



Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	12 June 2023
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2033
Report of:	Director of Health Partnerships
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector
Wards Involved:	All
Policy Context:	Fairer Westminster
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. There are significant health disparities across our communities, with lower income groups and minority communities often disadvantaged. These disparities can be found across the borough, and it is critical that the Council and its partners understand and target efforts to reduce these differences.
- 1.2. The draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy (henceforth known as the “Strategy”) in Appendix C sets out an ambition for the health and wellbeing of residents across the two boroughs of Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea. At its heart is a commitment from the joint Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) to those who live in, work in, and visit the boroughs to ensure everyone has the best opportunity to live a happier and healthier life. It also recognises that good health and wellbeing outcomes should not be determined by who we are, where we live, what school we attend, or our employment status.

2. Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration

2.1. This report asks the Policy and Scrutiny Committee to consider the draft Strategy and recommends the following:

- Members of the Committee provide comments on the draft Strategy which is currently in its consultation version;
- Comment on the consultation process that will be undertaken, particularly how to reach communities most likely to benefit from reductions in health inequalities;
- Endorsement of the draft Strategy and support for the ambition areas' adoption by all council departments;
- Officers will provide an update to the Committee following the consultation to highlight any significant changes and plans for implementation.

3. Questions to consider

3.1. Officers welcome the Committee's input and comments on the Strategy, which is planned to be launched in July 2023 following the current formal consultation period of 8 weeks.

4. Information about this report

4.1. Addressing health inequalities is complex and requires a common vision, collaboration, and shared expertise and best practice. Health inequalities have existed in our communities for a long time, and in many areas they have been compounded over the last few years. This has put more pressure on our communities most in need. The Council and its partners need to continue ensuring their efforts are sufficiently targeted to provide the investment, support, and care that communities might need.

4.2. Areas with higher levels of inequality will require more focus, but there is more potential for change. Our residents and partners across the public sector and the voluntary and community sector (VCS) recognise this and are calling for a more collaborative, dynamic, and organic approach to solving problems together.

4.3. The partners of the joint Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) are accountable for the Strategy's delivery, and the Council has an important role in addressing the wider social determinants of health. Adopting the Strategy alongside the Council's wider strategies and plans will help demonstrate how all council services can support health and wellbeing outcomes and ensure broader accountability for delivering them.

5. Background

- 5.1. At the HWBB's request, the Strategy's development has been informed by an extensive programme of engagement, including reviewing existing evidence residents' feedback from previous consultations. This work included a comprehensive literature review (see Appendix A) to identify priorities and build on best practice to address health inequalities.
- 5.2. The literature review also recognised issues and common concerns in people's lives such as early years, housing, employment, and environment. These are often referred to as the wider determinants of health.
- 5.3. The Strategy's development has also been heavily informed by evidence from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) "Borough Stories" and other engagement activities with residents and partners over the past year (see Appendix B).
- 5.4. The Strategy's proposed strapline is 'Healthier and happier lives'. This encapsulates a shared aim of tackling health inequalities with residents, improving health and wellbeing, and making sure everyone can live happy fulfilling lives.
- 5.5. The co-produced vision below outlines our approach to working with communities and partners to make a difference to people's lives.

"People to live healthy and happy lives, to their fullest and in ways they choose in communities that are fair and safe."

- 5.6. The vision is further underpinned by four outcomes, which aim to focus on the issues that are important for residents. Residents want to:
 1. Live longer and in a way that allows them to fulfil their lives' potential;
 2. Have their mental health and wellbeing be considered as important as their physical health;
 3. Live in communities that are healthy, safe and with a good-quality environment, schools, and housing;
 4. Have access to increasingly good-quality and fair services that meet their needs.
- 5.7. The Strategy sets out 10 ambition/policy areas that cover the wider determinants of health and help deliver the Strategy's vision and outcomes.
- 5.8. Achieving this will require greater collaboration with residents, other public sector bodies, businesses, and the VCS. Through this collaboration and service improvement, health outcomes can be improved over the next 10 years.

6. Timescales for consideration

- 6.1. On 30 March 2023, the joint HWBB welcomed and endorsed the draft Strategy and agreed for its consultation to commence. The formal consultation process will ensure the draft Strategy has captured and reflects residents' aspirations, needs, and desires. The Strategy will be available as a physical paper copy, an interactive online version, and an easy read version.
- 6.2. The consultation will be open for eight weeks from 2 May 2023 to 25 June 2023. It will involve all members of the HWBB engaging widely with residents, patients, and partners through a range of channels including:
- a. Workshops with residents at local organisations' pre-existing activities or events, so we can engage with as many people as possible;
 - b. Online and postal surveys;
 - c. Displays in libraries, leisure centres, GPs, pharmacies, and other community venues;
 - d. Meetings with VCS, business and public sector partners and community groups;
 - e. Promoting the consultation channels and documents through social media and other channels such as Community Champions and local networks.
- 6.3. A summary of the consultation will be reported back to this meeting once the it has finished and the results are compiled.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the
Background Papers, please contact Grant Aitken, Head of Health
Partnerships
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APPENDICES:

A: Literature Review

B: Summary of engagement activities

C: Draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy for consultation

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None