

Meeting: **Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-committee**

Date: **25 January 2023**

Title: **Progress report: Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy – ‘Equally Well’**

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Karen Clark

Lead Directors: Jackie Laughton, Assistant Chief Executive
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Partnership: Health & Wellbeing Board

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

To update the Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-committee on progress of the North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Board’s Strategy ‘Equally Well’, which aims to reduce health inequalities across the borough.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Sub-Committee note the contents of this report and endorse the approach taken to tackle health inequalities in North Tyneside and progress to date.

3. Details

North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Board is a sub-committee of North Tyneside Council and is made up of a range of organisations and partners across health and social care in the borough and is chaired by the lead Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy '**Equally Well**' aims to tackle health inequalities and is North Tyneside's high level strategic plan for improving the health and wellbeing of the population. The strategy was published in November 2021.

The overall vision for Equally Well: A Healthier, Fairer Future for North Tyneside (2021-2024) is to '**Reduce inequalities in North Tyneside by breaking the link between people's circumstances and their opportunities for a healthy, thriving and fulfilled life**'.

Health inequalities are the unfair and avoidable differences in health across the population and between different groups within society.

These unfair differences are:

- Not random, or by chance, but largely socially determined and
- Not inevitable

The Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to focus on the areas that have the biggest impact on people's health and wellbeing and on tackling inequalities:

- The wider determinants of health
- Our health behaviours and lifestyles
- An integrated health and care system
- The places and communities we live in, and with

The approach within this strategy and implementation plan is based on the up-to-date evidence of how best to effectively reduce inequalities and is informed by the considerable work led by Sir Michael Marmot and the Institute of Health Equity.

As outlined in the strategy, in the past, there has been a tendency to focus primarily on single drivers of health rather than considering the complex interdependencies of the wider socio-economic determinants.

Partners have committed to taking a population health approach which means fundamentally changing the way they work and coming together as a whole system to tackle the significant challenges.

Across the system the approach will consider critical stages, transitions, and settings where effective place-based action is required, using a combination of 'civic level', 'service based' and community interventions

Senior Leaders across a range of partner organisations in North Tyneside have worked together to develop an implementation plan (Appendix 1) for the first year of the strategy, including action for each of the strategy priority areas:

1. Give every child the best start in life
2. Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
3. Create fair employment and good work for all
4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all

5. The places and communities we live in and with
6. Our lifestyles and health behaviours
7. An integrated health and care system

North Tyneside Healthwatch worked on behalf of North Tyneside’s Health and Wellbeing Board to gather views from residents and organisations about the implementation plan during July and August 2022. Organisations who wanted to take part in the consultation exercise were able to apply to use small grants of up to £1,000 to support activity to gather feedback and views on the draft implementation plan through consultation events or engagement sessions.

30 organisations/groups participated in the consultation, directly involving over 100 staff, volunteers, and trustees. Over 900 people were consulted from a broad range of age groups and from all areas of the Borough.

The overall findings of the consultation were broadly positive, with consultees agreeing with the approach of the strategy, particularly the need to look at the wider determinants of health to reduce health inequalities. Consultation and engagement will continue throughout the life of the strategy.

3.1. Progress to date

The Health and Wellbeing Board meets 6 times a year and has agreed a timetable to monitor progress of the delivery of the strategy ambitions through an implementation plan.

The multi-agency implementation plan outlines actions and expected outcomes in Year 1, in addition to presenting the expected longer-term outcomes over the strategy’s four-year duration.

The Health and Wellbeing Board receives detailed progress reports and presentations from senior leaders at each meeting and the timetable for 2022/23 as outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Forward Plan for Health and Wellbeing Board

Health and Wellbeing Board	Item 1 Progress Update	Item 2 Progress Update
10 November 2022	Best Start in Life	Ensuring a healthy standard of living for all
26 January 2023	Maximising Capabilities of Children, Young People and Adults	The places and communities we live in and with
23 March 2023	Fair Employment and good work for all	Our Lifestyles and Health Behaviours
June 2023	An integrated health and care system	Annual Progress Report and refreshing Implementation plan in Year 2

To date the board has received reports and presentations on the first two key themes outlining progress against the actions in the implementation plan :

- **Give every child the best start in life**

Even before a child's life starts, the choices parents make, the actions they take and the circumstances in which they live will affect outcomes for their child both at birth and later in life. The first two years of a child's life is inextricably linked with the lives and health of their parents and carers, communities, and the social determinants.

To ensure the best start in life and good physical and mental health of our future generations in North Tyneside we need to support all women before, during pregnancy and at birth; and support families during the first two years (1,001 days) of a child's life. Every child in North Tyneside will be given the best start in life supported by families, communities, and high-quality integrated services.

- **Ensure a healthy standard of living for all**

Poverty is the greatest preventable threat to health, and tackling it is fundamental to addressing health inequalities and boosting life chances.

We want an inclusive economy that works for and includes everyone, where the benefits of the economy are spread, so that all communities in North Tyneside flourish and grow equally.

Reports on both items are attached in appendix 2 and 3.

At the board meeting on 26 January 2023 reports and presentations will be received on:

- **Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives**

Educational achievement plays a significant role in reducing health inequalities by shaping life opportunities. Making North Tyneside an even greater place for children and young people to thrive, where all can access a high-class education with a culture of inclusion and achievement is a key priority.

Our employment and skills service and many of our VCSE organisations aim to raise aspiration and release potential of all young people and adults. There are opportunities for life-long learning across the system

- **The Communities we live in and with**

The place and environment we live in plays a vital role in both improving and protecting the health and wellbeing of our communities.

Evidence shows that those living in the more socio-economically deprived areas are likely to have a lack of green space, poor air quality and poorer housing compared to the least socio-economically deprived areas.

Therefore, to reduce health inequalities we need to create environments for all our communities to flourish by improving infrastructure, services, connectivity and sustainability.

3.2. Shared priorities and future commissioning of health and social care

North Tyneside Council along with partners across the VCSE and NHS have a set of shared priorities which inform planning and investment. The priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board partner organisations reflect the refreshed Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

On 1 July 2022, integrated care systems (ICSs) became legally established through the Health and Care Act 2022, and CCGs were closed down. North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) was established. Moving forward there is a clear priority to develop stronger joint commissioning across health and social care to improve health and wellbeing and tackle health inequalities with the newly formed ICB and the place-based arrangements, which will strengthen North Tyneside's approach to addressing inequalities in health.

A demonstration of the shared priorities is the provision of funding that has been made available through Integrated Care Boards to target groups with the greatest health inequalities. The North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board Executive has agreed £13,604,000 of recurrent revenue as a specific allocation to support targeted reductions in health inequalities across the area.

£3million of this funding has been allocated to supporting people with multiple and complex health and healthcare needs at place and North Tyneside will receive £190,437 for the period of 2022/23 to 2024/25. This funding will support people with multiple and complex health needs associated with drug, alcohol, and mental ill health to access healthcare locally. It will build on the additional funding that local authorities have received to support people with drug and alcohol issues with housing, employment, treatment, and enforcement as part of the national Drugs Strategy. A task and finish group has been established led by the ICB Place Based Director and the Local Authority Director of Public Health to develop a plan for supporting people with multiple and complex health and healthcare needs in North Tyneside.

3.3. Risks and Challenges

There is a risk that joint action by the Health and Wellbeing Board partners may not improve the inequalities in health seen in North Tyneside.

The health inequalities that existed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic have subsequently been amplified and more recently it is also widely acknowledged that the current rise in the cost of living is likely to have a disproportionate impact on some of our communities in North Tyneside.

A corporate risk has been identified for this scenario setting out the appropriate controls that are in place. A report was presented to the Authority's Audit Committee in November 2022 to provide assurance of the controls that are in place and actions that have been taken to mitigate this risk.

4. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report.

[Equally Well : A Healthier, Fairer Future for North Tyneside \(2021-2024\)](#)

Appendix 1: Implementation plan

Appendix 2: Health and Wellbeing Board progress report : Best Start in Life

Appendix 3: Health and Wellbeing Board progress report : A Healthy Standard of Living for All.