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To: **Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board**

Date: **26 July 2023**

From: **Valerie De Souza, Public Health**

Title: **Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Progress Update**

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## **1. Purpose**

This briefing note sets out the progress that has been made towards the refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy (H+WBS) and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and presents final drafts of H+WBS and Citywide JSNA for comment.

## **2. Information/Background**

The JSNA is a statutory requirement for the Health and Wellbeing Board. It is intended to inform and guide the planning and commissioning of health, wellbeing, and social care services within a local area. It provides a snapshot of current and future health and care needs of the local community, considering factors that impact on health and wellbeing from a population health approach, including economic, education, housing, and environmental factors; as well as local assets that can help improve the area and reduce inequalities. It is also a story of a place and contains community insight and details of the assets in that place. The information in these profiles is used to help inform the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, a high-level plan for reducing health inequalities and improving health and wellbeing for Coventry residents.

### **3. Progress**

Coventry Health and Well-being Board is asked to note the progress made, including the completed draft of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, JSNA Citywide profile and JSNA Citywide Summary profile as well as consultation feedback and recommendations.

The Board is asked to:

- 1) Review each draft
- 2) Review feedback provided
- 3) Provide suggestions and amendments for final profiles given the feedback

### **4. Summary of feedback of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy refresh**

The three strategic long-term ambitions for the health & wellbeing of the residents of Coventry are:

- People are healthier & independent for longer
- Children & young people fulfil their potential
- People live in connected, safe & sustainable communities

The refresh of the Health & Wellbeing strategy now sets out the following short-term priority areas of focus which include:

- Improving mental health for all
- Tackling loneliness & social isolation for all
- Focus on employment and homelessness as a prevention opportunity
- Strengthen work with communities
- The need for co-production to achieve the priorities and the importance of engaging with the community to influence and design solutions

Overall, feedback received to date regarding the Health & Wellbeing Strategy refresh is that the short and long-term priorities still resonate, but with the additional comments for further considerations & further gaps to be explored:

- **Improving mental health for all**

- Establishment of mental health surge working group to monitor and review referral data into mental health services'
- Extension of mental health support teams beyond schools and into further education in the Coventry colleges
- Concerns for 16/17-year-olds accessing mental health support services inc: assessment and CBT/therapies
- **Tackling Loneliness and Social Isolation**
  - There needs to be a focus on NEETS – young people who are disengaged and/or withdrawn from education, who have no social network, advocate/s and/or live independently.
- **Focus on employment and homelessness as a prevention opportunity**
  - With so many businesses still experiencing recruitment challenges and also skills gaps, it would be beneficial to have a stronger link to accessing economic opportunities here (notably jobs and training), especially under “working differently in communities” (and how we tackle physical and mental health issues as barriers to accessing economic opportunities).
- **The need for co-production to achieve the priorities**
  - There is a call for stronger links, information sharing and partnership working with education and external services

**The following gaps is a summary of gaps identified from the feedback:**

- Digital exclusion as a short-term priority
- Specific detail on how we truly measure success

- A stronger focus on other groups including:
  - People with learning disabilities
  - Neurodiverse people
  - People with Armed Forces background and impact of PTSD etc
  - People with criminal convictions and need to re-establish effective pathways for ex-prisoners into training and jobs
  
- Cost-benefit analysis comparing the impact of utilising effective approaches to assisting people to access and sustain good quality employment, impact on health and well-being and the cost to health and the economy of long-term unemployment.
  
- Social prescribing – employment as a preventative measure.
  
- The impact of intergenerational issues on the health and wellbeing of the population. There is currently no strategy which tackles the root causes, and the health and wellbeing strategy could do this.
  
- A focus on tackling significant health risks such as diabetes and obesity.
  
- A short-term priority that aligns with the local and system wide 'Plus' groups identified as part of the Core20Plus5 framework (transient communities and people out of work due to long-term sickness)

## **5. Summary of feedback of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Refresh**

Stakeholders were asked the following questions:

- Is the profile useful?
- How could it support you and your work?
- Is there any additional information that you would like to see included.

All respondents agreed that the profile was useful and that it was helpful to have a whole city profile with a detailed insight into the needs and opportunities in the city. The structure of the profile was praised for having a balance of statistical data and qualitative insight, with a collective view of life and issues in the city. It was felt that the addition of

more granular place-based profiles is an important step towards a more resident-led and community-led approach.

It should further be noted that the assessment, alongside the associated website tools and information provide a great opportunity to facilitate resident and community access to information to inform grassroots plans and work.

Suggestions were made to ensure that data is accessible through summary profiles and infographics, as well as circulating the profiles to local colleges and schools to enable a deeper understanding of the issues that face our young people. The profile provides strong evidence on where to focus activities and services as well as (re)focus some organisations curriculum and delivery, targeting delivery in geographical areas, and certain demographic groupings, which is important given limited resources.

Some stakeholders noted how the JSNA provides information for the basis of funding bids and for policy development papers which can also be used to demonstrate to funding bodies where individual priorities may need to diverge from the priorities of the West Midlands as a whole.

Final comments stressed the importance of harnessing the potential and capacity of local communities, to continue to introduce more hyper-local, neighbourhood level knowledge. Which is crucial in understanding the local context and self-identification of communities within and across data boundaries.

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This report is published on the Council's website: [www.coventry.gov.uk/meetings/](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/meetings/)

**Appendices**

**Draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

**Draft JSNA Citywide Profile**

**Draft Citywide Summary Profile**

**Other useful documents**

Coventry Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019 [www.coventry.gov.uk/jhwbs/](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/jhwbs/)

Coventry Joint Strategic Needs Assessment [www.coventry.gov.uk/jsna/](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/jsna/)