

**SUNDERLAND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

29 May 2015

**JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENTS**

**Report of the Executive Director of People Services**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To support the board to develop a framework for the further development of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments.

**2. Background**

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 amended the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to introduce duties and powers for health and wellbeing boards in relation to joint strategic needs assessments (JSNAs).

Local authorities and clinical commissioning groups have equal and joint duties to prepare JSNAs. The responsibility falls on the health and wellbeing board as a whole with success bring dependent upon all members working together.

Health and Wellbeing boards can request relevant information to support JSNAs from organisations represented on the board (core members and others) and when asked they have a duty to supply the information if they hold it.

The Act determines that the JSNAs must assess current and future health and social care needs within the health and wellbeing board area, covering the whole population and must be published. This allows transparency and accountability explaining to the local public what the board's assessment of the local needs are and what the proposals are to address these needs.

The Health and Wellbeing Boards have the responsibility to determine when JSNAs should be refreshed or updated, again this process should be transparent with boards being clear with partners and local communities how this will be done.

**3. Current Position**

A number of JSNAs have been developed and published in PDF format on Sunderland City Council website. These JSNAs have been added to and updated periodically, however, as with any document that includes data these become out of date almost as soon as they are prepared and published. List attached at **Annex 1**.

Given the duties introduced under the Act there is now an opportunity to review the framework for the development, creation and publication of JSNAs.

## **4. Proposal**

To develop and create a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment that will act as the single vehicle for all strategic intelligence, initially covering health and wellbeing and the wider issues that affect health such as employment, crime and disorder and housing. Future opportunities for further development include creating area profiles and expanding the information to incorporate Economy and Place.

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessments will be moved from a static annual publication to a continually evolving on-line “wiki” resource hosted on Sunderland City Council website. Bath and North Somerset Council have implemented such a resource as shown in Annex 2 and following a peer challenge this framework was identified and shared as notable practice.

In practice this means that once the resource is developed, created and published partners can continuously update the JSNA ‘wiki’ resource which includes data as well as intelligence such as patient feedback and service user data.

Officers and members within the Council, the wider health and wellbeing system, the voluntary and community sector and local communities can use the JSNA as a shared resource.

In order for the proposal to be progressed a multi-agency steering group (time-limited task and finish group) would need to be established to progress the development and creation of the resource.

Once the JSNA resource is established core members and partners of the board would need to identify practitioner representatives who would be responsible for the ongoing refresh of the resource online.

### **Recommendations**

1. Consider and note the content of the report.
2. Consider and agree the establishment of a multi-agency task and finish group (representatives) to develop and implement the online resource.