

# **Title of report: The Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Herefordshire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023 – 2033)**

**Meeting: Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Meeting date: 27 April 2023**

**Report by: Director of Public Health**

## **Classification**

Open

## **Decision type**

This is not an executive decision.

## **Wards affected**

(All Wards)

## **Purpose**

- To present the final draft of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2033 to the Board for approval.
- To propose a plan for next steps and taking forward the strategy for implementation.

## **Recommendation(s)**

1. **That the Health and Wellbeing Board endorse the Herefordshire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023 – 2033.**
2. **That the development of an action plan is delegated to the One Herefordshire Partnership and associated partnership groups to oversee, with a view to bringing the action plan back for agreement.**
3. **The Board to note the alignment with the Integrated Care System (ICS) Strategy in terms of the broad ambitions and partnership approach to delivery.**

## **Alternative options**

1. The Board could choose not endorse the strategy. This is not recommended, it is a statutory duty of health and wellbeing boards (HWB) to produce a Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWBS).

## **Key considerations**

2. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 requires every local authority to produce a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWBS). The HWBS sets out how the Council and its local partners plan to address the health and wellbeing needs of its population and as such, is a key document that is jointly owned and one that promotes collective action to meet those needs.
3. Herefordshire Council and partners have produced the final draft of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2033 and have considered comments and feedback presented to the Board on 13 March 2023.
4. The final draft strategy has been developed to take account of local evidence of need, the voice of our communities and partners and consideration of existing service provision and activity across the voluntary and community sector.
5. The new strategy proposes two core priorities (the 'Best start in life for children' and 'Good mental wellbeing throughout life') with a further six supporting priorities that aim to recognise and acknowledge the multiple influences on population health and more broadly the wider determinants of health.
6. The development of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing strategy has coincided with the development of a new Integrated Care Strategy (ICS) following statutory guidance issued by the Department of Health and Social Care in June 2021. This has presented a timely opportunity to align the two strategies recognising the synergies and the important role of the Health and Wellbeing Board and ICS as system leaders for improving health and wellbeing of the local population.
7. Together with the ICS we have set out a common vision for the strategy which is 'Good health and wellbeing for everyone'.
8. Many of the priority areas identified in the ICS strategy can be mapped across to the two core priorities and six supporting priorities of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The Board will need to give careful consideration on how best to balance the delivery of the ICS priorities against the Board's desire to focus on the two core priority areas for the new Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

## **Community impact**

9. The purpose of the strategy is to help improve the health and wellbeing of Herefordshire residents and reduce inequalities. One of the key principles upon which the strategy has been developed is that of community empowerment, which in practice means that we must continue to involve our communities in any action that is taken, so that the community own it and the impact on that community is maximised.

## **Environmental impact**

10. There are no general implications for the environment arising from this report; however the strategy does feature the reduction in our carbon footprint as one of its priorities, therefore further along in the delivery of the strategy it is expected that there could be some environmental impact. There will also be co-benefits to the environment through ambitions to reduce levels of obesity, eat more healthily and increase levels of physical activity through active travel.

## **Equality duty**

11. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - c) facilitate good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
12. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.
  13. The principles of equality and the reversal of health inequalities are key strands of the strategy.
  14. To be effective in delivering good population outcomes and helping those most in need, the strategy calls for intervention by working together at system, place, and community levels to tackle issues reflecting whole system priorities as well as specific concerns at the right scale.
  15. An equalities impact assessment has been undertaken alongside the development of the strategy.

### **Resource implications**

16. There are no resource implications associated with this report. However, the resource implications of any recommendations made by the HWB will need to be considered by the responsible party in response to those recommendations or subsequent decisions.

### **Legal implications**

17. Health and wellbeing boards are responsible for encouraging integrated working between health and social care commissioners, including partnership arrangements such as pooled budgets, lead commissioning and integrated provision.
18. Their purpose is to establish collaborative decision making, planning and commissioning across councils and the NHS, informed by the views of patients, people who use services and other partners.
19. The functions of the Health and Wellbeing Board are set out in paragraph 3.5.24 of the constitution.
20. As per the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the production of a Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy is a statutory requirement and therefore its endorsement and support is required.

### **Risk management**

21. There are no risk implications identified emerging from the recommendations in this report.

### **Consultees**

22. The public engagement undertaken as part of developing this strategy is described in the associated Public Engagement Report. Consultation activities have also taken place with a range of statutory and voluntary partners.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A Herefordshire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023-33

### **Background papers**

[Equality Impact Assessment \(EIA\) Form: Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)

## **Supporting information**

### **Developing the Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

The development of the strategy has been project managed by a designated council officer under the direction of the Director of Public Health. A dedicated task and finish group has been a forum that has helped shape the strategy and discuss the issues involved. This group is made up of representatives from key partners i.e. Herefordshire Council, Healthwatch, Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB and Wye Valley Trust.

Our journey to develop the strategy has involved a sequence of steps, starting with having a vision for the future, setting some ambitions for improving health and wellbeing, then setting out the principles that we felt should underpin its development. The practical steps taken have involved the HWB engaging with our wider stakeholders, including our communities and collating all the available data about the factors that have the greatest impact on the health and wellbeing of our residents.

Once we had collected all the information available to us we then formulated an initial list of potential priorities that would be the focus of the strategy. These priorities were determined by taking account of need, impact, effectiveness, inequalities and how the Health and Wellbeing Board could add value to existing work to achieve better outcomes through the strategy.

### **Involving our residents, communities and partners**

A central part in developing our strategy was the involvement of our communities and partners. In winter 2022 we undertook a public consultation on proposed priorities for the county. This involved three approaches, including an online survey, engagement activities with partners and face to face to sessions with 14 seldom heard groups. We have used the information and feedback from this engagement activity to shape and develop the strategy. A detailed report on the consultation will be available online.

### **Deciding the priorities**

A HWB workshop was held in January 2023 to discuss the priorities and what these would mean for the strategy and its delivery. Following this and having taken into account the views and comments from residents and partners and what we know about the issues from Herefordshire data, it was agreed that the central focus of the strategy at the beginning of this ten year period should be on 'Best start in life for children' and 'Good mental wellbeing throughout life'.

It was also recognised that the other priorities consulted on were also critically important in how they affect our broader health and wellbeing and how they also support and contribute towards giving children the best start, and promoting good mental wellbeing. The strategy therefore features six 'supporting priorities' which are:

- Support people to live and age well
- Improve access to local services
- Good work for everyone
- Support those with complex vulnerabilities
- Reduce our carbon footprint
- Improve housing and reduce homelessness

These supporting priorities are the responsibility of a number of organisations and partnerships and some are already included in existing strategies and commissioning and action plans. The HWB will keep a ‘watching brief’ on these and as part of plans to review the progress of the strategy during the ten year term, there will be opportunity, if deemed appropriate, to switch our focus more to the other priorities for a period of time. In this regard we recognise that the strategy needs to be a ‘living’ document that is flexible in its response to changing times and changing circumstances, rather than having a fixed focus in one area.

## Delivering the strategy and governance

If we are to achieve our ambition to improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities in Herefordshire, we need to share our collective resource and act as one voice. Delivering the changes will require a ‘whole system’ approach that brings partners, communities and individuals together toward a common purpose.

The Health and Wellbeing Board will maintain strategic oversight of the strategy, with One Herefordshire Partnership monitoring progress against the outcomes identified. There will be identified partnership/s responsible for the two priority areas (see table 1). These subgroups will be tasked with translating the high level outcomes across the two priority areas (‘Best start in life for children’ and ‘Good mental wellbeing throughout life’) into meaningful delivery plans and further understanding the outcomes we want to achieve together.

Priority	Partnership/group accountable
Best start in life for children	Children and Young People Partnership
Good mental wellbeing throughout life	Emotional and Wellbeing Partnership Board (children) Adult Mental Health Partnership Board (adults) ICS Mental Health Collaborative

Table 1. Partnership groups responsible for developing delivery plans against core priorities

To guide the development of delivery plans and actions, a high level framework has been included in the strategy to ensure consideration of the evidence, community voice, our county’s rurality and health inequalities.

## Next steps

A plan to launch and promote the strategy is in progress and following its publication. It will also present an opportunity to celebrate some of our achievements over the last 12-months and to begin the process of developing the actions and delivery plans for each of the two priorities; these will be discussed and agreed, including a dashboard that will be subject to monitoring and review.

## Outcomes framework

A provisional outcomes framework has been developed and mapped across the two central priority areas and the other priorities that support them, but there is ongoing work with partners to review and refine them.