



---

**To: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee**

**Date: 17 November 2021**

**From: Liz Gaulton, Director of Public Health and Well-being**

**Subject: Coventry Health and Well-being Strategy Refresh**

---

## **1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to inform the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee about the Coventry Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh and provide an opportunity for Committee members to make any recommendations or comments as part of the engagement process.

## **2 Recommendations**

The Scrutiny Coordination Committee is asked to:

1. Note the process for the development of the refreshed Coventry Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
2. Make any comments and recommendations to the Health and Well-being Board to inform the Strategy refresh.

## **3 Information/Background**

- 3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory duty to develop a Health and Well-being Strategy under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The Health and Well-being Strategy should translate findings from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) into priorities to help determine actions by local authorities, NHS and other partners to address the wider determinants that impact on health and wellbeing.
- 3.2 The aim of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to develop a set of shared, evidence-based priorities for commissioning local services which will improve the public's health and reduce inequalities. The outcomes of this work will help to determine what actions the Council, the NHS and other partners need to take to meet health and social care needs, and to address the wider determinants that impact on health and wellbeing.
- 3.3 The current Health and Wellbeing Strategy covers the period 2019-23, and was developed following extensive consultation and engagement with key stakeholders and members of the public. As part of the development of the Strategy, the Health & Well-being Board agreed to review and refresh the short-term priorities every 18 months to ensure that these still reflect the key issues and challenges facing Coventry residents.

Our current short-term priorities are:

- Loneliness and social isolation
- Young people's mental health and well-being

- Working differently with our communities

3.4 Since 2019, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our city and residents and the proposed changes within the health and social care system have further strengthened the need to refresh the Strategy to ensure the priorities contained within it remain relevant

#### 4 Progress to date on existing Strategy priorities and lessons learnt

4.1 It is important to capture progress and learning from the work completed to date on the existing strategy priorities to inform the refresh. Therefore, a stocktake of key outcomes and learning from the current Strategy has been undertaken. This is included as Appendix 1 to this report, and is summarised below.

- **Loneliness and social isolation**

A multiagency working group was set up to take this priority area forward, and a workshop was held in December 2019, led by Grapevine with partners to create a shared vision for tackling social isolation. Over the last 18 months, partners have set up a number of initiatives to tackle social isolation and loneliness. This includes the 'Connecting for Good' programme, working with isolated / vulnerable residents to encourage them to take part in preventative and early help activities and using digital technologies to enable people to develop community initiatives.

- **Young people's mental health and well-being**

Health and care partners have worked together over the last 18 months to make significant changes in order to adapt the emotional well-being and mental health offer to ensure children and young people's needs are met during the Covid-19 pandemic. This includes the improving access to support and increasing the digital offer available (eg the commissioning of the new Kooth service); strengthening approaches to early help and prevention through work with schools (eg through developing and implementing mental health support teams in schools) establishing a mental health surge working group to ensure a co-ordinated system wide response to supporting children and young people with emotional wellbeing and mental health issues.

- **Working differently with our communities**

Partners have worked closely with communities to minimise the impact of Covid-19 and co-ordinate the response to the pandemic, with the aim of protecting and supporting vulnerable residents. Examples of how partners have worked with communities through the pandemic includes the recruitment of the Community Messengers to help disseminate key messages to the public around COvid-19, the Healthy Communities Together programme which aims to improve working relationships and partnerships between health and care services and the communities they serve; and Health Inequalities Call to Action which has been developed to encourage all businesses and organisations in the city to take action to reduce inequalities.

#### 5 Lessons learnt

There are a number of overarching lessons and conclusions that can be drawn from the reflections on the outcomes and impact of the three priorities in the current Strategy detailed above:

- **Profile and commitment:** Including specific priorities within the Strategy as a focus for the Health and Wellbeing Board partners has raised their profile and galvanised

commitment to work in partnership specifically to address children and young people's mental health and well-being, work differently with our communities and reduce social isolation and loneliness.

- **Population health model:** the King's Fund population health model was adopted in 2019 and used to frame our revised Health & Well-being Strategy. The model has been helpful in mobilising partners around each of the four pillars and highlighted the roles that different organisations can play in delivering our strategy priorities. It has enabled us to make connections between and across the three different priority areas, which has enabled partners to identify synergies and complementary activity. The model has provided a strong foundation on which to build our partnership approach to COVID-19 response and recovery and extend our work to tackle inequalities.
- **Stronger partnership working:** Across the three priorities, clear benefits have been realised through new collaborations both with organisations that may not historically have recognised their role in contributing to health and wellbeing outcomes, but also directly with communities themselves, with communities playing an equal and trusted part in the city's response to the pandemic. There is a strong desire from voluntary and community sector organisations to continue working collaboratively with Health and Well-being Board partners and focus their efforts on areas/themes which will have the greatest impact on the health and well-being of residents.
- **Demonstrating impact:** over the last 18 months, the Strategy was not specific about the measurable outcomes it aimed to deliver and, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, work on developing a performance framework to monitor outcomes and impact has been delayed. There is a recognised challenge around attributing system interventions to health and wellbeing outcomes, but in order to build trust and support within the system and with our communities there is a need to find tangible ways of measuring progress and demonstrating impact.

## 6 Refreshing the Coventry Health and Well-Being Strategy

6.1 Following a review of evidence from a range of sources, including needs assessments that



have been conducted as well as survey data, workshops with stakeholders and senior partners and the learning from the current Strategy priorities, the Health and Well-being Board agreed that the existing Strategy priorities were the right areas of focus for the Strategy and needed to continue, albeit with a stronger emphasis in a few key areas:

- There needed to be a stronger focus on employment and homelessness as a prevention opportunity, recognising the impact of poverty on the well-being of our residents and on children esp following changes e.g. end of furlough, universal credit and end of 'no evictions';
- Mental health for adults also needed to be included in the strategy, in recognition of the increasing levels of need;

- Strengthen how we work with communities and VCS by building on the work we have done during the last 18 months and continue to unlock the power of local assets by improving the connectivity between the HWB and communities and HWB and place based working;
- Need to ensure we work in the overlap between priorities e.g. communities and isolation may have a new slant with different communities coming to Coventry i.e. Afghan refugees.

## 7 Timeline and proposed approach

- 7.1 Following the Health and Well-being Board confirming its priority areas for focus, a public engagement process on the Health & Well-being Strategy priorities is being conducted. The purpose of this consultation is to test the priorities, build consensus and galvanise energy and resource around the city's strategy for improving health and wellbeing. As well as sense checking our analysis of the key priorities for the next few years, the consultation is an opportunity to bring partners and residents on board, building on our existing engagement with local communities to identify capacity and opportunities to help make a difference to identified needs.

## 8 Next steps

- 8.1 The revised strategy will be shared with the Health and Well-being Board in the New Year for consideration and endorsement, with the development of action plans for implementation during Spring 2022. Any comments and recommendations from the Scrutiny Coordination Committee will inform the final draft Strategy and will be reported to Health and Wellbeing Board on the New Year. The key steps in the development of the Strategy are summarised below:

When	Action
September 2021	Senior Partner workshop
4 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	Health and Well-being Board endorses draft priorities
October – December 2021	Social Isolation and Loneliness stakeholder workshop  Engagement on draft priorities, including updating Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee members and seeking their views on the refresh of the Coventry Health and Wellbeing Refresh Strategy
Spring 2022	Draft Health and Well-being Board Strategy considered by the Health and well-being Board  Final Strategy published and actions plans developed for implementation

**Report Authors:**

**Name and Job Title:** Robina Nawaz, Policy, Partnerships & Transformation Officer  
Tina Wukics, Partnership Officer

**Contact Details:**

[robina.nawaz@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:robina.nawaz@coventry.gov.uk)

[tina.wukics@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:tina.wukics@coventry.gov.uk)

**Appendices**

Appendix 1: Coventry Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 -23, Stocktake of progress September 2021