



Health & Wellbeing Board

Report title: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Update

Date: 3rd September 2020

Key decision: Yes/No.

Class: Either Part 1

Ward(s) affected: ALL

Contributors: Dr Catherine Mbema, Director of Public Health, London Borough of Lewisham

Outline and recommendations

This report provides an update of our proposals for a revised JSNA topic selection process for 2020/21 and a review of the impact of recently published JSNA Topic Assessments.

The board is recommended to:

- Note the contents of the report
- Approve the revised timelines for the revision of the JSNA process

Timeline of engagement and decision-making

1. Summary

- 1.1. This paper provides an update on proposals to revise the JSNA topic selection process for 202/21 and to evaluate the impact of recently published JSNAs.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The board is recommended to:
 - Note the contents of the report
 - Approve the revised timelines for the revision of the JSNA process

3. Policy Context

- 3.1. The production of a JSNA became a statutory duty of PCTs and upper tier local authorities in 2007. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 placed a new statutory obligation on Clinical Commissioning Groups, the Local Authority and NHS England to jointly produce and to commission with regard to the JSNA. The Act placed an additional duty on the Local Authority and CCGs to develop a joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for meeting the needs identified in the local JSNA.
- 3.2. The objective of a JSNA is to provide access to a profile of Lewisham's population, including demographic, social and environmental information. It also provides access to in-depth needs assessments which address specific gaps in knowledge or identify issues associated with particular populations/services. These in-depth assessments vary in scope from a focus on a condition, geographical area, or a segment of the population, to a combination of these. The overall aim of each needs assessment is to translate robust qualitative and quantitative data analysis into key messages for commissioners, service providers and partners.
- 3.3. The most recent version of the JSNA can be found here: www.lewishamjsna.org.uk.
- 3.4. The priorities of The Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2023 were informed by the JSNA.

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4. Background

- 4.1. To undertake its responsibilities the Board needs to be periodically updated on the local population and its health needs. Individual JSNA topics provide in-depth analysis and recommendations for that specific service / population group.

5. JSNA Update

5.1. **Previous proposals for a revised JSNA topic selection process for 2020/21 and review of the impact of recently published JSNA Topic Assessments**

- 5.1.1. The current process for the selection of JSNA Topic Assessments was agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board in 2017 and is set out [here](#). At the last meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board it was proposed that the process is revised this year, postponing the call for topic suggestions until September 2020 and undertaking a smaller number of topic assessments (1-2) between September 2020 and March 2021. The “Picture of Lewisham” element of the JSNA will also not be updated this year. The rationale for this was as follows:

- There are a number of JSNA Topic Assessments still outstanding from 2018/19 and 2019/20. Postponing the agreement of topic assessments for 2020/21 will allow time for these assessments to be completed, approved and published.
- It had been proposed that the Health and Wellbeing Board review and refresh the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in 2020/21. It is likely that a Macro Level JSNA will be required to inform this process. Postponing the identification of new JSNA Topic Assessments will provide the analytical capacity to undertake this Macro Level JSNA.
- The trends in demographics and population health and wellbeing depicted in the “Picture of Lewisham” do not change significantly from year to year. It often takes at least 3 years of surveillance to identify a change in trend. Extending the period between updates to 2 years should not adversely affect the ability of stakeholders to use the information within the profile to inform their decision-making.

It has also become particularly pertinent to review this process given the COVID-19 pandemic and emerging health and wellbeing priorities as part of the recovery and ongoing pandemic response

5.2. **Revised Timescales**

- 5.2.1. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the timescales for the JSNA process review and JSNA impact review have been revised.
- 5.2.2. It is now proposed that we do not perform the review of the JSNA process and impact of recently published JSNAs until March 2021 to allow for sufficient time and resource to be directed to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1. There are no specific financial implications. However the financial implications of any recommendations arising from the assessments will be considered either during or once the assessments are completed as appropriate.

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7. Legal implications

- 7.1. The requirement to produce a JSNA is set out in the Policy Context section.
- 7.2. Members of the Board are reminded that under Section 195 Health and Social Care Act 2012, Health and Wellbeing Boards are under a duty to encourage integrated working between the persons who arrange for health and social care services in their area.

8. Equalities implications

8.1 JSNAs are a continuous process of strategic assessment and planning, with a core aim to develop local evidence based priorities for commissioning which will improve health and reduce inequalities. The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

8.2 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

8.3 It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct, or to promote equality of opportunity or foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. It is a duty to have due regard to the need to achieve the goals listed above.

8.4 The weight to be attached to the duty will be dependent on the nature of the decision and the circumstances in which it is made. This is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. The Mayor must understand the impact or likely impact of the decision on those with protected characteristics who are potentially affected by the decision. The extent of the duty will necessarily vary from case to case and due regard is such regard as is appropriate in all the circumstances.

8.5 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled "Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice". The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-codes-practice>

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-technical-guidance>

8.6 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides

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for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:

- [The essential guide to the public sector equality duty](#)
- [Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making](#)
- [Engagement and the equality duty: A guide for public authorities](#)
- [Objectives and the equality duty. A guide for public authorities](#)
- [Equality Information and the Equality Duty: A Guide for Public Authorities](#)

8.7 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-guidance#h1>

9. Climate change and environmental implications

9.1. There are no climate change or environmental implications from this report.

10. Crime and disorder implications

10.1. There are no crime and disorder implications from this report.

11. Health and wellbeing implications

11.1. There are no health and wellbeing implications from this report.

12. Report author and contact

12.1. Dr Catherine Mbema, Director of Public Health, catherine.mbema@lewisham.gov.uk

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