



<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	5 December 2023
<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Bill Handley	
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Peter Campbell, Head of Housing	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No  The key decision was first published in September 2023 Forward Plan.	

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## Health & Wellbeing Strategy Refresh 2024-2028

### Executive Summary

1. The Health & Wellbeing Strategy was previously agreed by Cabinet in July 2019 for the period 2019-2024. However, shortly thereafter followed the COVID-19 pandemic, a cost-of-living crisis and the formation of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care System (CPICS). Cumulatively, these factors influenced our priorities and the way we deliver our services. It was agreed that an up-to-date Strategy was required to reflect the environment in which we now work, to cover the period 2024-2028.

### Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the Strategy and its appendices are approved by Cabinet on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

### Details

3. Health and Wellbeing covers work we do across the whole Council.
4. To help shape the updated strategy, a workshop was first held with members of Scrutiny and Overview in June 2023 to gain Member input. Their views have been incorporated into the refreshed strategy.
5. Members raised matters relating to the following:
  - a. lessons learned from covid
  - b. a greater need for closer collaboration amongst other organisations, particularly Cambridgeshire County Council, to avoid duplication of resources
  - c. the need to address isolation and loneliness across all age groups within new communities as a key priority
  - d. continued investment in existing good schemes e.g. mobile wardens (as opposed to creating new schemes)

- e. access to culture, heritage and the arts to play a greater role in health and wellbeing, particularly in new communities.
6. A further workshop was held with key officers across the Council to ensure the draft strategy was representative of all our work and priorities and that we are collaborating on projects, policies and strategies to join forces and provide specialist input where needed.
7. Following comments from Scrutiny and Overview Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> November, it was highlighted that poor provision of public transport was a major barrier to improving health outcomes and addressing inequalities and that this should feature more prominently in the strategy. Officers will explore how the Council can support expansion of schemes such as volunteer Community Transport schemes reliant on volunteer drivers. The Council will also explore the feasibility and safety relating to village-based Whatsapp car-sharing schemes similar to that which currently exists in Cambourne.
8. In relation to mental health early intervention and prevention, the Council will continue to address needs using a neighbourhood approach in partnership with CPICS.
9. Whilst there is already an extensive network of communication channels to promote health and wellbeing activities across the district, greater ongoing active promotion will be used where possible to ensure those in most need are being supported.

## **Reasons for Recommendations**

10. The original Health & Wellbeing Strategy was developed in July 2019 prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and prior to the Health and Care Act July 2022 (which saw the formation of 42 Integrated Care Systems across England). A cost-of-living crisis has also since developed and so the Strategy no longer reflects the environment in which we now live, work and age.
11. The pandemic has created greater inequalities across a range of factors which affect people's living standards and health outcomes, which has created a greater focus for the Council on cost-of-living support for the most vulnerable.
12. Working as a signatory to CPICS, our activities must align to achieving the goals outlined in the CPICS Health & Care Strategy to create greater synergy in achieving shared goals.

## **Options**

13. Recommended option – Cabinet agrees the new Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2024-28 and its appendices, attached.
14. Alternative option – Cabinet makes recommendations for further alterations to the new Health & Wellbeing Strategy for 2024-28, providing details.

## **Implications**

### **Financial and Fraud Risk**

15. No additional funding is required to deliver the actions outlined in this Strategy.

## **Legal**

16. There are no significant implications.

## **Staffing**

17. There are no significant implications.

## **Risks/Opportunities**

18. The activities outlined in this strategy have the potential to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for residents across the district using a wide range of interventions. However, health outcomes are multi-factorial and not the sole influence of Council activities.

19. There are no planned budget increases over the term of this Strategy. However, there may be future reductions which could lead to the discontinuation of some non-statutory activities funded by SCDC outlined in the actions. Where programmes receive external funding, these are likely to be subject to ongoing review.

## **Equality and Diversity**

20. An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is undertaken routinely on individual activity and project areas resulting from the strategy in line with the Council's policy.

## **Climate Change**

21. Climate change is strongly linked to health outcomes. Numerous projects and activities from across the Council are linked to the Zero Carbon ambition, including those in this Strategy.

## **Health & Wellbeing**

22. The health impacts associated with poor housing condition, local community, access to good education and work, financial hardship, are well evidenced. This strategy aims to deliver numerous positive health impacts from across the Council by working collaboratively within the Council and with partners from the Integrated Care System.

## **Consultation**

23. Workshops were undertaken with Councillors and officers from across the Council as well as elected members from the Scrutiny and Overview Committee.

## **Alignment with Council Priority Areas**

### **1. Growing local businesses and economies**

This strategy involves working closely to deliver projects via the voluntary sector and local business. This creates positive impacts by supporting hyper local organisations to develop their business models, provide employment for local people and build social value through the creation of increased volunteering roles and quality job opportunities across the district.

### **2. Housing that is truly affordable for everyone to live in**

This strategy highlights our strong links with housing and debt advice services to work with those in need of financial support through a wide range of support from provision of grants to adaptations to homes to improve energy efficiencies.

### **3. Being green to our core**

There are many activities and projects resulting from the strategy which will help the Council achieve its net zero targets. Through planning and housing policy, our work towards creating a sustainable food network, and grants to deliver local improvements to buildings, nature and biodiversity.

### **4. A modern and caring Council**

The breadth and depth of the strategy addresses the wider determinants as it aims to address matters relating to housing, income, jobs, social and community cohesion and access to health services.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A: Health & Wellbeing Strategy

Appendix B: Activities and actions to deliver the strategy.

Appendix C: Lessons learned from Covid

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