commit inequalities funding for 2022/23, the funding stream itself from NHSE to ICBs is being made recurrent in 2023/24 and conversations are ongoing with the ICB to discuss use of this funding and a

continued allocation to the three Places in the BSW Integrated Care System (ICS).

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 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 The strategy will take forward a variety of programmes and actions that aim to promote equality in access to services and preventative programmes and in turn health and social outcomes. Individual projects that sit beneath the strategy will be reviewed within the new BSW ICB and ICS standard Equality and Quality Impact Assessment (EQIA) process.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 Phase three of the Strategy (focusing on prevention, social, economic and environmental factors) considers climate change and the impact of the climate emergency on inequalities. This is indirectly addressed through the anchor institutions work, specifically on how these organisations will actively focus on their own environmental sustainability and ways to reduce their environmental impact within their community.

8.2 There is also overlap between health and environmental sustainability for example in increasing active travel to improve physical activity, mental health and improve air quality.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 The work has been created by a multi-agency group but has not undergone public consultation.

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Background papers	B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) Inequalities Strategy 2021-2024
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	