

5th February 2019

The Walsall Plan: Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019-2021

Portfolio: Councillor Bird

Related portfolios: All

Wards: All

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Improving the Health and Wellbeing of the people who live and work in Walsall is a key aim of Walsall Council and its strategic partners. To support this aim, and to fulfil its statutory duty, the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) is required to ensure that there is a Health and Wellbeing Strategy in place for the Borough.
- 1.2 The Walsall Plan: Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020 was approved by Council in May 2017. In the intervening time, work has progressed against the 31 priority areas identified therein. A review of the strategy in conjunction with partners and in consultation with relevant Partnership Boards has concluded that there are too many priorities and that governance is too complex to enable rapid and meaningful and measurable progress to be made. In October 2018, a refresh of the strategy commenced, starting with work to update the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). Engagement has taken place with a range of partners, Boards and Scrutiny committees. Partners across the Borough have agreed three priority areas, which form the basis of the plan and will be the focus for 2019-2021.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That Members consider the report and draft strategy.**

3. Report detail

3.1 The Walsall Plan: Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2017-2020) was approved by Council in May 2017. The Plan had 31 priorities to be addressed across seven partnership Boards. A review and refresh of the Plan was initiated in October 2018. Feedback was sought from across the partnership and key issues identified included:

- Too many priorities making it difficult to capture progress against them.
- Priorities have not necessarily been 'owned' across the system as a whole
- Partners lack clarity on what the Walsall Plan is
- Complex governance and accountability in delivery of the Plan.

3.2 The Plan has been refreshed with the aim of agreeing a smaller number of priorities that are:

- Focused
- Achievable
- Measurable
- Tangible to allow delivery of some key activities within a 12 month time frame
- Cross cutting to ensure partner organisations contribute and have an impact.

There is consensus that the strategy should focus on not more than three priority areas to ensure that the energy of the partnership is not dissipated.

3.3 To help inform the refresh of the strategy, the Walsall Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) has been updated with the most recent data available. Key issues identified include violence, childhood poverty, obesity in adults and children and fuel poverty. Full details of this update can be found at the link under background papers.

3.4 A series of engagement meetings have taken place to consider what the three key priority areas should be for 2019 to 2021. These have been agreed as:

- Prevention of violence
- Getting Walsall on the move
- Improving the environment of Walsall town centre.

3.5 Themes have been collated capturing the actions that partners will commit to undertake to contribute to the three priorities. These are emerging as:

- ***Prevention of violence:***

- Providing opportunities to our residents – employment/volunteering
- Education through promotion of messages to prevent violence

- ***Getting Walsall on the move:***

- Increasing the numbers of the workforce or residents who are physically active
- Promoting the use of social prescribing which has a focus on physical activity

- ***Improving the environment of Walsall town centre:***

- Education/Advice/Support to businesses and traders about licensing, health and safety, training in key areas linked to wider health and wellbeing issues
- Making the built environment more appealing so that it contributes to health and wellbeing in the widest sense e.g. encouraging a sense of pride in Walsall Town Centre, increasing the number of residents who use local green spaces.

3.6 Workshops have taken place with strategic and operational leads in most partner agencies to refine their commitments and to ensure that they are tangible and measurable. These will be brought to the HWBB for discussion and agreement.

3.7 Discussions around governance have focussed on the need to ensure accountability is clear and straightforward and that there is a robust process to measure progress against the refreshed Walsall Plan. A governance framework has been developed whereby the work of the Walsall Plan is overseen by the HWBB. The Walsall Proud Partnership would be responsible for ensuring Chief Executive level commitment for action against all priorities.

3.8 The HWBB will receive a final summary report highlighting key achievements relating to the previous set of 31 priorities.

4. Resource and legal implications

There are no direct staffing or financial implications. There is a legal requirement to produce a joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

5. Council Corporate Plan priorities

5.1 The priorities in the Walsall Plan refresh map across to the priorities below in the Corporate Plan:

Economic Growth – for all people, communities and businesses

People – Have increased independence, improved health and can positively contribute to their communities

Children – Have the best possible start and are safe from harm, happy, healthy and learning well

Communities – are prospering and resilient with all housing needs met in safe and healthy places that build a strong sense of belonging and cohesion.

6. Property implications

None.

7. Reducing Inequalities

HWBBs have a duty to ensure a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and Health and Wellbeing Strategy are in place. These are used to identify local priorities and develop local plans to improve the health and wellbeing of their population and reduce health inequalities. Addressing inequalities is a core theme in The Walsall Plan, running across all priorities.

8. Consultation

Fourteen engagement meetings have taken place with internal and external partners on what the three key priorities should be for 2019 to 2021. These have included workshops with partner organisations to agree key priority areas and to develop the actions underneath these.

Background papers

- Link to JSNA material on the Walsall Insight Website - [Walsall JSNA](#)

Contact Officers

Nicola Morris

Public Health Programme Development and Commissioning Manager (Wider Determinants)

☎ 653962

✉ Nicola.Morris@walsall.gov.uk

Emma Thomas

Public Health Intelligence Manager

☎ 653749

✉ Emma.Thomas@walsall.gov.uk

Hamira Sultan
Consultant in Public Health
☎ 652389
✉ Hamira.Sultan@walsall.gov.uk

Janice Rowley
Health and Wellbeing Board Coordinator
☎ 653747
✉ Janice.Rowley@walsall.gov.uk

Dr Barbara Watt
Director of Public Health
☎ 653752
✉ Barbara.Watt@walsall.gov.uk