

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING BOARD 14 NOVEMBER 2023

JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT ANNUAL SUMMARY 2023

Board Sponsor

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Author

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Priorities

This report is relevant to the following Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prevention & inequalities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homes, Communities & Places |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mental Health & Wellbeing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jobs & Opportunities |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Healthy Living at All Ages | |

Safeguarding

This report does not have a direct impact on safeguarding children or adults.

Item for Decision, or Information & Assurance

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decision | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information/assurance |
|-----------------------------------|---|

Recommendation

- 1 The Health and Well-being Board (HWB) is asked to note:
 - a) **Good news summarised in the report** including rise in bowel screening uptake, drop in pregnant women smoking, increase in young people's physical activity, successful work in trading standards, strong 'Prevent' programme, and Worcestershire performing well in public health indicators – 90% are similar or better than England.
 - b) **Areas of concern and health inequalities**, including for children and young people, ongoing mental health pressures, cardiovascular disease mortality, cost of living/fuel poverty.
 - c) **Opportunities to improve health and wellbeing**, continuing to focus on health inequalities and deprived populations and leveraging new ways of working (for example, specifically targeting 'Your Health Your Wellbeing' service, and Healthy Worcestershire).
 - d) **Availability of district level deep dive** on public health indicators.
 - e) **Worcestershire Health and wellbeing insights website:**
<https://insights.worcestershire.gov.uk/>
 - f) **Request for feedback on JSNA outputs.**

Background

- 2 The JSNA is used to determine what actions are required to meet health and social care needs, reduce inequalities and to address the wider determinants that impact on health and well-being. It is designed to inform and drive future investment priorities to plan services more effectively, ensuring services meet the needs of the population.
- 3 The JSNA working group continues to meet quarterly, drawing together partners from across Worcestershire to shape needs assessments, share information and develop new insights into the population of Worcestershire.
- 4 Needs assessments from the past year have included the Mental Health needs assessment, Sexual Health needs assessment and TB needs assessment. Full reports can be found at: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/council-and-democracy/research-reports-and-local-statistics/joint-strategic-needs>
- 5 The 2023 JSNA annual summary focusses on comparative data & indicators, and highlights findings from other substantive needs assessments from the past year. It can be used as a prompt to explore interactive data further provided by Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing insights (<https://insights.worcestershire.gov.uk/>)

JSNA annual summary overview

- 6 The report is split into 7 chapters, with brief summaries providing an overview of some of the data contained within each chapter.

Introduction

- 7 Good news provides an introduction to some of the excellent work and improvement in indicator performance over the past year:

1

SIGNIFICANT DROP IN THE NUMBER OF PREGNANT WOMEN SMOKING

The Public Health Team's Joint working with midwifery teams and patient groups has led to a significant drop in the number of pregnant women smoking

2

WORCESTERSHIRE'S PIONEERING WORK ON YOUTH VAPING

Over 12,000 illegal vapes being seized by our Trading Standards team in the last year. This is the largest research study conducted into vaping and young people. Insights gained are being used in preventative work in schools

3

SIGNIFICANT RISE IN THE UPTAKE OF BOWEL SCREENING

Our work with Primary Care and public facing promotion led to a significant rise in the uptake of bowel screening. This work featured on BBC radio.

4

WORCESTERSHIRE'S PREVENT PROGRAMME

Only Area to be rated as strong across all domains of work by the home office

5

LARGE RISE IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

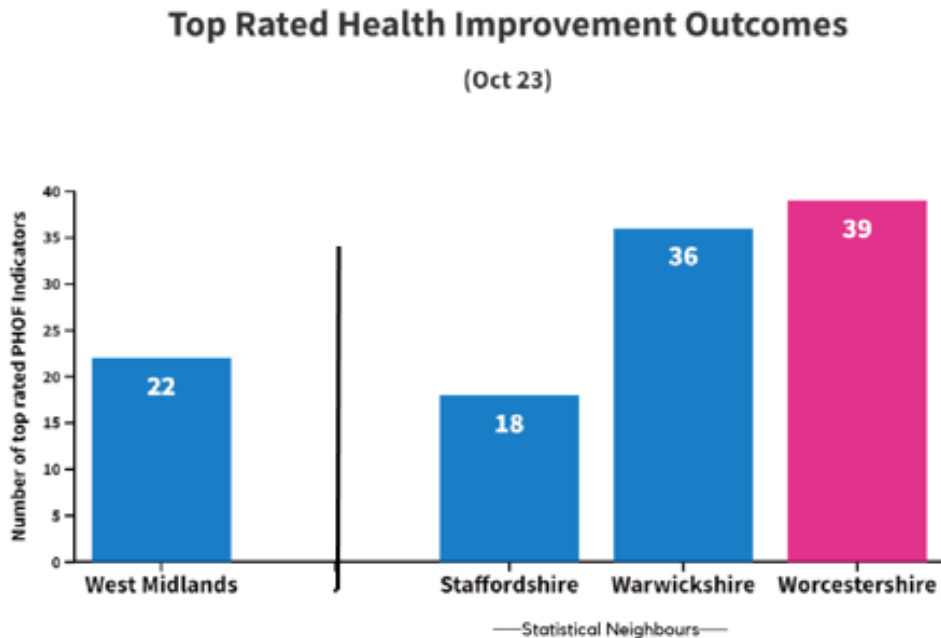
Our work with schools and youth services have led to a large rise in the proportion of young people meeting physical activity recommendations. Four of the six most active areas in the West Midlands region are now in Worcestershire.

6

WORCESTERSHIRE PERFORMING WELL IN PHOF INDICATORS

Well performing health improvement & wider determinants indicators compared regionally. 90% of Worcestershire Public Health Outcomes Framework indicators are similar or better than England

- 8 The latest Public Health Outcomes Framework metrics show that in October 2023, Worcestershire has more health improvement outcomes rated as 'significantly better than national average' than any other Council in the West Midlands Region. In total, we have 39 performance indicators awarded this top rating, almost double the overall West Midlands total of 22.



Source: QHID, 2023

Addressing inequalities

- 9 Addressing inequalities focusses attention on areas of concern, and opportunities for action based on most current data. Despite our many successful initiatives health inequality persists within Worcestershire. For health outcomes to improve for the whole of Worcestershire's population, health inequalities must be addressed. Below are areas of concern and opportunities to address them.
- Health inequalities persist: Lower IMD groups experience higher levels of health inequality. This results in decreased life expectancy and higher mortality rates particularly in CVD.
 - Examples of factors that drive inequalities include continued higher rates of smoking in more deprived groups, higher rates of excess weight in more deprived groups, decreased physical activity in deprived groups and pressures of fuel poverty.
 - Children and young people inequalities: Significant numbers of children in Worcestershire are currently living in poverty. We also have rising levels of vulnerable children, and a higher than the England proportion of pupils with special educational needs (SEN). Inequality is experienced in these groups and is particularly apparent in school attainment.
 - The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged mental health and wellbeing, coinciding with the largest drops in wellbeing recorded. The most recent data shows these have improved but are not yet back to pre-pandemic levels. The cost of living pressures continue to impact mental health and wellbeing.

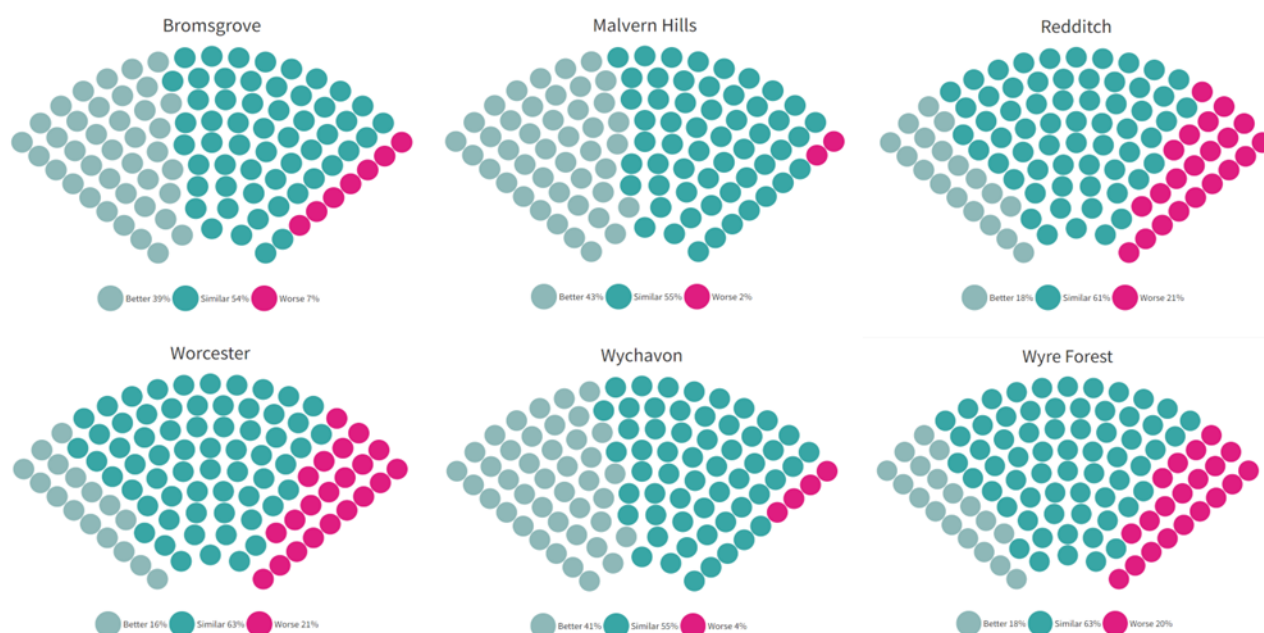
Opportunities to Improve

- Continue to leverage the ambitions contained with the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Organisations and partners mobilising to improve health and wellbeing, embedding prevention and focusing on deprived populations.
- New ways of working (including targeting Your Health Your Wellbeing service, and Healthy Worcestershire).
- Scalable prevention & community-based interventions such as the 'best start in life' work programme.
- Systemwide investment in small areas experiencing the poorest health outcomes. An example of this is the recent work of Public Health and partners in Westlands, Droitwich.

District level deep dive:

10 District level public health outcomes framework data has been provided in the report to easily understand where district priorities may differ to county level priorities. The chart below illustrates how indicators in each district compare with national values.

11 Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65 and over) was identified as an indicator common across districts that showed room for improvement. A common area among all districts that has recently declined despite still being better than the value for England was Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Coverage.

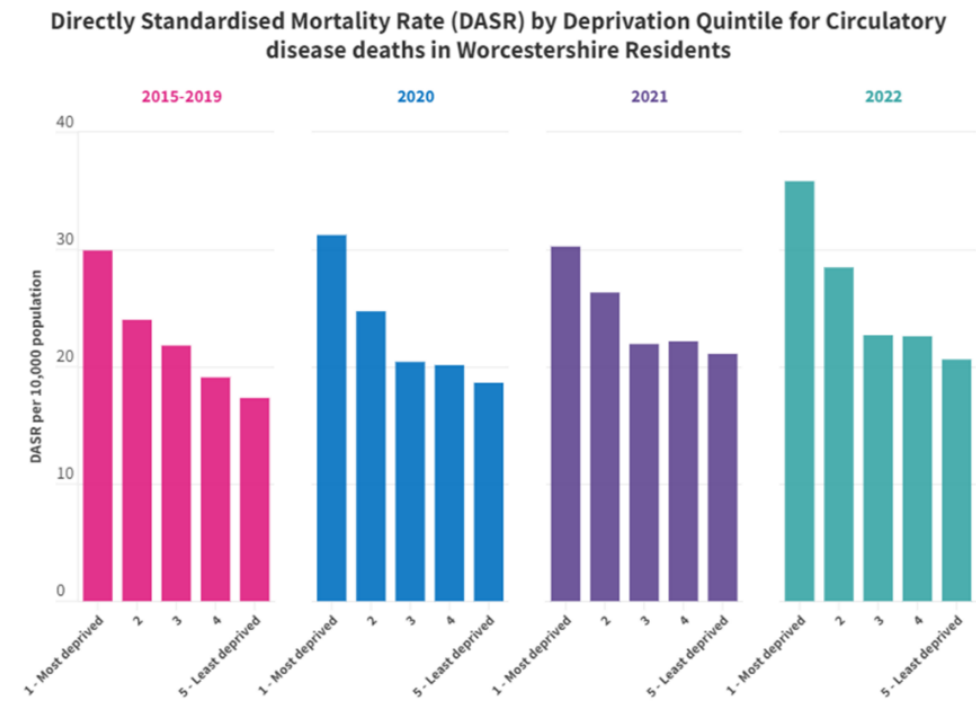


Mortality

12 It is important to highlight increased mortality since the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the start of the pandemic, 12 out of the 13 quarters had numbers of deaths which exceeded the pre-pandemic average for those quarters. Added to this, most deaths

are in the most deprived populations which has become more marked in the latest data.

- 13 However, it is deaths from circulatory diseases that give particular cause for concern locally and nationally. Elevated levels of mortality are likely an indirect consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, with higher CVD deaths in more deprived populations. This is illustrated in the chart below but it should be emphasised that Worcestershire is not unusual in this respect and a similar pattern exists at national level.



Summary of needs assessments

14 Mental health needs assessment

- The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged mental health and wellbeing, coinciding with the largest drops in wellbeing recorded. The most recent data indicates these have improved but are not yet back to pre-pandemic levels. Cost of living pressures continue to impact mental health and wellbeing.
- Worcestershire has experienced similar drops in average wellbeing to the national population and is found to have slightly lower levels of wellbeing than comparable local authorities.
- Recommendation themes included: healthy living at all ages, quality local jobs and opportunities, healthy homes, communities and places, inequalities in health and wellbeing, early intervention, system wide considerations such as increasing mental health knowledge in the wider workforce.

15 Sexual health needs assessment

- The needs assessment identified that we have consistently strong and effective sexual health services which meet the needs of most patients.
- Areas of concern include persistent teenage pregnancy rates in some parts of the county, low chlamydia screening and detection rates amongst young people and the variability of relationships and sex education (RSE).

- More work is needed to address sexual health needs for Worcestershire at a systemwide level and, the adequate and sustained promotion of sexual health services is required to ensure that the population are fully aware of available services to meet their needs.

16 TB needs assessment

- TB rates in Worcestershire have been stable and are classed at a low incidence level, resulting in lower levels of funding for TB services. However, there is an increasing risk of TB infection from social risk factors, deprivation, and increases in populations from high incidence countries either working or studying in the county.
- The report recommends that increased funding and resources are required to expand the service within the county to serve patients with possible latent TB and those with an increased risk of TB as recommended in NICE guidance. Investing in TB prevention and control in Worcestershire would contribute to the Global and National targets for disease elimination and would result in substantial savings to the whole health and social care system.

17 Feedback on JSNA

- It is important to understand the impact of our annual summary reports and needs assessments, such as what has changed with commissioning or with stakeholders as a result of this work being published. A survey will be available on our Insights website for stakeholders and the public to provide feedback directly to public health (<https://insights.worcestershire.gov.uk/>).

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

- 18 There are no legal, financial or HR implications arising from this report. Any future financial implications with regard to procurement of a new self-service data system will be considered by Worcestershire County Council as required.

Privacy Impact Assessment

- 19 There is no required privacy impact assessment at this stage.

Equality and Diversity Implications

- 20 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.

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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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:

- JSNA annual summary 2023 (**Appendix A**)