

DECISION TAKER: Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities – Councillor Kathleen Becker

REPORT TITLE: HEALTH PRIORITIES STATEMENT

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WARD(S): ALL

### PURPOSE

The council has long recognised the importance of healthy communities and has made this a priority in its Council Plan 2025-2030. To understand how best the council's healthy communities outcomes can be achieved, and where to target the available resources, it was agreed that a set of health priorities should be identified for the district. Following a review of the data held in the Hampshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) a set of health priorities for the district has been identified. The priorities identified are those over which the council has influence, and to which it can meaningfully contribute, and the statement maps the work of the council to the social determinants of health to demonstrate how actions and funding supports the creation of strong, healthy communities.

This report sets out the approach taken to create the Health Priorities Statement and seeks its adoption.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities adopt the:

1. Health Priorities Statement for Winchester district as a record of the health goals, aims and priorities to be used to influence the provision and to direct delivery of council services, facilities and support programmes.

## IMPLICATIONS:

### 1 COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOME

- 1.1 The health of people and communities is affected by a mix of social, environment and economic conditions. A number a council plan outcomes will be encompassed in seeking to sustain and improve the health of Winchester district residents, and in mitigating the factors that contribute to ill-health and poor wellbeing will.
- 1.2 Greener Faster
- 1.3 Ensuring the district is better protected against extreme climate events, helps mitigate the health impacts of heat, cold, flooding, storms etc. Those who are most disadvantaged are less able to respond to these crises, with other factors such as age, gender, and existing underlying health conditions also disproportionately increasing a person's risk and vulnerability. Air pollution directly effects health and seeking to have cleaner air than national targets will reduce its impact.
- 1.4 Thriving Places
- 1.5 A person's ability to gain and sustain well-paid, local employment and to develop skills is affected by their health, and having meaningful, stable employment contributes to a person health. Supporting our local business and providing opportunities to train and gain new skills has a positive impact on the health of the district's residents. Further, planning policy that secures improved facilities within 20 minutes of people's homes, enables people to access support and services within their communities.
- 1.6 Healthy Communities
- 1.7 The Health Priorities Statement contributes to all the outcomes this priorities seeks to achieve: focusing on our most deprived communities; a local voluntary and community sector tackling isolation and supporting those in need; increasing participation in physical activity; access to facilities and spaces for people to play and gather; supporting those most affected by the increased cost of living; and strong health and community infrastructure across the district.
- 1.8 The Health Priorities Statement highlights the two levers the council can use to one, influence the health agencies and partners who commission, fund and deliver health services and infrastructure; and two, to direct the provision of the services and facilities that it delivers and funds.
- 1.9 Good Homes for All
- 1.10 Access to affordable, quality homes is a major factor in people's health and wellbeing and this is identified in the health priorities. It also identifies that the health of certain group such as inclusion groups and the homeless is severely

reduced in comparison to the wider population. Therefore achieving the council outcomes to ensure all council homes are decent, safe, energy efficient and resilient to the effects of climate change; continuing to increase the number of affordable homes across the district; and for every homeless person to secure a permanent home will have significant impacts on health and wellbeing.

## 2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 This statement identifies the health priorities which can be used to frame the council's current activities and to demonstrate the role it plays in sustaining or improving the health & wellbeing of the district's residents. It maps the current collaboration, service delivery and commissioning that is funded through the council's budget. It does not identify any new budget or expenditure requirements.

## 3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The council does not have any statutory duty to provide public health functions. It does however with regard to such things as Environmental Health, Housing, Planning, Waste Collection, all of which impact the social determinants of health.
- 3.2 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 empowers upper-tier and unitary authorities to invest in improving local health outcomes and improving the health of their local population and for public health services. The Secretary of State continues to have overall responsibility for improving health – with national public health functions delegated to Public Health England. Primary health needs continue to be met by the NHS.
- 3.3 This statement does not create any procurement implications.

## 4 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 The health priorities were considered at the Health and Environment Policy committee meeting in September 2024.
- 4.2 The priorities have been shared and discussed with our key strategic partner agencies at meetings of the Winchester Health & Wellbeing Strategic Partnership to ensure alignment.

## 5 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 None

## 6 PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

- 6.1 None

## 7 RISK MANAGEMENT

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<b>Financial Exposure</b> Identifying health priorities places an increased pressure on the council to fund services and interventions.	The statement clearly states that the health priorities are to be used to direct and target existing resources and funding and to influence other agencies in their prime roles of providing health services in the district.	
<b>Exposure to challenge</b> The health priorities identified are challenged by health agencies and service providers.	The priorities are based on analysis of the data within the Hampshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.  They have also been considered at the council's Policy Committee meeting and have been shared with local health partnerships.	
Innovation	N/A	
<b>Reputation</b> Inability to demonstrate that the council has acted on the health priorities identified, which impacts confidence in the council.	Evidence of delivery is reported in the council's quarterly performance report which includes a narrative of work undertaken and key performance indicators. This is reviewed at Scrutiny Committee and at Cabinet meetings	
<b>Achievement of outcome</b> The approach identified fails to address the factors that impact health and to sustain and improve the health of local residents.	The framework for identifying priorities and where to target and focus available resources, provides the best chance of having positive health and wellbeing impacts on those people and places most in need.	
Property	N/A	
<b>Community Support</b> The health priorities identified are challenged by local communities and people do not engage in support and initiatives to improve their health and wellbeing.	Adopting a cross-service approach, working on a number of different factors, and by working in collaboration with local agencies and providers, provides the greatest potential to encourage people to engage and benefit from support.	
Timescales	N/A	
Project capacity	N/A	

## 8 OTHER KEY ISSUES

8.1 None

## 9 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

9.1 The council has long recognised the importance of healthy communities, which has been a priority in its council plan for a number of years. In the 2020-25 Plan it stated it “wanted all residents to live healthy and fulfilled lives, to feel safe and secure in their neighbourhood, and enjoy the recreational and cultural opportunities that the district offers.” In the current Plan this aim is strengthened with the goal “to create strong, healthy communities where our most vulnerable residents feel safe, supported, and can easily access the services they need.” The council already invests significantly in the provision of health and community facilities. This includes the Winchester Sport & Leisure Park, the KGV Pavilion, Chilcomb Pavilion, Winchester City Football Club grounds and the River Park Pavilion. Winchester Town Forum funds the management, refurbishment and improvement of play areas, parks, open spaces and sports pitches and tennis courts. Similarly, the district’s parish councils provide, manage and improve many other local facilities, open spaces, play areas and community hubs.

9.2 As well as these built facilities and spaces there are many services, programmes and projects being delivered that contribute to the health and wellbeing of the district’s residents and support community cohesion and resilience. The health priorities statement maps this work to the social determinants of health to demonstrate how this action supports the creation of strong, healthy communities.

9.3 To understand how best the council’s healthy communities outcomes can be achieved, and where to target the available resources, it was agreed that a set of health priorities should be identified for the district. In addition, these would enable the council to:

- a) Share high level health data to understand how well (or not) the Winchester district is performing in terms of healthy people, lives and places in the context of wider social determinants of health.
- b) Inform and influence the key agencies, institutions and stakeholders involved in supporting health and wellbeing outcomes
- c) Map the council’s work, building on what is already happening and the wider health benefits to be gained.
- d) Recognise the contribution and role the council can (and cannot) play to support, enable and facilitate activities to sustain or improve these priorities.

9.4 In 2024 a review of the data held in the Hampshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) was undertaken by council officers. The JSNA holds

extensive data sets for a number of health factors that have been grouped into three dimensions, as summarised in the Table 1.

### 9.5 Table 1. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – dimensions and factors

Healthy Lives	Healthy People	Healthy Places
<div><b>Risk Factors</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking,</li> <li>•Weight &amp; Diet</li> <li>•Physical activity</li> <li>•Sexual health</li> </ul>	<div><b>Multimorbidity</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Multiple conditions</li> </ul>	<div><b>Physical environment</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Coastal communities</li> <li>•Green spaces</li> <li>•Access to leisure facilities</li> </ul>
<div><b>Maternity</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Birth weight</li> <li>•Smoking status at delivery</li> </ul>	<div><b>Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Common mental health disorders</li> <li>•Serious mental health illness</li> <li>•Health service referrals</li> </ul>	<div><b>Home environment</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Food security, food banks</li> <li>•Housing affordability, tenure, homelessness</li> </ul>
<div><b>Risk factors for Children</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Children in needs, in protection, looked after</li> <li>•School attainment, exclusions, absences</li> <li>•NEET - not in education, employment or training</li> <li>•Child poverty and youth justice system</li> </ul>	<div><b>Population groups</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Carers</li> <li>•Learning disabilities</li> <li>•Special education needs and disability (SEND)</li> </ul>	<div><b>Social &amp; economic environment</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Social isolation</li> <li>•Digital access, quality</li> <li>•Household income, benefit claims, occupation</li> </ul>
<div><b>Risk factors for Adults</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Employment, low income, zero contracts</li> <li>•Cost of living</li> <li>•Violence and domestic abuse</li> </ul>	<div><b>Older adults</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hospital admissions, hip fractures</li> <li>•Dementia</li> </ul>	<div><b>Community safety</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Crime, road safety and accidents, licenced premises - gambling and alcohol</li> </ul>
		<div><b>Environment</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Traffic emission</li> <li>•Transport - car ownership , active travel</li> <li>•Energy consumption, renewable electricity, recycling</li> <li>•Air quality</li> <li>•Weather - heat &amp; cold, flooding, storms</li> </ul>

9.6 The findings of the analysis were shared with the Senior Public Health Practitioner at Hampshire County Council and were jointly presented with them to council's Health and Environment Policy Committee in September 2024. At that meeting it was agreed that the health priorities should approved at a Cabinet Member Decision Day. They should also be used to:

- Test against responses to recent residents' survey. Yes – this is included in the statement.
- Contribute to and align with the Hampshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy review. This work is ongoing, with the final Strategy due to be signed off by the Hampshire Health and Wellbeing Board in June.
- Inform the update of Council Plan in 2025. Yes, done.

9.7 The health priorities statement demonstrates the wider health benefits of the council's work and increases understanding across all services of the contribution being made to the wider health of the population. This work and its findings will be used to:

- a) Inform the targeting of our existing services, programmes and support.
  - b) Integrate within council grant eligibility criteria.
  - c) Supporting evidence for external funding bids.
  - d) Drive social media activity related to our wider health improvement objectives.
- 9.8 The priorities identified are those over which the council has influence, and to which it can meaningfully contribute. Continuing to work in collaboration with health and community service providers will be vital for the council achieving its aim of giving residents the chance to improve their physical and mental health and encourage community involvement and well-being throughout the district.
- 10 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED
- 10.1 Do not publish a health priorities statement for the district. This is rejected as not having an evidence-based set of priorities means that the council cannot best direct its resources to those people and places most in need. It would also mean that the council could not effectively influence health partners and agencies to deliver provision in the district.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

### Previous Cabinet/Committee Reports or Cabinet Member Decisions:-

Health Priorities presentation : Health and Environment Policy Committee 19 September 2024.

[Agenda for Health and Environment Policy Committee on Thursday, 19th September, 2024, 6.30 pm - Winchester City Council](#)

### Other Background Documents:-

Hampshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council](#)

## APPENDICES:

Appendix 1. Health Priorities Statement for Winchester District.