

Stoke-on-Trent Strategic Partnership Priorities 2016-20 - Feedback

Work to develop our Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Children, Young People and Families Plan and Adults Strategic Partnership Plan started in the autumn of 2015. These documents have been developed in partnership with people who work with children, young people and adults across the city and have taken on board feedback from children, young people and adults who receive services and from members of the public.

Two public consultation exercises have taken place, the first in November 2015. We received 131 responses to this consultation with almost all of the respondents indicating strong support for the proposed priorities.

The second public consultation on the draft documents took place from 28th January to the 21st February 2016, we received 19 responses to our survey and a further 22 people provided feedback via email.

Many of the comments provided useful observations and things for us to think about as the work to deliver the plans starts to take place. Below is a response to specific questions, points and comments.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation.

Your comments	Our feedback
Health and Wellbeing Strategy	
Some respondents asked if the information in the strategy could be presented in a simpler format.	We will be producing a summary and an easy to read version of the strategy.
Priorities and cross cutting themes may be confusing.	In the final designed version of the documents these are now more clearly distinguished.
How can organisations/work places help and support the priorities?	Under each priority there is a section 'other ways that partners can help to make a difference' that provides some examples. We will also be promoting other ideas during the life of the document.
Parents play an important role in relation to the health and wellbeing of their children.	Making a positive difference for children through Parenting is a priority of the Children, Young People and Families Plan 2016-20. This plan is a key supporting plan to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
Can you include reference to eating disorders in relation to emotional health and wellbeing.	Improve emotional health and wellbeing is also a priority of the Children, Young People and Families Plan and this does include focus on children and

	young people with eating disorders.
Not clear whether vaping is included as part of the reduce smoking approach.	When we talk about 'smoking' or 'quitting smoking' we just mean smoked tobacco products. This doesn't include electronic cigarettes or 'vapes'. This is because we know that smoking tobacco is very harmful and there is no safe level of exposure to tobacco smoke. E-cigarettes or 'vapes' do contain nicotine, which is the addictive substance in tobacco, but they do not contain the other 4,000 chemicals found in tobacco smoke. Many people use e-cigarettes to quit smoking or to smoke less tobacco, but at the moment there isn't as much evidence to say whether they are 100% safe (although it's likely that they are a lot safer than tobacco cigarettes).
What does tobacco control mean?	Tobacco control refers to a range of activities aimed at reducing the harm and inequalities caused by smoking. This includes, for example, stop smoking services, preventing the uptake of smoking amongst young people, reducing exposure to second-hand smoke and tackling cigarette-related fires. We've now added a sentence to explain tobacco control.
What is a 'sustainable food city'?	A sustainable food city is about recognising the key role food can play in dealing with some of today's most important social, economic and environmental challenges (such as food poverty, diet-related ill health, obesity and food waste). It's about communities and different organisations working together to make healthy and sustainable food a priority for the city.
Important to add prevention of winter deaths due to cold particularly for older people.	This has now been added to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to the Adults' Strategic Partnership Plan in the Keep Older People Safe and Well priority.
Important that multiple complex needs are considered.	Whilst the strategy priorities are focussed around prevention, supporting people who have more complex needs will also be important and this has now been strengthened under the priorities.
Important that loneliness for all people, not just older people is included.	Tackling loneliness is a key part of the Improve Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health priority of our Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
Employers should be more aware of the	The Increase Breastfeeding priority has been

benefits of breastfeeding and consider the impact of breastfeeding on their productivity.	updated to include a stronger reference to this important point.
Links to housing conditions appear to have been missed. Homes are vital to general health and wellbeing.	We have now referenced the key work underway by the City Council to focus on this: Stoke-on-Trent Homelessness Strategy 2016-20, Stoke-on-Trent Housing Strategy 2016-20 and Age Friendly Homes – Supporting Independence and Choice (Stoke-on-Trent Older People's Housing Strategy).
The Health and Wellbeing Strategy doesn't include education, safeguarding and engagement.	The strategy is the overarching document of a suite of strategic partnership plans, so whilst the strategy itself does make reference to the importance of these issues, the work to underpin this will happen through the supporting plans. The partnership has agreed that involving communities in shaping services is a cross cutting theme for all our plans.
Need to do more to encourage gifted and talented pupils to attend the best universities.	Our focus is that all young people achieve their potential, meet their aspirations and are supported to continue learning – we've made this clearer in the final version of our Children, Young People and Families Plan.
Expand the consideration given to volunteering in the strategy.	This has been strengthened in the strategy. Involving communities in shaping services to address needs and encouraging community leadership is a cross cutting theme of all our partnership plans.
The strategy doesn't mention the current challenges facing people who are experiencing mental distress of crisis 'out of hours'.	The work in relation to out of hours mental health services and the Crisis Care Concordat is a key activity of the Improve Emotional Health and Wellbeing priority that sits in the Adults' Strategic Partnership Plan, a key underpinning document to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
In relation to emotional wellbeing and mental health could this be strengthened to include upskilling NHS/social care staff to understand how mental health problems make physical problems more intolerable?	We have taken this on board and have included workforce training in the Adults' Strategic Partnership Plan.
There are other things that are important to us for example making sure there is support available, carers, hate crime and public transport.	The Health and Wellbeing Strategy and our partnership plans don't cover everything we will do as a partnership to support and help people. For example the Council and health partners will continue to provide support as part of their agreed

	<p>services.</p> <p>We've added more information recognising the the role of carers and the impact that the caring role can have on an individual's emotional and mental wellbeing. We have also added a number of measures related to carers levels of social contact and quality of life.</p> <p>We have asked colleagues to let us know what they are doing around the issues of hate crime and transport. The Safer City Partnership commissions a hate crime service through Challenge North Staffs, for people who either have or haven't reported it to the Police.</p> <p>We are currently working with local bus operators to look at the level of service and are considering options.</p> <p>The national concessionary bus travel scheme operates after 9:30 a.m. but some local bus operators offer a reduced £1 fare for pass holders before 9:30 a.m.</p>
Where is the funding coming from to deliver the strategy?	The cost of achieving the vision and priorities of the strategy will be met through existing transformational work programmes and within existing resources.
Helpful to add more information on how health and social care can work together so that patients/citizens get quicker/more convenient treatment.	The Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Adults' Strategic Partnership Plan set out strategic commitments and this is very much part of our approach to integrated health and care teams.

Your comments	Our feedback
Adults' Strategic Partnership Plan	
<p>Would be helpful to see links with housing/environmental health to improve the health of communities.</p>	<p>We have now included links to housing in relation to supporting the health and wellbeing of older people and people with mental health needs, through the inclusion of the Council's housing investment programme; the Older People's Housing Strategy; development of extra care housing facilities; recognition of links between homelessness and poor mental health (cause and consequence) and reference to the under development Stoke-on-Trent Homelessness Strategy 2016-2020.</p>
<p>Important that people with mental health issues are supported to get help with underlying issues that may contribute to issues such as homelessness or relationship breakdown, bereavement etc.</p> <p>Consider the needs of people with multiple and complex needs and people from "hard to reach" communities.</p> <p>Enhance GP training around mental health - particularly in support of the parity of esteem agenda</p>	<p>A key cross cutting theme and commitment in all of our partnership plans is to 'work together so people can access our services easily'. An example of this is through our Cooperative Working approach, this will be key to ensuring people get the help they need with underlying issues.</p> <p>The plan is intended to be inclusive to all adults in the city. We are not able to list every group or cohort of people who will be impacted upon within the plan, but we have conducted Equality Impact Assessments which consider the potential impact (positive or negative) on groups and individuals. These will be published along with the final plans.</p> <p>Through the plan we will work in partnership to encourage wider workforce development to support independence and early intervention. We will create a common workforce training programme and embed across a wide range of services and monitor the use and effectiveness of initiatives.</p>
<p>Need to stress the importance of volunteering.</p> <p>How are you going to support employers to develop flexible employment policies i.e. due to financial implications?</p>	<p>Reference to volunteering has been strengthened throughout the plan, recognising the importance and impact of volunteering to the city and also more specifically around opportunities for social inclusion and meaningful activities for people not currently in work and those with mental health needs.</p> <p>The detail in supporting the development of</p>

	flexible working policies to support people with specific needs will be expanded as we progress the underpinning work streams to deliver our priorities.
Low levels of literacy and numeracy are barriers to employment – how will this be addressed?	<p>We have strengthened the plans to include reference to the development of a cohesive employment strategy – it is in this document where there will be more detail. Progress will be reported through the strategic partnership's annual reports.</p> <p>In terms of adults skills, whilst the plan provides an overview there is a range of activity in place to support this for example the Council's Adult and Community Learning team offer. Information is available on the Council website.</p>
Will there be a mentor or job coach for people with learning disabilities?	More work needs to be done on the detail but we have strengthened the reference to support available to people with learning disabilities.

Your comments	Our feedback
Children, Young People and Families Plan	
Some respondents asked if the information in the strategy could be presented in a simpler format.	We will be producing a summary and an easy to read version of the plan.
Important to include reference to speech and language.	This will be included through the Make a positive difference to children and young people through parenting priority and this has now been strengthened to reflect this. The Improving School Readiness supporting strategy has multiple actions supporting the improvement of speech and language amongst children and young people.
There are gaps in the plan e.g. in describing services supporting children and young people.	The plans (including the over-arching Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Adults' Strategic Partnership plan) do not include everything partner organisations will do to support and help people. The plans focus on strategic priorities for the partnership.
How were children and young people consulted?	During Local Democracy Week events in October 2015 around 300 children and young people took part in engagement activities to share their views. They were asked what they liked most, what they thought could be better and what they could do to help the community. Their views and opinions helped to shape the plans as they were developed. We have also included intelligence from our staff who support the engagement of children and young people.
Whilst there is reference to children with disabilities, children with medical conditions are not mentioned, for example preventing avoidable admissions.	The partnership has agreed that the plans won't contain everything we will do as single agencies for example statutory roles. Whilst supporting children with medical conditions will be an aspect of the preparation for adulthood priority (for those young people with an Education, Health and Care plan) preventing avoidable admissions would not necessarily be in the scope of the partnership priority, but may be a business as usual area of work for agencies.
There is no mention of young carers.	The Early Help and support for children and families who need it most priority has been strengthened to include young carers.

The under 18s conceptions strategy is not included.	This has now been included in the plan.
Why is there no reference to care leavers?	The plan has been strengthened to show more clearly how the priorities aim to improve outcomes for young people leaving care. For example a number of specific measures and outcomes have been added.
What support is there for young parents?	Throughout the plan there is reference to support for parents. Cooperative working brings together many sources of support for parents and families to ensure that the right support is available - including any specific support needs because the parent is young.
Waiting lists for mental health are too long?	Improve emotional wellbeing and mental health is a priority in each of the three plans, which highlights the level of importance we place on the issue. All three plans will work to reduce waiting times, ensuring that the right level of support is readily available for those that need it.
Does CAMHS training include people in schools?	Yes it does.
Some respondents commented that the importance of reading was not included.	The plan has been strengthened as a result and, in particular, the Make a positive difference to children and young people through parenting priority now clearly shows the importance of libraries and other services offering reading and learning opportunities.
The plans do not make any reference to child sexual exploitation (CSE).	Child Sexual Abuse, including CSE, is a key priority of the Stoke-on-Trent Safeguarding Children Board. The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership focuses on prevention and resilience e.g. through parenting and early help priorities. The Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board (responsible for the delivery of the Children, Young People and Families Plan) work closely together and ensure their work is complementary.
Need to do more to encourage gifted and talented pupils to attend the best universities.	The plan, whilst not mentioning this specific group in particular, provides a focus on supporting all children to raise aspirations, achieve their full potential and be supported to

	continue their learning beyond statutory school age.
Whilst there is improvement in school attainment there is a difference across the city.	A key outcome for the plan is that all children are supported to achieve their potential and work to describe this in more detail will sit in the supporting Improving Education Strategy (due for update in May 2016).
Where is the funding coming from?	The cost of achieving the vision and priorities of the strategy will be met through existing transformational work programmes and within existing resources.