

SUNDERLAND JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA) 2023/2024

Report of the Executive Director Health, Housing and Communities

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present the draft Sunderland Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to members of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The development of a JSNA is a statutory requirement. Local authorities and Integrated Commissioning Boards (ICBs) must have regard to the relevant JSNAs and Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategies (JLHWS) so far as it is relevant when exercising their functions. JSNA is not an end in itself, but is a continuous process of strategic assessment to support the development of local evidence-based priorities for commissioning which will improve the public's health and reduce inequalities.
- 2.2 JSNA is the process by which Sunderland City Council and North East and North Cumbria ICB (Sunderland Place), working in collaboration with partners and the wider community, identify the health and wellbeing needs of the local population. It provides an insight into current and future health, wellbeing and daily living needs of local people and informs the commissioning of services and interventions. It supports a Health in All Policies approach to the development of strategic priorities, aiming to improve health and wellbeing outcomes and reduce inequalities.
- 2.3 The draft JSNA has been shared with the Starting Well, Living Well and Ageing Well Delivery Boards for feedback and officers from these Boards have helped develop the JSNA.
- 2.4 The Sunderland JSNA website is online at: [Sunderland Joint Strategic Needs Assessment - Sunderland City Council](#). This includes a new data and insights section which further enhances our understanding of need in the city, and is available at: [Sunderland Data Observatory](#).

3.0 Overview of the 2023/24 Assessment

- 3.1 The draft JSNA for 2023/24 is set out in the appendix. It includes consideration of the social determinants of health, deprivation, health risks, disease and disability, major causes of mortality and the impact on life expectancy.
- 3.2 The social determinants of health, including income, housing and homelessness, crime, domestic violence, the living environment, social

isolation and accident prevention, all impact on inequalities and affect people's health and happiness. The 2023/24 JSNA has continued to increase its focus on the social determinants of health.

3.3 High level challenges identified are:

- Poverty levels within the city continue to have an impact and should be tackled by increasing levels of employment in good work through attracting more jobs into the city, increasing educational and skills attainment of Sunderland residents and ensuring as many people as possible are supported to stay in work, despite having a health condition.
- The cost of living crisis is hitting the poorest residents most significantly. These impacts are also reaching an increasing proportion of Sunderland residents and forcing residents to take decisions relating to diet and heating that will impact directly on the long-term health and wellbeing outcomes of Sunderland's population.
- Children and young people in Sunderland face some significant health challenges and inequalities across the social determinants of health. Partners need to work together and with children, young people and families to address these issues and build resilience. The Children and Young People Health Related Behaviours Survey 2022/23 will be reported to Health and Wellbeing Board in December.
- The four main behavioural risk factors – smoking, diet, alcohol, substance misuse and physical inactivity – lead to poor health outcomes and increase health inequalities and so programmes need to continue to be developed, in partnership with local people, to make it easier to make the healthy choice. There is a need to continue to support and grow the voluntary sector capacity as well as protect and grow physical assets to enable services to be delivered within communities.
- People in Sunderland have poor mental wellbeing and suffer from a higher burden of mental ill health than the rest of England. This should be tackled through a preventative programme alongside recognition of the needs of people with poorer mental health and wellbeing and the impacts this has on their physical health.
- There are more people in Sunderland living with, and prematurely dying from, cancer, cardiovascular disease and respiratory disease than elsewhere in the country. Partners need to be clear that primary, secondary and tertiary prevention programmes are in place that ensure that no opportunities are missed to prevent these diseases and stop them progressing.
- The ageing population, as well as the high numbers of people with long term, often multiple conditions, has a significant impact on local people and services. This needs to continue to be addressed through integrated care and supporting people to self-care as well as a transparent, whole system approach to preventing service failure.
- Inequalities, relating to both socio-economic position and protected characteristics, have a significant impact on the health of people in Sunderland and should be considered for all interventions and policies, recognising that socio-economic inequalities are a continuum across the population and that some people are impacted by multiple inequalities.

- Commercial determinants of health drive inequalities; not all harmful products are consumed equally, and some groups and populations are more vulnerable to the negative impacts. People in the most deprived areas are more likely to die from non-communicable diseases than those in the least deprived areas – they are also more likely to be targeted as consumers through advertising and retail units.
- Responding to health protection (infectious diseases) threats requires prevention work, rapid identification and a swift response to complex cases in high risk places, locations and communities. Covid-19 has directly and indirectly impacted on life expectancy and is expected to have a significant impact on premature mortality.
- The wider impacts of climate change and levels of carbon in our atmosphere impact significantly on the local environment and on mental and physical health. Local residents require access to quality local greenspaces and local services that in turn can aid social inclusion, better well-being and increased physical activity, including through increased opportunities for active transport. Better design of our built and natural environment will reduce exposure to pollution and extreme weather events, and help to tackle fuel poverty.
- Partners across the city are working with communities to support improvements in health outcomes, reduce health inequalities and strengthen community resilience, as set out in the Sunderland Healthy City Plan 2020-2030.

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 The overarching JSNA will be finalised following feedback from Board members.
- 4.2 The JSNA and supporting documents will be published on the council website and circulated to key partners.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:
- a) note the findings of the draft Sunderland JSNA;
 - b) agree that the Executive Director Health, Housing and Communities is delegated authority to finalise the JSNA;
 - c) consider whether there any specific additional topics which need to be included in this iteration of the JSNA, or any topics for development over the next year;
 - d) take account of these findings when considering the commissioning plans of all partners;
 - e) take account of these findings when developing plans for the Delivery Boards and workstreams identified as priorities by the Board; and
 - f) support the continual refresh of the JSNA to ensure emerging needs and challenges are widely understood across the city.

