

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD****7 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

As requested by Members at the Health and Wellbeing Board in July 2023, this report sets the Health & Wellbeing Strategy within the wider system context of related plans and strategies that are connected to the wellbeing of residents. The report also provides an overview of the implementation plan for the 'game changers' within each of the four priority areas and clarifies the routes by which board members will be kept informed of progress and involved in influencing the strategic direction.

The priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy are aligned to the ambitions of the Wirral Plan.

This matter affects all wards within the borough. It is not a key decision.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

1. Confirm that this report represents an appropriate overview of the broader system context for the Health & Wellbeing Strategy.
2. Acknowledge the proposed implementation plans for the priority areas.
3. Agree the proposals for future reporting, engagement, and involvement of the Board.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 At Health and Wellbeing Board in July 2023, Members requested clarity regarding the place of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy within the array of plans and strategies relating to Health & Wellbeing across the Wirral system. Members also requested an implementation plan across the four priority areas of the strategy, along with an assessment of the impact of the strategy to date. This paper is an attempt to provide that context, with the caution that the work taking place across the local system is complex and varied, which means that any representation of the overall picture will be subject to amendments and additions as we move forward.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 National guidance sets out the requirement for Health and Wellbeing Boards to produce a joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. No other options have been considered.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is dynamic and evolving and as such, it should be acknowledged that there are significant elements of implementation that do not yet have detailed action plans and performance frameworks. As a system partnership, we have agreed to take a different approach to tackling the root causes of poor health and wellbeing, in an attempt to make a meaningful impact with a smaller group of core issues. The approach to these core issues will flex and respond to changes in local circumstances as appropriate.
- 3.2 At the Local Government Association (LGA) board development session on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the leadership model around Wirral's Health & Wellbeing Strategy was highlighted by LGA colleagues as being an example of good practice.

### **3.3 Setting the context**

It has been acknowledged that the Health & Wellbeing Strategy cannot and should not encompass every single aspect of activity or workstreams that relate to Health and Social Care. This strategy is about focussing on areas of joint system effort to achieve impact within workstreams that have the largest potential to reduce inequalities and/or population health outcomes. It is therefore crucial that we achieve the right balance between acknowledging that a wide range of related activity takes place beyond the scope of the Health & Wellbeing Board and ensuring that the right connections are made between the complex picture of activity across the Wirral system. This relationship is described in Attachment A, where the involvement and engagement of the Board and the level of reporting level to the Board becomes greater as the circles get smaller.

- 3.4 Attachment B sets the Health and Wellbeing Strategy within the context of the 'related system activity' that is currently taking place across Wirral. It is important to note that whilst most existing strategies and plans align most obviously to one particular theme, there are many crossovers and multiple areas of work that are

linked or require linking as the strategy implementation progresses. The additional outcomes that we can maximise through the linkages across priority areas is currently being explored through the agreed overarching partnership focus of Employment (which is the subject of the first focused priority area session for the Board).

3.5 Attachment C highlights the wide range of intelligence and insight that has not only informed the choice of priority areas but will serve as routes and sources of evidence of impact as the strategy continues to be implemented.

### **3.6 Related System Activity**

Attachments D to H provide a summary of the key programmes that are currently operating within Wirral that are already progressing and impacting on the priority areas of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. These are accompanied with an acknowledgement of the structures/committees that the various workstreams currently report through, along with a reminder of linked strategies. Whilst a great deal more detail exists for each of the workstreams of related work, an attempt has been made for the purpose of this paper, to highlight some key examples of impact for local residents. Board members can be provided with links to the various programmes if greater detail is required.

### **3.7 Implementation plans for the ‘game changers’**

Attachments I to L represent an overview of the proposed implementation plans against each of the ‘game-changers’ within the four priority areas. A series of short-to-medium-term actions have been identified by the Joint Leads (working with colleagues, residents and local communities and reinforced by evidence and local intelligence/insight wherever possible). As stated in 3.1 of this report, it should be acknowledged that this strategy is dynamic and evolving and as such, some of the proposed actions require further work across the system in order to agree named leads, timelines for delivery etc. It is expected that any actions that have been identified as ‘short-to-medium-term’ will be achievable within the lifespan of the current Health and Wellbeing Strategy (i.e. up until 2027), but that actions identified as ‘longer-term’ are likely to run through to a strategy refresh/rewrite for 2027 and beyond.

3.8 Accompanying the proposed actions is a short list of indicators (both quantitative and qualitative) that will allow the board to judge whether the set of actions are having any real impact on the health of our residents and on the persistent inequalities within Wirral. In terms of impact of the strategy as a whole on longer-term indicators such as the gap in Life Expectancy and various mortality measures, it is proposed that these form part of the annual report of progress to the Health and Wellbeing Board and are set within the larger framework of the ‘All Together Fairer’ Beacon Indicators. Board members should note that a stocktake is currently underway to identify activity across Cheshire and Merseyside that is related to the themes and system recommendations in the ‘All Together Fairer’ (Marmot) report. We believe that our Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the associated Implementation Plan place Wirral in a strong position.

### **3.9 Next steps: update reports to Health and Wellbeing Board**

In order to ensure that Board members can not only be kept updated on progress across the entire strategy, but can also influence and shape the strategic direction within the priority areas, the following approach is proposed.

- 3.10 In line with the recommendations arising from the recent LGA development session, a focused, 'deeper dive' session on one of the priority areas will be held at each quarterly meeting of the Board. It is proposed that these operate on a rolling programme of each of the priority areas 1-4 in turn (so the focus for the March 2024 Strategy Update Report would be Priority Area 2: Strengthen health and care action to address differences in health outcomes).
- 3.11 An annual report of progress across all areas of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be brought to the Board. This will include an assessment of progress across the indicators linked to the 'game-changer' action plans, an overview of the key longer-term population health indicators (set within the larger Beacon Indicator set linked to the 'All Together Fairer' plan) and an update to the series of attachments presented in this paper.
- 3.12 In the event of unpredicted blockages to progress or proposed changes in direction to the implementation plan, it is recommended that, where necessary, such exceptions are put to the Board at each meeting. This will enable Senior Responsible Officers, Joint Leads and the Health and Wellbeing Implementation Group to access the support and steer of the Board in a timely manner.
- 3.13 Where required, and on the steer of the Chair of the Board, specific training/spotlight sessions will be arranged for Board members.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Implementation of the strategy will include aligning existing resources more appropriately and using the strategy to lever in and focus additional resources across the system.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.
- 5.2 Development of a Health and Wellbeing Strategy is a legal duty under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS**

- 6.1 There is a need for ongoing commitment from council officers along with a wide range of partners to deliver the priorities within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The roles of joint leads for each priority area will require significant focus and capacity.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 Any risks related to the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be identified via the Health and Wellbeing Implementation Group and reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board where necessary.

## **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 A programme of engagement with local people in order to ensure that this strategy remains relevant and impactful is ongoing. The strategy is being delivered in partnership with representatives across the Wirral system, including residents.

## **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy has been underpinned by equality and diversity impact assessments and strives to address the inequalities that have been highlighted. Ongoing impact assessment of the strategy implementation will be undertaken to ensure that equality and diversity impacts are considered and addressed. An Equality Impact Assessment for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy can be located at <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

## **10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The link between both internal and external environments and health is well-evidenced. The delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy will support and supplement the 'Cool Wirral 2' partnership strategy to tackle climate impacts. Work with partners to tackle indoor air pollution will also be important.

## **11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy will support the delivery of the concepts of community wealth building e.g. community resilience increasing local employment opportunities.

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## **APPENDICES**

Attachment A: Components of strategy implementation  
Attachment B: Wirral system activity linked to HWBS priority areas.  
Attachment C: Intelligence sources linked to the Health & Wellbeing Strategy  
Attachments D – H: Key programmes and impact of related activity  
Attachments I – L: Implementation plans for priority area 'game-changers'.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

- <https://www.wirralintelligenceservice.org/strategies-and-plans/wirral-health-wellbeing-strategy-2022-27>

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

This report is being considered by the Health and Wellbeing Committee in accordance with Section B of its Terms of Reference:

(b) To seek to meet those needs through leading on the ongoing development of a Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
Health and Wellbeing Board	20 July 2023 23 March 2023 29 September 2022 15 June 2022 23 March 2022 9 February 2022 3 November 2021