

LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of Boston Borough Council

Report to	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	29 September 2015
Subject:	Update on Boston Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan

Summary:

To provide a presentation on the Boston Health and Wellbeing Strategy and associated Action Plan.

There are substantial and persistent inequalities in the health needs of those living in Boston compared to Lincolnshire and the rest of the country. The Boston population is particularly poor in practising healthy lifestyles, leading to Long Term Conditions.

Actions Required:

To consider ways in which the Board could support Boston Borough Council (BBC) and its delivery partners in improving health outcomes.

1. Background

Following the NHS reforms stemming from the 2012 Health and Social Care Act, there is an opportunity for district councils to become more engaged in improving the health and wellbeing of the communities they serve.

Recognising this opportunity, BBC, Public Health and the locality CCG decided to implement a local arm of the County HWB to ensure the themes in the County JHWS were properly integrated with and met the needs of this locality. This local body, The Strategic Health Group (SHG), was the first of its kind in Lincolnshire and innovated health and wellbeing links between the centre and the districts. As one of its first actions, the SHG initiated a local health and wellbeing strategy to formalise the local direction of the JHWS.

The Boston Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2014 – 2017 complements the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Lincolnshire, highlighting those issues of the greatest concern locally.

The Strategy places a strong emphasis on prevention and collaborative working with Lincolnshire East Clinical Commissioning Group, LCC Public Health and local partners such as Boston Mayflower, Boston health trainers (Lincs CVS), United in the Community and Lincolnshire County Council.

There are three strategic priorities:-

- Promoting healthier lifestyles in Boston
- Improving the health and wellbeing of older people in Boston
- Addressing the housing and financial capability issues that most affect the health and wellbeing of people living in Boston

Evidence to support the priorities was drawn from the JSNA, Public Health Profile and other sources.

Subsequently, a detailed Action Plan was developed focusing on the following areas within the strategic themes:-

- Improving public uptake of services, particularly healthy lifestyle services
- Encouraging Active Travel and reducing sedentary behaviour
- Addressing alcohol misuse, focusing on street drinking and education
- Supporting people with dementia and their carers
- Seeking to expand the Fit 4 Your Future (financial confidence) project to cover private sector accommodation and introducing complementary support programmes
- Enhancing the quality of private sector housing and improving availability of affordable homes

The presentation outlines some of the key actions that have already been taken to address these areas. Practical examples include:

- Publication of the Staying Healthy booklet
- Roll-out of Dementia Friends training and organisation of a stakeholder event
- Opening of Boston Body Hub
- Path network enhancements at Boston Woods.
- Expanding outdoor gym provision
- Tackling rogue landlords
- Standing desks pilot
- Pre-diabetes education programme
- Major investment in children's play areas

2. Conclusion

In the current financial environment partnership working is more important than ever. Implementation of the Action Plan is heavily dependant on collaboration and securing external funding. Any practical support that can be provided by the Board would be appreciated.

3. Consultation

The Boston Strategic Health Group and the Boston Health and Wellbeing Network were involved in the development of the Strategy and associated Action Plan as part of the process.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Health and Wellbeing in Boston: A Strategic Framework
Appendix B	Boston Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2014 – 2017

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Ian Farmer, Partnership & Sustainability Manager for Boston Borough Council (who can be contacted on 01205 314225 or ian.farmer@boston.gov.uk.) and Chris Weston, Consultant in Public Health

This page is intentionally left blank