

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

12 MARCH 2024

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE STATEMENT ON JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire supports the proposed Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, including the five priorities and the rationale for their inclusion. During the Committee's discussion on this strategy, several individual comments were made and some of these are highlighted below:

Homes for Independence Priority

Whilst there is evidence of the many benefits of living independently, as detailed in the strategy, in certain instances some people can become and feel isolated living in their own home. In these circumstances, the benefits would not be apparent.

There is reference to 6,600 people registered as permanently living in caravans on the east coast. This significant number creates pressures on health and care services in that part of the county.

Healthy Weight Priority

The impacts of being overweight or obese are cited and accepted as reasons for the inclusion of this priority. However, malnutrition is also understood to be an issue, particularly with a small but increasing number of underweight children, who cannot for a variety of reasons access a healthy diet.

Deliverability and Capacity

A delivery group for each priority is recognised as a means of monitoring progress. Looking forward, there are some concerns on the overall capacity of health and care services, because of the challenges of recent years, to contribute fully to the delivery of the priorities.

Voluntary Sector

The importance of the voluntary sector in delivering the priorities is acknowledged and welcome, but in certain cases some voluntary organisations have been struggling themselves, and in several cases cannot offer the services, which were on offer prior to the pandemic.

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