

## **HEALTH AND WELL-BEING BOARD**

### **24 SEPTEMBER 2019**

## **HOUSING AND HEALTH JSNA**

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### **Board Sponsor**

Dr Kathryn Cobain, Interim Director of Public Health

### **Author**

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### **Priorities**

Mental health & well-being  
Being Active  
Reducing harm from Alcohol  
Other (specify below)

(Please click below  
then on down arrow)

Yes  
No  
No

### **Safeguarding**

Impact on Safeguarding Children  
Supports policy that will safeguard children

Yes

Impact on Safeguarding Adults  
Supports policy that will safeguard children

Yes

### **Item for Decision, Consideration or Information**

Information and assurance

### **Recommendation**

- 1. The Health and Well-being Board is asked to note and approve the contents and recommendations of the housing and health JSNA.**

### **Background**

2. There is a new drive to promote closer working between housing and health through the national MoU.
3. This report seeks to provide local evidence and recommendations around housing and health which has received steer and contributions from County and District councils, representatives from Worcestershire CCGs and Worcestershire Healthwatch.
4. Key findings from this JSNA include:
  - a) Significant population growth is expected in the future - the current population of Worcestershire in 2018 is estimated to be 592,057 and this figure is projected to rise to 630,508 by 2035 (an increase of approximately

42,000). By 2035, it is projected that there will be a 46.8% increase in the 80-84 age group, and a 91.6% increase in the 85+ age group.

- b) Housing and health issues which are pertinent to older people include falls prevention, accessibility of buildings, discharge for hospital, mental health and helping people to die at home.
- c) There is a considerable proportion of non-decent housing in Worcestershire, ranging from 26.6% in Redditch to 44.0% in Malvern Hills (2011). Non-decent housing includes hazards to health and thermal comfort which are both related to public health issues.
- d) Home environments affect well-being, risk of disease and demands on health and care services. Warm, safe and secure homes are needed to help lead healthy, independent lives and to recover from illness - 11.5% of Worcestershire households are in fuel poverty (2016).
- e) Previous research indicates that the strongest evidence on links between housing and health concerns fuel poverty and energy efficiency. Interventions in this field, targeted on the most deprived and vulnerable households, are likely to have a significant effect on the health of the population.
- f) In common with the rest of the country, Worcestershire districts have seen a considerable decrease in the affordability of housing relative to earnings.
- g) A previous JSNA on fuel poverty was published in 2016, and various initiatives have been established to address fuel poverty. However, this remains a significant issue.
- h) Homelessness, including rough sleeping, is an important concern in Worcestershire. Many indicators are close to the national level. The economic recession saw statutory homelessness in the county peak in 2011, since then it has fallen, but it remains above pre-2011 levels.
- i) There are cost effective interventions which can be utilised further such as interventions for home assessment and modifications are cost effective in falls prevention.
- j) Good health includes physical, mental and social wellbeing. Support for good health, including health care services provision, requires the application of best practice in a range of areas, including planning.

<b>5. Recommendations</b>	<b>Lead Organisation(s)</b>
<b>Joint working in Housing and Health</b>	
1. To take forward locally the objectives in the National Memorandum of Understanding. Stakeholders should use evidence and information to inform plans, strategies and commissioning at a local level. This will help to ensure that home and housing circumstances and their effect on health and wellbeing are suitably considered.	Health and Wellbeing Board Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership
2. To support the development of a joint preventative approach that maintains people's independence at home, reduces hospital admissions and provides effective discharge from hospital.	Health and Wellbeing Board, Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership

<b>Warm and healthy homes</b>	
3. Fuel poverty is a major issue affecting the county, there will be a need to build upon interventions in Worcestershire to address thermal comfort and low incomes.	Warmer Worcestershire network (WCC, District Councils, Act on Energy Age UK Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, Public Health Practitioners, Care and Repair)  Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) in Worcestershire
<b>Ageing population</b>	
4. There is a need to ensure readiness for future increases in the number of older people and single person households. Action is required to improve the quality, suitability and availability of homes.	WCC (Adult Social Care/Public Health), Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership/ local planning authorities
<b>Homelessness and rough sleeping</b>	
5. Ensuring that needs of homeless people are included in Joint Strategic Needs Assessments to inform local planning and commissioning.	WCC Public Health
6. Ensuring awareness amongst policy makers of severity and nature of health problems for homeless people.	Health and Wellbeing Board, Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership
7. Improving access to health services for homeless people through joint working between local agencies.	Health and Wellbeing Board, Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership
8. Continuing to work in partnership in line with Worcestershire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.	Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership
<b>Falls prevention</b>	
9. Services (in house and commissioned) to collaborate across health, social care and housing to ensure that a prevention focus with information, advice and adaptation services is available across the County.	WCC Public Health, Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership

<b>Children and young people</b>	
<p>10. Joint working to reduce unintentional injuries using the NICE guidance<sup>1</sup>. Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting information.</li> <li>• Determining and addressing barriers to creating a safe home environment.</li> <li>• Getting the community involved using 'community champions'.</li> <li>• Carrying out home safety assessments.</li> <li>• Supplying and installing home safety equipment.</li> </ul>	Worcestershire Children First, environmental health, Fire and rescue services, Health visiting
<b>Planning for Health</b>	
11. Wyre Forest District Council, Redditch Borough Council and Bromsgrove District Council to consider adopting a similar approach to that set out in the South Worcestershire Planning for Health SPD.	WCC Public Health and district council planning authorities
12. Further develop planning processes conducive to health and wellbeing, using tools such as Health Impact Assessments and the Public Health England Healthy Places Programme.	WCC public health, WCC planning and district council planning authorities

## Legal, Financial and HR Implications

6. N/A

## Privacy Impact Assessment

7. N/A

## Equality and Diversity Implications

8. An Equality Relevance Screening has been completed in respect of these recommendations. The screening did not identify any potential Equality considerations requiring further consideration during implementation

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph30>

**Contact Points**County Council Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report*Housing and Health JSNA:*

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**Supporting Information**

Appendix 1: Housing and Health JSNA (Available on-line)

**Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Public Health) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/improving-health-and-care-through-the-home-mou>