



REPORT TO:	South Holland Cabinet
DATE:	28 th February 2023 - Policy Development Panel
SUBJECT:	Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy
PURPOSE:	To consider the adoption of the Lincolnshire Districts Health & Wellbeing Strategy and associated action plan as a framework for improving health and wellbeing across the County and to commit to working closely with partners in the public, private and voluntary sector to implement the strategy and positively impact on health outcomes for residents of Lincolnshire.
KEY DECISION:	N/A
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Councillor Sneath, Portfolio Holder Health & Wellbeing, Conservation and Heritage for South Holland District Council
REPORT OF:	Assistant Director – Wellbeing and Community Leadership, Emily Spicer
REPORT AUTHOR:	Strategic Lead – Prosperous Communities, Roxanne Warrick
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All
EXEMPT REPORT?	No

SUMMARY

Lincolnshire district councils are committed to developing an ambitious agenda for improving health and wellbeing in Lincolnshire. Tackling health inequalities through policy areas where district councils influence social determinants of health, working collaboratively across the districts and with strategic health system partners a strategy focussing on 5 key lever areas has been developed. These areas are: **Housing & Homelessness, Activity & Wellbeing, Environment & Climate, Economic Inclusion and Working with Communities.**

The Lincolnshire Districts Health and Wellbeing Strategy provides a strategic framework to further develop local delivery through the Healthy Living Action Plan to drive health outcome improvements for residents across the sub-region.

RECOMMENDATION

The panel consider the Lincolnshire District Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and provides feedback and comment.

Adoption of the strategy will require approval at Cabinet post Policy Development and will provide the Council with the framework for improving health and wellbeing in the South and East Lincolnshire Partnership sub-region and to commit to engaging fully in both the further development of this strategy and the delivery of the actions outlined.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The Strategy is an overarching document, developed through engagement with agencies across Lincolnshire within the health system. It gives a solid strategic framework and high-level objectives to use to further develop the Healthy Living Action Plan for the South & East Lincolnshire Partnership to drive local delivery in addressing health inequalities.

It demonstrates a clear commitment to shared objectives to improving the health and wellbeing of local residents through district action.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- Not to adopt the strategy – not recommended.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As part of the response to Covid-19 the seven Lincolnshire Districts developed a culture of working closely together to identify and address challenges. Since then the Districts have continued to embed this collective approach to both strategic and operational issues, with a particular focus on the role of District councils in addressing health inequalities
- 1.2 Tackling health inequalities has been the subject of a significant pool of research in the past twenty years. In 2010, Professor Sir Michael Marmot conducted a landmark review 'Fair society, healthy lives' (known as the Marmot Review) which concluded that health in England had a distinctive gradient: the lower one's social and economic status, the poorer one's health is likely to be. The original review argued that health inequality could be alleviated by acting within six policy areas and it foresaw Local Government as a pivotal partner in tackling the social determinants of ill health.
- 1.3 Marmot reviewed the situation again ten years later. Although the review noted that some local authorities had established effective approaches in addressing health inequality, it

also found that for the first time since 1900, life expectancy and health outcomes were no longer rising across the board – and for some demographics, they were in decline. These same inequalities contributed to a high and unequal death toll from COVID-19, whilst the pandemic itself revealed both the tight coupling between health and the economy, and the capacity for all levels of government, and actors across sectors, to work together to address complex and urgent problems.

2. THE ROLE OF DISTRICT COUNCILS

2.1 Lincolnshire district councils are committed to developing an ambitious agenda for improving health and wellbeing in Lincolnshire. To achieve this, they are focusing on:

- a strategic, long-term approach to improving outcomes
- a sense of opportunity and ambition - district collaboration
- a holistic view based on social determinants
- developing system leadership.

2.2 The 2021 Health and Care White Paper and establishment via the NHS of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) underline the vital importance of health and care partners working together to focus on prevention and addressing the wider determinants of health.

2.3 Integrated care systems are being designed to serve four fundamental purposes:

- improving population health and healthcare
- tackling unequal outcomes and access
- enhancing productivity and value for money
- helping the NHS to support broader social and economic development.

2.4 District Councils are reflected in the governance arrangements for the ongoing development of the ICS and tackling health inequalities in Lincolnshire. Councillor Richard Wright (Leader, North Kesteven District Council) has an active role in the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board and the Integrated Care Partnership representing all district councils who meet prior to the board and partnership meeting. Angela Andrews (Chief Executive City of Lincoln Council) and Ian Fytche (Chief Executive North Kesteven District Council) are district representatives on the Better Lives Lincolnshire working group and all district councils have active relationships with the relevant Primary Care Networks (PCNs) to support the successful delivery of action at a local level.

2.5 Districts are in a position, alongside partners, to take a proactive role at this pivotal stage for Lincolnshire in supporting the reshaping of policy, strategy and delivery and improving outcomes. Therefore, in 2021 the seven districts collectively engaged PA Consulting to work alongside Leaders, Chief Executives and key officers in developing a countywide District Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2.6 District Leaders and Chief Executives continued to work collaboratively through 2022 to achieve a consistent approach and agreed the final Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy. An **Executive Summary** is included at **Appendix 1**.

3. LINCOLNSHIRE DISTRICTS HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

- 3.1 Districts have sought to address central questions around employment and jobs, place shaping, active and creative places, homelessness and community to develop the **Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy** included at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.2 In practical terms, the strategy is structured around five 'lever' areas where districts are uniquely positioned in the system to influence – and therefore where they can most effectively work with partners to deliver sustainable change. The strategy was initially developed during 2021 and refined during 2022 and although there have been some contextual changes since then, such as cost of living crisis the key levers available to District Councils remain consistent.
- 3.3 The key elements of the strategy are:

Lever and overarching objective	Themes
<p><u>Housing and homelessness</u></p> <p>Improve the supply, quality and coordination of services to meet housing needs and demands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the underlying causes of homelessness so that it becomes rare, brief and non-recurring • Improving the supply of housing needs and demands • Improving the quality of existing accommodation to secure an overall improvement in the health and wellbeing of residents • Coordination of partnership activity to provide improved housing choices
<p><u>Activity and wellbeing</u></p> <p>To address inactivity across the county – improving access and opportunity for all residents to be active and participate by leveraging District knowledge and connection with people and places</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active place - creating environments for people, of all ages, to have equitable access to safe places and spaces, in which to take part in regular physical activity • Active people – providing opportunities across the county for residents to participate in activity – in leisure, culture and community • Active system - working across the system in a co-ordinated way to tackle health inequalities, address long term health conditions and improve opportunities for prevention
<p><u>Environment and climate</u></p> <p>Improve understanding of the links between environment and health and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle climate change – including improving air quality and reducing carbon emissions • Awareness and education

<p>maximise opportunities to deliver on both simultaneously</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximising open / green space provision - Licensing and provision of healthy, sustainable food options • Maximise potential of Local Plan reviews to deliver for environment and health together, capturing the above areas
<p><u>Economic inclusion</u></p> <p>Reducing economic inequality and alleviating poverty as a fundamental driver for improving mental and physical health and wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting those in employment to improve their overall health and resilience to future potential health issues • Supporting transitioning/adaptation of businesses/sectors/employees most susceptible to economic change and transition • Develop a wide ranging and innovative programme with partners to enable residents to improve digital skills and access • Increase the number of residents who are economically active by ensuring those that have health conditions/disabilities can take advantage of the opportunities for more flexible/remote employment opportunities • Health attraction interventions to develop the health and care sector to increase recruitment/retention and support business growth
<p><u>Working with Communities</u></p> <p>Leverage unique links at place level to enable and support local communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capture and build on district community engagement knowledge and expertise • Expand district participation in current sector discussions / forums • Strengthen sector oversight and assurance -Enhance and sustain voluntary sector engagement and contribution

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategic commissioning approach in Lincolnshire – • Review opportunities to further develop districts preventative approach, using Wellbeing Lincs as a proven and trusted mechanism for collaboration and innovation.
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4. ONGOING WORK SINCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGY

- 4.1 In November 2021, the Lincolnshire Districts Health and Wellbeing Strategy was presented to Better Lives Lincolnshire and partners were asked for their views on the intervention areas identified to assess whether they are appropriate activity strands to take forward and how Districts could work with Councils in enacting change. Following this presentation District Chief Executives were invited to engage individually with key ICS partners to identify areas of collaboration and synergy.
- 4.2 To enable both the continued development of the strategy and implementation of actions the Districts developed a ‘Working Group’ with a lead for each of the lever areas. This has provided the basis for engagement and action with other colleagues in the health system. As a working group, the leads have worked together for 12 months to take a collective and strategic approach to the delivery of the strategy. A key part of this was to develop an action plan acting as a framework to enable individual districts to create their local action plan, specific to their unique situation and needs.
- 4.3 The importance of working collaboratively and playing to the strengths of different partners across Lincolnshire in delivering this crucial agenda for residents has also been recognised. In September 2022 the working group hosted an away day with key partners with the purpose of further developing action plans, sharing and learning from good practice and setting the tone for working together in the future through agreeing practical next steps. A summary presentation from the partner away day is attached at **Appendix 3** and the output from the engagement with partners is attached at **Appendix 4**.
- 4.4 The strategy has informed the development of a District Health and Wellbeing action plan, which is attached at **Appendix 5**. The overarching collaborative district action plan provides an overview of key areas of focus for the next twelve months and will be reviewed and refreshed on an annual basis.
- 4.5 The South & East Lincolnshire Council’s Partnership Healthy Living Action Plan will be developed for clear delivery on priority work streams in the sub-region.
- 4.6 There have been a number of key activities and early successes of the strategy across the five lever areas, including:
- 4.6.1 **Housing and Homelessness**

The link between housing and health has long been established within local government but this strategy provides an opportunity for us to expand that thinking and to ensure that we work effectively with a range of partners to improve the quality and accessibility of homes to meet the changing needs of all communities. The strategy references work taking

place on the development of a homelessness strategy recognises the importance of identifying supported housing needs and also having an effective plan for delivery of homes against these needs. It references the condition of existing stock and the importance of identifying best practice solutions to secure improvements as well as recognising the importance of developing disabled facilities grants to meet the needs of our changing demographics.

The housing lever links with the Housing Health and Care Delivery Group. The actions identified through this strategy are progressed through the Lincolnshire Housing and Health Network which has a series of subgroups overseeing thematic topics. Some great work is already being progressed particularly around the homelessness strategy and opportunities for funding bids to help improve the availability of homelessness services and temporary accommodation. As such a strong platform for delivering these actions is being developed which provide an opportunity for partners to secure solutions to address housing inequalities and reduce demands on social care and health services.

4.6.2 Activity and Wellbeing

All types of activity, whether formal or informal, are being widely promoted with an ambition of integrating these into the lifestyles of residents and our communities. Initiatives which are already established are being embraced and promoted, for example Slow Ways, which is a website promoting the creation of a network of walking routes that connect towns and cities on a national basis.

Investment is being made into leisure facilities to ensure that they remain attractive and available to residents. The traditional sports offer is being complimented by embracing new initiatives such as walking sports, to enable a wide cross section of the community to take part in activity.

Councils are also working with their leisure providers to deliver health intervention programmes, developing closer links with health colleagues and improved health and wellbeing for residents.

Parks and green open spaces are being promoted as valuable community assets, providing residents with informal opportunities to be active and enjoy the fresh air, as well as more structured activities such as park runs, bowls clubs and football training.

The districts are working in collaboration with the County Council to support the active travel agenda, including improvements to infrastructure and pathways.

4.6.3 Environment and Sustainability

District Councils are working to deliver home energy improvements for local residents through Local Authority Delivery Scheme (LAD) and Home Upgrade Grants (HUG). LAD targeted at properties connected to the mains gas network and leads to improvements such improved insulation measures, low-energy lighting, solar panels and heating controls. HUG is for properties off the mains gas network, usually in more rural settings, and provides all the same improvements as LAD but with a higher budget per property to allow low carbon heating options such as Air Source Heat Pumps to be installed where suitable. The scheme is open to homeowners, and tenants, in households with poor energy efficient ratings who have a low income.

Interventions designed to tackle climate change and improve the natural environment also have direct benefits to health and wellbeing. The Covid-19 pandemic demonstrated how important access to quality green space is to our mental wellbeing and there is a growing body of evidence to support this. Lowering the carbon footprint of residents' homes through improving energy efficiency not only contributes to our overall net zero agendas, it also helps to reduce fuel poverty which in turn leads to improved mental health outcomes and a range of other social benefits. The actions within this strategy have cross-cutting outcomes.

4.6.4 Economic Inclusion

UKSPF

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) has provided, and continues to provide, opportunities for districts to work collaboratively with their communities and partners across a range of sectors to deliver meaningful interventions and activities that have the ability to positively impact upon health and wellbeing as part of improving economic inclusion. This includes working with partners to increase skills, providing bespoke interventions to assist the economically inactive into training or work and working with employers to support them in adapting practices that enable them to take on a varied workforce.

Financial Inclusion

“Financial inclusion is a key enabler in reducing poverty and boosting prosperity”

World Bank ‘Understanding Poverty’

District Councils are active members of Lincolnshire Financial Inclusion Partnership (FIP) steering group. With over 70 members including private, public and third sector Lincolnshire Financial Inclusion Partnership (FIP) brings together organisations and partners to promote and raise the profile of financial inclusion.

FIP aim to ensure that everyone has the capability and opportunity to access appropriate financial services, money advice and income needed to fully participate in society. The partnership works to develop, implement and secure funding to improve financial capability for Lincolnshire residents. It also provides a local forum for engagement with regional and national agencies.

During the pandemic, FIP members experienced considerable demands on their services as people struggled to navigate the economic impacts of the pandemic. FIP developed a COVID recovery plan around local services, initiative and support:

- Debt Advice
- Income Maximisation
- Wider Support Services – for example, money & mental health
- Employment, Skills and Training
- Communications and Information-sharing

With recent significant impacts on household income, this work continues to evolve into a ‘cost of living’ plan and FIP steering group are taking a lead role in delivering support to help residents.

4.6.5 Working with Communities

The unique role that district councils have in knowing their unique place and communities has been key for focussed work during the pandemic and recovery. Improving vaccine take up within underrepresented communities has been an important work stream with health partners. One of the key benefits of working collaboratively across the districts has been the sharing of initiatives, best practice and lessons learned. Working in partnership, NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board, Boston Borough Council, Boston Primary Care Network and PAB Languages ran a project to support communication and engagement with diverse communities during the pandemic. This was delivered using Empowering Healthy Communities Programme – Community Champions Funding and sought to address health inequalities collaboratively. The project set to bring vaccination uptake levels in communities affected by multiple deprivations and health inequalities in line with those of the county's wider population. It sought to provide access by identifying key locations and communication pathways in line with encouraging uptake by reducing barriers, building a narrative to influence and build trust through engagement. The insight into engaging with diverse communities and the lessons learned continue to shape communication and engagement for other health and community programmes.

5. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Through adopting the Lincolnshire Districts Health and Wellbeing Strategy as a document, the Council will use the strategy as a framework for improving health and wellbeing in the sub-region. In order to engage in the further development of this strategy the South & East Lincolnshire Council's Partnership will develop the Healthy Living Action Plan for local delivery based on priorities within the sub-region.
- 5.2 The districts working group continues to engage with partners via the representation on the Health and Wellbeing Board and Better Lives Lincolnshire alongside working alongside system partners on a day-to-day basis to develop and deliver action plans.
- 5.3 The long-term focus will remain on the extent to which these activities influence health outcomes. Conversations with appropriate health and wider systems colleagues on the best approach to developing monitoring and reporting mechanisms would be of great value.

6. EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

- 6.1 This strategy supports the Partnership's ambition for the sub-region in addressing health inequalities, deprivation and maximising the opportunity for delivering a leisure and culture offer across South and East Lincolnshire. It gives a clear framework for developing and delivering the Healthy Living Action Plan.

7. IMPLICATIONS FOR SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS' PARTNERSHIP

- 7.1 As set out in 'Expected Benefits to the Partnership' in 6.1

8. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 8.1 Adopting this strategy as a framework support the delivery of priorities in each of the Council's Corporate Strategies including:

Boston Borough Council – 'Priority 1 - People Focused'

East Lindsey District Council – ‘Maximise healthy and active lives’

South Holland District Council – ‘Your health and wellbeing’

9. STAFFING

- 9.1 The strategy outlines and gives focus to the role district councils play in supporting health and wellbeing of residents and tackling health inequalities. This work is undertaken by existing staffing resources.

10. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Development and delivery of the Healthy Living Action Plan under this strategy will be overseen by the Healthy Living Board for the partnership.

11. DATA PROTECTION

- 11.1 There are no direct implications.

12. FINANCIAL

- 12.1 There are no direct budget implications from adopting this strategic framework. Any decisions required for funding for key actions from the Healthy Living Action Plan as it is developed will be formally requested as appropriate.

13. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 13.1 The risk of a strategy not driving change at a pace that matches the ambition of both the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership and health system partners across the sub-region, will be mitigated through a clear action plan for local delivery on local priorities through the Healthy Living Action Plan.

14. STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES

- 14.1 As detailed in section 4 of this report, the strategy and its principles have been tested with partners and stakeholders throughout its development. It has been produced collaboratively across the 7 districts with feedback from stakeholders across the system countywide.
- 14.2 An overview was presented to the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership Healthy Living Board in October 2022.

15. REPUTATION

- 15.1 Adopting this strategy demonstrates a commitment to working with partners across the system to address health inequalities through the wider determinants of health. Through the development and delivery of the Healthy Living Action Plan and through the direction and oversight of the Healthy Living Board there will be a positive impact on the reputation of the Councils in recognition of a drive to positively impact on health outcomes for local residents.

16. CONTRACTS

- 16.1 No direct implications for this report

17. CRIME AND DISORDER

17.1 There are clear synergies with work streams and activities in the fields of both community safety and health and wellbeing, particularly when addressing multiple deprivation and wider determinants of health. Development and delivery of the Healthy Living Action Plan will have outcomes of benefit to both community safety and health and wellbeing.

18. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING

18.1 A key focus of the strategy is tackling health inequalities. Development and delivery of the Healthy Living Action Plan will ensure that activity is delivered considering equality and diversity, human rights and safeguarding appropriately

19. HEALTH AND WELL BEING

19.1 Adopting the strategy will have a positive impact on addressing health inequalities across the sub-region, giving a wider understanding to the role that district council services play in improving health for residents and a commitment to working collaboratively to improve the health and wellbeing of communities across the sub-region.

20. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

20.1 Many of the interventions designed to tackle climate change and improve the natural environment also have direct benefits to health and wellbeing. The Covid-19 pandemic brought home just how important access to quality green space is to mental wellbeing and there is a growing body of evidence to support this. Likewise lowering the carbon footprint of homes through improving energy efficiency not only contributes to overall net zero agendas, but also helps to reduce fuel poverty which in turn leads to improved mental health outcomes and a range of other social benefits.

This Strategy highlights the synergies between tackling climate change, reducing carbon emissions and improving health and wellbeing outcomes.

21. LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

MISSIONS	
This paper contributes to the follow Missions outlined in the Government’s Levelling Up White paper.	
Living Standards	By 2030, pay, employment and productivity will have risen in every area of the UK, with each containing a globally competitive city, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.
Health	By 2030, the gap in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between local areas where it is highest and lowest will have narrowed, and by 2035 HLE will rise by 5 years.
Wellbeing	By 2030, well-being will have improved in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and other areas closing.

22. ACRONYMS

NHS – National Health Service

ICS – Integrated Care System

PCN – Primary Care Network

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Executive Summary - Lincolnshire District Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy



Appendix 1 -
Executive Summary -

Appendix 2 – Lincolnshire District Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy



Appendix 2 -
Lincolnshire District C

Appendix 3 – Partner Away Day overview 'working together to achieve priorities'



Appendix 3 - Away
Day Overview.pdf

Appendix 4 – Output from Partner Away Day



Appendix 4 - Output
from Partner Away Da

Appendix 5 - Action Plan – Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy



Appendix 5 - Action
Plan.pdf

BACKGROUND PAPERS

(If none then insert the working 'No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.' Also delete the below text/boxes.)

Background papers used in the production of this report are listed below: -

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
<i>Fair society, healthy lives : the Marmot Review : strategic review of health inequalities in England post-2010</i>	https://www.gov.uk/research-for-development-outputs/fair-society-healthy-lives-the-marmot-review-strategic-review-of-health-inequalities-in-england-post-2010
<i>What is an Integrated Care System?</i>	https://www.england.nhs.uk/integratedcare/what-is-integrated-care/

Lincolnshire Integrated Care System – Better Lives Lincolnshire	https://lincolnshire.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/
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REPORT APPROVAL	
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