



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL



Cabinet

7 March 2023

Report of Councillor Annie Mason, the
Portfolio Holder for People and Safer
Communities

Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Report Author

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Purpose of Report

To consider a recommendation made by the Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy is adopted as a framework to improve health and wellbeing across Lincolnshire. Furthermore, that the Council develops a local action plan for the district.

Recommendations

It is recommended Cabinet:

1. Approves the adoption of the Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy to provide a framework for improving health and wellbeing outcomes across the county.
2. Supports the Council's ongoing work with district partners to deliver the high-level action plan which has been developed to accompany the Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
3. Approves the development of a bespoke action plan, specific to the South Kesteven district, to maximise the impact of the Lincolnshire District's Health and Wellbeing Strategy on health and wellbeing outcomes at a local level.

Decision Information

Is this a Key Decision?	No
Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Housing that meets the needs of all residents Healthy and strong communities Clean and sustainable environment High performing Council
Which wards are impacted?	All

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

- 1.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. If future actions are identified which require financial support, then this would need to be secured through the Council's budget setting procedure via a business case which sets out the investment required and the benefit.

Completed by: Richard Wyles, Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer

Legal and Governance

- 1.2 There are no legal or governance implications arising from this report.

Completed by Graham Watts, Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Diversity and Inclusion

- 1.3 A key focus of the Strategy is tackling health inequalities. The development of a bespoke district focused action plan will need to ensure that any actions identified take account of equality, diversity and human rights appropriately.

Completed by: Carol Drury, Community Engagement Manager

Community Safety

- 1.4 There are clear synergies with work streams and activities in the fields of community safety and wellbeing, particularly when addressing deprivation and wider determinants of health. Development and delivery of a bespoke health and wellbeing action plan for South Kesteven should identify and deliver positive outcomes for community safety.

Completed by: Anne-Marie Coulthard, Assistant Director for Operations and Public Protection

Climate Change

- 1.5 The Lincolnshire Districts Health and Wellbeing Strategy highlights the synergies between tackling climate change, reducing carbon emissions and improving health and wellbeing outcomes.
- 1.6 Lowering the carbon footprint of homes through energy efficiency not only contributes to the Council's carbon reduction agenda, but also helps to reduce fuel poverty, which in turn can lead to a range of other benefits including improved mental health and access to social activities.
- 1.7 Many of the interventions designed to tackle climate change and improve the natural environment also have direct benefits to our health and wellbeing. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of accessing green space to mental wellbeing and there is a growing body of evidence to support this.

Completed by: Serena Brown, Climate and Sustainability Officer

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1 Within the Council's Corporate Plan (2020 – 2023) there is a key priority of building 'Healthy and Strong Communities'. This includes an ambition to work effectively with partners in the voluntary, private, and public sectors to tackle health, unemployment, and other inequalities, especially in areas of highest need.
- 2.2 As part of the response to COVID-19, the seven Lincolnshire District Councils developed a culture of working closely together to identify and address challenges. Since then, the districts have continued to embed this collaborative approach to both strategic and operational issues, with a particular focus on the role of district councils in addressing health inequalities.
- 2.3 Tackling health inequalities has been the subject of a significant pool of research over the past twenty years. In 2010 Michael Marmot conducted a landmark review (the Marmot Review) which concluded health in England had a distinctive gradient, identifying the lower one's social and economic status, the poorer one's health is

likely to be. The original review argued health inequality could be alleviated by acting within six policy areas and it foresaw Local Government organisations as being pivotal partners in tackling the social determinants of ill-health.

- 2.4 In 2020 Marmot conducted a further review which noted, although some local authorities had established effective approaches in addressing health inequalities, for the first time since 1900 life expectancy and health outcomes were no longer rising across the board and were in decline for some demographics. It has been further identified these same inequalities contributed to a high and unequal death toll from COVID-19 across some sectors of the community. Furthermore, the pandemic itself revealed both the tight coupling between health and the economy, and the capacity for all levels of government to work together to address complex and urgent problems.

The Role of District Councils

- 2.5 Working collaboratively, all seven district councils in Lincolnshire have committed to develop an ambitious agenda for improving health and wellbeing outcomes across the county. To achieve this, the following areas have been a focus of work and discussions:

- A strategic, long-term approach to improving health and wellbeing outcomes
- A sense of opportunity and ambition through collaboration
- A holistic view based on social determinants
- Developing system leadership

- 2.6 The 2021 Health and Care White Paper, and the establishment via the National Health Service (NHS), of Integrated Care Systems (ICS), have underlined the vital importance of health and care partners working together to focus on preventing ill-health and addressing the wider determinants of health and wellbeing.

- 2.7 Integrated Care Systems are intended to join up the health and care services required by individuals and deliver care which meets their personal needs in an efficient way. For example, treatment for a single issue can require intervention from General Practitioners (GPs), ambulance and hospital services, as well as a wide range of community-based professionals such as nurses, therapists and home carers. There are four fundamental purposes behind the establishment of ICSs:

- 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

- 2.8 District Councils are represented in the governance arrangements for the ongoing development of the ICS and other work to tackle health inequalities in Lincolnshire. The Leader of North Kesteven District Council is an active partner on the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board, the Chief Executive City of Lincoln Council and Chief Executive of North Kesteven District Council are part of the Better Lives Lincolnshire Working Group. In addition, all District Councils have active relationships with the relevant Primary Care Networks (PCNs) to support the successful delivery of identified action at a local level.
- 2.9 Districts are in a position, alongside partners, to take a proactive role at this pivotal stage for Lincolnshire by supporting the reshaping of policy, strategy and delivery, to improve outcomes. In 2021 the seven districts collectively engaged PA Consulting to work alongside Leaders, Chief Executives and key Officers in developing a county-wide District Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

3. Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- 3.1 In developing the Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy, district representatives have sought to address central questions around employment and jobs, place shaping, active and creative places, homelessness, and participation. An Executive Summary of the Strategy can be found at **Appendix One**. The full suite of supporting documentation is available by following the link in Paragraph 7 - Background Papers.
- 3.2 In practical terms the Strategy is structured around five 'lever' areas which have been identified to be the areas where district councils are uniquely positioned to provide influence and can effectively work with partners to deliver sustainable change. Work on the Strategy began in 2021 and continued through 2022, the work being refined and updated to take into account any changes in circumstances such as the cost of living crisis.

Ongoing Work Since the Development of the Strategy

- 3.3 To enable both the continued development of the Strategy and implementation of the actions identified, a working group has been established with representation from each district, and a lead Officer has been identified for each of the five lever areas. The working group meets regularly to provide the basis for engagement and action with other colleagues in the health system.
- 3.4 As a working group, the leads have worked together to develop a District Health and Wellbeing action plan, this provides an overview of key areas of focus which have been identified for the next twelve months and will be reviewed and refreshed on an annual basis. There have been several key activities and early successes of the Strategy across the five lever areas which have been captured and are included in the 'Timeframe and Progress' column in the action plan. A copy of the Action Plan for Lincolnshire is attached at **Appendix Two**.

Next Steps

- 3.5 Following the adoption of the Strategy, it is proposed South Kesteven District Council will continue to work collaboratively with the other six districts to deliver the action plan which accompanies the Strategy. The action plan will be regularly monitored and kept under review to assess its effectiveness
- 3.6 Officers will work across a wide range of Council services to develop a bespoke local action plan for the South Kesteven district in accordance with identified health and wellbeing priorities, and the Council's corporate objectives. This will ensure that actions can be targeted to drive improvements at a local level.
- 3.7 The Lincolnshire districts' working group will continue to engage with partners via representation on the Health and Wellbeing Board and Better Lives Lincolnshire, working alongside system partners to develop and deliver action to improve health and wellbeing outcomes.
- 3.8 Conversations will continue with health colleagues on the best approach to developing a monitoring and reporting mechanism to establish to what extent the activity and actions identified will deliver improved health outcomes.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 South Kesteven District Council is committed to developing an ambitious agenda for improving health and wellbeing across the district. Working collaboratively with the other districts to develop a shared vision and agenda for the county provides the opportunity for shared learning, greater collaboration and improved health and wellbeing outcomes. Therefore the 'do nothing' option was discounted.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 On 9 February 2023 Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered a report detailing the collaborative work undertaken to develop the Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 5.2 As a result, the Members present recommended to Cabinet the Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy should be adopted by the Council and provide a framework for improving health and wellbeing outcomes.

6. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 6.1 The Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee have recommended to Cabinet that the Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy is formally adopted by South Kesteven District Council.

- 6.2 The development of the Lincolnshire Districts Health and Wellbeing Strategy has identified that the seven district councils in Lincolnshire are ideally placed to positively influence health and wellbeing outcomes across the county. Once adopted the Strategy will be the guiding policy document providing a framework for future collaborative work, including the delivery of the action plan which has been developed.
- 6.3 The development of a bespoke local action plan will complement the actions identified in the Strategy and ensure future efforts are concentrated on the Council's key priority areas, ensuring the maximum benefit for residents of South Kesteven.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 *Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy* - Report to Rural and Communities Overview and scrutiny Committee (plus appendices at Item 12), Published 9 February 2023, available online via:
modern.gov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=665&MId=4331&Ver=4

8. Appendices

- 8.1 **Appendix One** – Executive Summary - Lincolnshire District Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 8.2 **Appendix Two** – Action Plan for Lincolnshire.