

KIRKLEES HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD
MEETING DATE: 27th June, 2024
TITLE OF PAPER: Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Healthy Places update
<p>1. Purpose of paper</p> <p>To update the Board on the Healthy Places theme of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.</p>
<p>2. Background</p> <p>The last update to Board on this theme was in June 2023. During this Board, updates included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The contribution of The Bread and Butter Thing. ➤ Developments around playable spaces. ➤ Huddersfield and Dewsbury blueprints. ➤ Developments around Air Quality. <p>The Healthy Places ambition is that:</p> <p>“The physical and social infrastructure and environment supports people of all ages who live, work or study in Kirklees to maximise their health opportunities and to make the healthy choice the easy choice.”</p> <p>Local partners have made the following commitments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We will work with partners to ensure quality planning, design, construction and management of spaces, places and homes. ➤ We will facilitate development and implement local plans that respects and creates safe and attractive places, thriving, cohesive communities and supports health and wellbeing for those that live, work or study in Kirklees. ➤ We will develop and maintain a range of spaces and infrastructure, that are safe and encourage all forms of physical activity and movement and support positive emotional wellbeing. ➤ We will work with local communities to enable people to travel safely and actively to and from where they study, work and spend time. ➤ We will implement identified measures which improve air quality and pollution. ➤ We will work with communities to understand their local needs and offer a variety of opportunities to access physical activity, recreation, connection and culture and heritage activities. ➤ We will support our communities to gain access to the internet from their homes. <p>The following ‘I Statements’ were identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ I would like safe accessible local places where I can meet friends and we can do activities together regardless of our age and abilities. ➤ I would like to access affordable activities that I can do with my children that help us to be physically and mentally fit.

- I would like my local area to be disability friendly, making sure we are all included regardless of our abilities and needs.
- I would like green, natural, outdoor spaces in my local area that help me to be active and support my wellbeing.

3. Proposal/Update

The following updates have been provided and cross referenced with the commitments made by partners.

Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods (KHN):

We will work with communities to understand their local needs and offer a variety of opportunities to access physical activity, recreation, connection and culture and heritage activities.

We will facilitate, develop and implement local plans that respects and creates safe and attractive places, thriving, cohesive communities and supports health and wellbeing for those that live, work or study in Kirklees.

KHN have several community centres and places where people can meet. Events are organised in Retirement Living Schemes and officers work with other agencies to hold Wellbeing events providing information at schemes/community centres.

Examples of this work include:

- Breast, Prostate & Bowel Cancer awareness sessions.
- Digital Inclusion – officers are working with Crosland Moor Community Learning Centre resource centre. Colleagues have attended several schemes where residents have expressed an interest in upskilling their IT skills. Residents are now attending digital workshops in the community.
- Taster sessions for Movement & Games in Chair activities.
- Coffee mornings (which are tenant led.)
- Regular trips to local places through the access bus .
- Day trips which have been organised by residents.
- Officers are in the process of working with Public Health around a stop smoking project.

Playable Spaces

- The programme of delivery for playable spaces across Kirklees continues.
- Progress through the stages, including completion photos and Play Value and Inclusivity scores are uploaded onto our main Playable Spaces webpage on the Kirklees Website: [Playable spaces | Kirklees Council](#) .
- We are seeing increases in Play and Inclusivity Scores on all completed sites.

Integrated Communities:

We will develop and maintain a range of spaces and infrastructure that are safe and encourage all forms of physical activity and movement and support positive emotional wellbeing.

We will work with communities to understand their local needs and offer a variety of opportunities to access physical activity, recreation, connection and culture and heritage activities.

We will support our communities to gain access to the internet from their homes.

Libraries:

- All Kirklees libraries are recognised nationally as safe places, warm spaces and Libraries of Sanctuary - supporting universal access to a wide range of activities delivered free of charge in welcoming, supportive and neutral environments.
- There is a free Chromebook Loaning Scheme and provision of free data SIM cards. This is providing access to specific groups that would otherwise be excluded.
- Social Prosperity Fund digital inclusion project. This includes working with the Library Home Service to establish a tablet loan scheme which provides support and training to new users and increasing digital skills. There are also digital support drop ins which involve supporting customers to maximise the use of their own devices to access information, support, resources and to complete transactions. We are also using digital outreach with isolated groups e.g. asylum seekers and refugees.

Community Plus

- The new Community Plus service will consist of multi-functional community teams, working from community buildings such as Libraries. They will work with communities on improving health and wellbeing including tackling violence, self-care, increasing social connectedness, addressing extremism and hate, building relationships within and between communities and supporting the development of strong and resilient communities.
- Teams will be key to understanding the communities they work with and will develop a strengthened and coordinated approach to gaining real community insight. This will help to identify issues at the earliest stages and respond to community tensions in a timely and coordinated way. Sources of information will flow between communities and the Council and provide better access to health and wellbeing support, building on the wide range of community and faith contacts, connectors and networks.
- Community plus will continue to signpost and connect people to a range of accessible physical activities across Kirklees based upon individual need. A 'Train the Trainer' approach will also be offered to volunteers and community champions to further develop Walk leadership and MAGIC (Movement & Games in Chairs) sessions, providing accessible activities for communities.
- Officers will be developing place-based Asset Logs to ensure that coordinators have knowledge of current local activities for all communities and demographics.
- Community Plus are working with residents to pilot the Playing Out programme which involves closing off streets for a few hours so that children can play outside. This means children to be able to play out freely on the streets and estates where they live. This will be piloted in 2 areas of North Kirklees.

Public Health:

We will develop and maintain a range of spaces and infrastructure that are safe and encourage all forms of physical activity and movement and support positive emotional wellbeing.

We will work with communities to understand their local needs and offer a variety of opportunities to access physical activity, recreation, connection and culture and heritage activities.

Community Champions

- CORE20Plus and UK Social Prosperity Funding has enabled us to develop a thriving core Community Champions project that is managed by Kirklees TSL and delivered through our Community Anchor organisations and targeted VCSE grassroots groups and organisations.
- The aims of the project are to increase health literacy, embed prevention approaches and enable better health and care access and engagement to reduce health inequities.
- It is delivered by known and trusted people from within our target populations (who speak 18 community languages between them), in known, trusted and convenient venues.
- Healthwatch Kirklees analyse and produce insight reports on the gathered data that are used to inform our systems approach to tackling inequalities.
- The project delivers a rolling programme of topics (typically 6-8 weeks duration), with an accompanying training offer. Topics to date include cancer screening (breast, bowel and cervical), asthma, cardiovascular disease, mental health and women's health; coming topics include falls, dying well awareness, addictions and community safety.
- Additional project benefits include a route into employment for Champions. The current CORE20Plus5 and UKSPF funding ends in March 2025. In addition to the core project, TSL have recently managed the diabetes (WYICB funded), Health Families (genetics focused), maternity, winter vaccination and measles Community Champions projects.

Alcohol Licensing Tool

Colleagues from Public Health and Licensing have worked together in order to create an intelligence-based tool which will allow consultees to better consider alcohol-related health harms when responding to a licensing application.

Physical Activity

Supporting work on the emerging Sport England Place Partnership programme, with a Leadership Essentials programme aimed at supporting systems leadership across a number of stakeholders to be held in late June.

The Place Partnership approach from Sport England is aimed at achieving one, or more, of the following objectives: Increasing activity; decreasing inactivity; tackling inequality; providing positive experiences for children and young people. The funding will extend until 2028, which supports the intention that this will drive sustainable change, and as a result, should impact on the system(s) which some of our least active and most disadvantaged communities/cohorts tell us (through extensive engagement) are the main barriers which limit or prevent their ability to be physically active.

Bread and Butter Thing

This now operates across 10 hubs in Kirklees.

Asthma

A small pilot project externally funded (West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board's Winter Warmth Programme) and is a partnership between: Public Health, Greenwood Primary Care Network and Groundworks/Green Doctor. The pilot aims to offer small to medium range home improvement interventions where a household has an asthma patient aged 0-19yrs and the housing condition has been noted in GP records as exacerbating the health condition.

The target is to engage and assess a maximum of 50 households within the Greenwood PCN area that meet the eligibility criteria. The pilot is still ongoing and has yet to be fully evaluated. Several properties have had electric humidifiers and new or replacement electrical ventilation units installed as well as receiving comprehensive information and advice on behaviour change that would also mitigate against condensation and mould formation generally etc.

Major Projects:

We will work with partners to ensure quality planning, design, construction and management of spaces, places and homes.

We will develop and maintain a range of spaces and infrastructure that are safe and encourage all forms of physical activity and movement and support positive emotional wellbeing.

We will work with local communities to enable people to travel safely and actively to and from where they study, work and spend time.

Active Travel

- Implementing active travel schemes, including on Huddersfield Narrow Canal, Huddersfield Broad Canal and Meltham Greenway. Further schemes to be developed on the Spen Valley Greenway and Primrose Lane.
- Supporting delivery of CRSTS WY Places Fund – includes Brunswick Street and Cleckheaton Greenway Link.
- Supporting delivery of Active Travel Fund 4 along with the Canal and River Trust - includes Huddersfield Narrow Canal Phase 3 (Marsden to Slaithwaite) - 4.41km towpath upgrade AND Huddersfield Broad Canal (Aspley Marina to Cooper Bridge) - 5.75km towpath upgrade.
- Supporting delivery of Active Travel Fund 4E - Lydgate School Safety.
- Revenue funding through Active Travel England (ATE) Capability Funding – supports network development (Local Cycling & Walking Implementation Plans, network design, scheme planning, etc) and behaviour change work (cycle training, comms, campaigns etc).
- Delivering civic campus tours to showcase facilities in Civic 1 and encourage more Council staff to walk, wheel and ride to work.

Public Transport

- Current improvements to bus infrastructure, including modernisation of Huddersfield (with West Yorkshire Combined Authority) and Dewsbury (just West Yorkshire Combined Authority) Bus Stations and building of new Heckmondwike Bus Station. Improvements in Huddersfield will involve a new active travel hub.
- Seeking improvements to bus infrastructure and integration as part of all new transport projects. Supporting West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) as necessary as they move to a new enhanced partnership system in relation to bus franchising.
- Working with National Rail to facilitate work on the TransPennine Route Upgrade. Funding has been made available to support the 'First and Last Mile' work, which will provide better active travel linkage from stations on the upgraded route, e.g., via work to enhance canal towpaths between Mirfield and Shepley.
- Secured money for improvements to the Penistone Line through Levelling Up Fund (LUF).
- Working with WYCA on their ambitions for mass transit across West Yorkshire – currently in phase 1 of the work. Key goal is to build resilience into our transport systems and give people more options to travel actively and / or sustainably.

General

- Currently working on Kirklees Transport Strategy which will dovetail into and support Local Transport Plan that the WYCA are drafting. The ambition is to have a resilient, integrated transport system in Kirklees.

Planning and Development:

We will work with partners to ensure quality planning, design, construction and management of spaces, places and homes.

We will facilitate development and implement local plans that respects and creates safe and attractive places, thriving, cohesive communities and supports health and wellbeing for those that live, work or study in Kirklees.

We will develop and maintain a range of spaces and infrastructure that are safe and encourage all forms of physical activity and movement and support positive emotional wellbeing.

- Creation of new local plan (Launched November 2023). The new plan will set out how Kirklees should be developed over the next 15 years, in line with national policy and legislation. The Local Plan will be used to help decide on planning applications and other planning related decisions. This will help to shape Kirklees as a healthy place to live, shape infrastructure investments and determine the future pattern of development across the district.
- Working closely with the University of Huddersfield to facilitate delivery of the National Health Innovation Campus (NHIC) at Southgate, that will deliver world class teaching, research and public/community health facilities as part of the wider Station to Stadium Enterprise Corridor; research and innovation activity in the NHIC will be focused on improving local health and wellbeing outcomes and will develop links with other innovative projects including the Council's new dementia care facility at Knowl Park House; the first building on campus - the Daphne Steel Building - is expected to open in September 2024 and will deliver courses in nursing and other allied health professions; the second building (scheduled to open in early 2026) will house the first Community

Diagnostic Hub to be located in a University campus and will deliver access to MRI, CT and other scanning/diagnostic facilities.

Democracy and Place Standard Engagement (PSE):

We will develop and maintain a range of spaces and infrastructure that are safe and encourage all forms of physical activity and movement and support positive emotional wellbeing.

We will work with communities to understand their local needs and offer a variety of opportunities to access physical activity, recreation, connection and culture and heritage activities.

- 1,412 citizens took part in place standard engagement across four neighbourhoods in 2023 (Skelmanthorpe (351), Brockholes (147), Newsome (311) and Marsden (603). The PSE explored how people felt about where they live in relation to a number of themes including natural spaces, play and recreation, social contact, identity and belonging, influence and sense of control.
- The feedback from the PSE has been published and action planning has taken place with Cllrs, citizens and partners to agree priorities for a local action plan.
- Initial priorities and actions for three areas (Newsome, Brockholes and Skelmanthorpe) have been developed and published and the final one is being finalised. Details of the PSE mentioned above, previous years PSE and action plans can be found on the [how good is our place website](#).
- We created our **Democracy Friendly Schools programme** with the aspiration of involving every young citizen. The programme helps young people to learn about and feel part of local democracy and civic life, to connect with Councillors, develop their own projects and activities and to have influence over what happens in their local place. The programme is open to all schools. 25 schools in North Kirklees and 26 in South Kirklees are currently participating.
- **Growing Great Places (GGP)** is the Council's civic crowdfunding programme which helps to raise funds for projects with a social common goal through civic crowdfunding.

Environmental Health:

We will implement identified measures which improve air quality and pollution.

We will develop and maintain a range of spaces and infrastructure that are safe and encourage all forms of physical activity and movement and support positive emotional wellbeing.

We will facilitate development and implement local plans that respects and creates safe and attractive places, thriving, cohesive communities and supports health and wellbeing for those that live, work or study in Kirklees.

Licensing Policy

- Review and re-publication of Kirklees Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003 covering, alcohol, entertainment and late-night refreshment.
- Agreement to strengthen the alcohol harm elements of the Policy via use of local public health intelligence.

Air Quality

- Review and republication of Kirklees Air Quality Action Plan and Air Quality Strategy.

Food Safety

- Food Safety Plan – statutory plan to deliver food safety controls in Kirklees.

Culture and Visitor Economy

We will work with communities to understand their local needs and offer a variety of opportunities to access physical activity, recreation, connection and culture and heritage activities.

Town Halls

- We are committed to developing our programme alongside communities through post-event questionnaires, gathering feedback and asking residents what they would like to see at our Town Halls through Facebook, surveys and face-to-face conversations at events, such as at our Bollywood Day in April 2024.
- Our commercial programming is expanding and diversifying to introduce a wider range of shows and events for all ages and demographics.
- We have launched a membership scheme to encourage residents to feel more connected with our venues and working with new cultural organisations to widen our appeal.
- Our Pay it Forward Fund is allowing us to reach deeper into communities and offer the many social and health benefits of live performance to those who would ordinarily not have this opportunity, via links with local Third Sector organisations.
- We continue to develop the shared experience of our historic, listed buildings with such activities as our alliance with Heritage Open Days in September.

Development of the Kirklees Tourism Strategy

- Interest in physical and mental health has increased demand for active holidays, through simple pursuits such as walking and cycling, or 'community' activities such as yoga retreats, country sports, cultural festivals and craft courses.

Heritage Strategy - April 2024

- The strategy aims to support heritage and the programmes it can deliver within our communities to build stronger connections and experiences with one another and contribute to positive impacts for wellbeing, learning and skills development for the future. It will encourage inclusive opportunities for everyone to understand, enjoy and share our common heritage. An example being Monday's at the Museums which aims to improve Health and Wellbeing of the users with targeted activities.

4. Financial Implications

There continue to be challenges across the system due to budget pressures.

5. Sign off

Rachel Spencer Henshall, Strategic Director for Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health.

6. Next Steps

Board to consider the Healthy Places update and provide feedback on how they can continue to support the Healthy Places theme.

7. Recommendations

8. Contact Officer

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