

Improving Lives in Somerset Strategy

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1. Summary

- 1.1. It is a statutory duty of every Health and Wellbeing Board to have in place a Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the local population. The current Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy will expire at the end of 2018 and therefore the process is underway to refresh and update the strategy. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy will define the contribution of the Health and Wellbeing Board to delivery of the multi-agency vision for Somerset which is all about 'Improving Lives'. The strategy will take a broad view and consider all of the many factors which impact on health and wellbeing, including growth, education, housing and lifestyle. It will be referred to as the 'Improving Lives' strategy and will take a longer-term view (10 years) in order for its impact to be measurable.

The Improving Lives Strategy for Somerset presents a ten-year vision for how we want all organisations to work together as a partnership to improve the lives of our population. The draft strategy for 2019-2028 presents four priority areas for action. These priorities have been developed in consultation with key stakeholders and are backed by a strong evidence base considering the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The strategy underwent a full 9 week public consultation between June and August. The purpose of the consultation was to seek views and gather opinions from individuals, groups and organisations on the draft Improving Lives Strategy. A final draft version of the strategy has been written taking into consideration the results of the public consultation.

- 1.2. The Improving Lives Strategy is an overarching strategy for the Health and Wellbeing Board and described how the board will deliver against the multi-agency vision for the county. The County Plan is aligned to the strategic priorities outlined in the Improving Lives Strategy.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1. Following consultation and engagement with Health and Wellbeing Members, and wider stakeholders and considering the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, four strategic priorities have emerged for the strategy:
1. A county infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services
 2. Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment
 3. Fairer life chances and opportunity for all
 4. Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer

- 2.2. We have identified key partnership boards for delivery of the four strategic priorities. These are: Somerset Growth Board; Safer Somerset Partnership; Children's Trust Board; Fit for my future (Health and Care Strategy). The Somerset Improving Lives Strategy does not replace existing strategies, commissioning plans and programmes, but influences them. As plans are refreshed and new plans are developed, the Health and Wellbeing Board will ensure they are aligned to priorities set out within this strategy and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- 2.3. **The Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider and comment on the draft Improving Lives Strategy and four strategic priorities.**

3. Background

- 3.1. The current Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Somerset runs until the end of 2018 and requires updating and refreshing.
- 3.2. The Improving Lives strategy will take a longer-term view and will set the strategic priorities for the next 10 years of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The strategy is aligned with the multi-agency County vision for Somerset which places an emphasis on improving lives:
- A thriving and productive Somerset that is ambitious, confident and focussed on improving people's lives
 - A County of resilient, well-connected and safe and strong communities working to reduce inequalities
 - A County infrastructure that supports affordable housing, economic prosperity and sustainable public services
 - A County and environment where all partners, private and voluntary sector, focus on improving the health and wellbeing of all our communities
- 3.3. The four strategic priorities have been developed taking into consideration findings from consultation with key stakeholders and are backed by a strong evidence base considering the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- **Priority 1:** A county infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services
 - **Priority 2:** Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment
 - **Priority 3:** Fairer life chances and opportunity for all
 - **Priority 4:** Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer
- 3.4. The Improving Lives Strategy identifies key partnership Boards for delivery and sets out how the Improving Lives (Health and Wellbeing) Board will work with partners over the next ten years to achieve progress against the strategic priorities.

- 3.5. The strategy highlights the need for a radical upgrade in prevention, moving from a demand-driven system to one that prioritises prevention and early intervention,

4. Consultations undertaken

- 4.1. An engagement event was held with members of the Health and Wellbeing Board, and other identified stakeholders in December 2017. The event was attended by 45 people representing over 20 different organisations. Participants were presented with a summary of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and asked to participate in a priority setting exercise.
- 4.2. Further engagement has been conducted with members of the District Councils, the CCG Service User Engagement Group (SEAG), the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) strategic forum, and other County Council Services.
- 4.3. The JSNA Technical Working Group (TWG) has provided a wider stakeholder steering group and produced evidence to inform the four strategic priorities being consulted on.
- 4.4. Between June and August 2018 a 9 week public consultation was held. The consultation was supported by a dedicated consultation webpage which hosted all consultation documents, the online survey and an easy read version of the strategy to download. There were 203 responses received from a range of individuals, groups and organisations including Parish, Town and District Councils. In the consultation, there was overwhelming support for the proposed vision and strategic priorities.

5. Implications

- 5.1. The Department of Health (DH) guidance suggests that commissioning plans of CCGs, NHS England and local authorities will be expected to be informed by relevant JSNAs and the health and wellbeing strategy. Where plans are not in line, the organisations could potentially be asked to explain why. The policy intention as cited by the DH is that *“local services which impact upon health and wellbeing will be based on evidence of local health and wellbeing needs and assets, including the views of the community; meaning that services and the way in which they are provided meet local needs.”*

6. Background papers

- 6.1. Appendix A - Improving Lives Strategy Consultation Output Report, September 2018
- 6.2. Appendix B - Improving Lives Strategy Draft
- 6.3. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2018 - <http://www.somersetintelligence.org.uk/jsna/>