

Title of report: Launch of Herefordshire's Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Meeting: Health and Wellbeing Board

Meeting date: Monday 25 September 2023

Report by: Director of Public Health

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose:

- This report presents a brief review of the launch of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy event which took place on 12 July 2023

Recommendation(s)

- The Health and Wellbeing Board is invited to reflect on the conference and any lessons that can be learned to inform future events

Alternative options

- There are no alternative options - it is a function of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) to produce and deliver a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWBS) and engage partners and communities.

Key considerations

- Following ratification of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 27 April 2023, a launch event was held on 12 July 2023 to bring partners together to share the new strategy and to begin to identify actions for its delivery.
- The venue for the event was Hereford race course. This was chosen as it had the necessary audio-visual equipment for broadcasting the event, as well as being an accessible venue

- A stalls marketplace included representation from local voluntary and community sector organisations and service providers that offer advice and support to local residents. This included British Legion, Talk Community, Healthwatch, West Mercia Women's Aid, Age UK and Hereford Yoga
- Over 100 delegates attended the event which included representatives from the statutory sector and voluntary and private sector.
- The event was primarily promoted to partners and stakeholders rather than members of the public. There was positive coverage of the event within [local media channels](#)
- The event was launched by Councillor Jonathan Lester (Leader of the Council) in the absence of Cllr Carole Gandy with subsequent speakers involving Matt Pearce (Director of Public Health), Jane Ives (Managing Director of Wye Valley Trust and vice chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board) and Christine Price (Chief Officer for Healthwatch). Participants also took part in a creative session reflecting on what health and wellbeing means to them (see appendix 1)
- A video was shared with participants to showcase some of the past achievements in supporting people to be healthy (see appendix 2).
- The latter part of the event involved partners working together to identify key actions and outcomes for the two priority areas of the new strategy e.g. Best Start in Life and Good Mental Wellbeing
- A number of themes were identified from delegates for the best start in life which included a desire to build on existing good practice and build on those services that are delivering outcomes e.g. talk community hubs and children services. There was also commonality amongst participants to prevent and tackle adverse childhood experiences and utilise community development approaches to improve the outcomes in the early years. There was also a desire to provide better support for families with SEND Children,
- A number of themes were also identified from delegates around mental wellbeing including the provision of training, information/self-help, community support and collaboration and partnership working. Preventing suicide was also noted as an important area recognising the impact this had on individuals, families and communities. The importance of focusing on good mental wellbeing and prevention was also highlighted by delegates as something they wanted to do more on.
- Following the event, work is now underway to use the feedback and ideas from participants to inform the development of the delivery plans which will be finalised toward the end of the year.
- An easy read version of the new health and wellbeing strategy has now been completed and has been uploaded to Herefordshire Council's website.

Community Impact

The purpose of the strategy is to help improve the wellbeing of Herefordshire residents and for it to have a real impact on our communities. 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 and partners in any action that is taken, so that the community own it and the impact on that community is maximised.

Environmental Impact

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

- 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.

- 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.
- The principles of equality and the reversal of health inequalities are key strands of the strategy
- 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.

Resource implications

- 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

- 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.
- 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.
- The functions of the Health and Wellbeing Board are set out in paragraph 3.5.24 of the constitution.
- The production of a Joint Local Health and Wellbeing strategy is a statutory requirement and therefore its endorsement and support is required.

Risk management

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

Consultees

Matt Pearce (Director of Public Health), Mary Knowler (Public Health Programme Manager)

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Montage of participants creations on what good health and wellbeing means to them

Appendix 2 – [Link to video celebrating past achievements](#)