



HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - 5th DECEMBER 2024

REPORT OF LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

REFRESH OF THE JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) an update on work on the ongoing development of the Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), currently being undertaken on a rolling basis, and seek approval to pilot a new approach from 2025 onwards.

Recommendation

2. Approval is being sought from the HWB to pilot a new approach to the JSNA process as set out in the report below.

Policy Framework and Previous Decision

3. The JSNA is a process which assesses the current and future health and wellbeing needs of the population and underpins local planning for health and care services, in particular the development of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS). It involves working with local partners to ensure a broad approach to issues affecting health, including key social and economic determinants of health, where appropriate. Since 2013, the statutory responsibility for the development of the JSNA lies with the local HWB.
4. It should be 'viewed as a continuous process of strategic assessment and planning with the aim to develop local evidence-based priorities for commissioning which will improve the public's health and reduce inequalities.'
5. The Board has previously agreed to adopt a rolling approach to developing priority evidence chapters over a 3-year time period. The approach also includes developing online infographics, online Tableau self-serve dashboards and supporting narrative with recommendations.
6. In recent years JSNAs, in a range of other geographic areas, have been developed as on-going active evidence sources presented visually on-line, mostly as dashboards, but with summaries of key points, allowing for more accessible

and frequent updates of key information, including assessment of health, social or economic trends as they occur.

Background

7. At the moment the JSNA workplan process is focused on the completion of the statutory Pharmaceutical Needs assessment due to come to the board next year. The review of the JHWS is also an upcoming piece of needs assessment work aligned with the JSNA.
8. Health data availability and tools and methods of presentation have moved on greatly from 2013 when JSNAs became a mandate of the HWB. Data is much more available and updated more frequently. Therefore, awaiting traditional chapters to be completed can mean they are out of date when published or not updated quickly enough when new data emerges.
9. The Business Intelligence (BI) Service within the County Council currently leads on the JSNA chapters, working with other agencies and analysts as appropriate, as the holders of the data or intelligence related to health. However traditional chapters require a large amount of project input, service expertise and linkage to national policy and budget changes. Moving to a data-based dashboard approach will allow the Business Intelligence Service to focus on making a more comprehensive set of data, interpretation, and analysis available to a wider audience. This will also free up capacity for the BI team to do other forms of data analysis and support priority needs assessment topics, rather than project managing the JSNA chapters or chasing service expertise information.

Proposals/Options

9. It is proposed to move to a core data dashboard based JSNA approach. This will allow data to be updated in line with data releases. It will also allow for analyst resources to focus on more deep dive analytical work and to focus on the Board's key intelligence needs. A comprehensive Strategic Needs Analysis can also be completed to inform the JHWS and any extra topics requiring more detailed needs analysis identified.
10. It is proposed to use the upcoming JHWS review as an opportunity to review current and future intelligence needs and develop a priority setting document for the HWB. This will include a strategic review of needs, demographic information, forecasting and disease prevalence work, which will form the foundation of the JSNA.
11. It is intended to complement this with a comprehensive supporting data/dashboard based JSNA intelligence set, that will focus on up-to-date dashboards, profiles and self-serve tools based on a variety of data sources including OHID fingertips, ONS and NHS Digital sources. Allowing the JSNA

intelligence set to support commissioning across the county, without awaiting publication of longer, harder to interpret written chapters.

12. To also have a forward-facing demography and health forecasting document to support the JSNA as well as the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment mapping/ data elements.

Resource Implications

14. The principal resourcing for the development of the Leicestershire JSNA is provided by the County Council's BI Service funded by the public health grant, and staff in the Public Health Department. Piloting the new approach will allow analytical resources to be dedicated to priority analytical work and a more strategic approach, rather than trying to cover everything in detail over a 3-year cycle regardless of priority.

Relevant Impact Assessments

Equality Implications

15. The JSNA takes due regard and assesses need and health inequalities in relation to the equality and human rights of different population groups. In particular, it examines sources of Health Inequalities. By moving to the pilot approach, it will allow BI to look at fewer topics, in more depth, including inequalities data where available.

Partnership Working and associated issues.

16. The JSNA is a statutory function of the HWB, but its success depends on collective responsibility from the HWB organisations and departments. A collaborative approach ensures that the JSNA remains a shared responsibility of the entire system, emphasising that is not merely a public health function but a fundamental HWB function, requiring active ownership and contribution from all stakeholders. Providing data and self-serve tools at the appropriate levels, that meet the needs of the board and partners will support effective and appropriate usage.
17. The pilot approach will allow more flexibility to look to align JSNA topics and timescales on a whole system LLR basis, where useful to do so.
18. The LLR Data Cell will continue to oversee overall intelligence delivery for the ICB/LLR area and join up to avoid duplication and to ensure that intelligence resources are deployed to best effect.

Appendices

Appendix 1- New pilot JSNA approach plan

Officers to contact.

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