

Meeting: Health and Wellbeing Board **Date:** 8/12/25

Wards affected: All

Report Title: Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy: consultation draft

When does the decision need to be implemented? For information

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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This paper encloses the consultation draft of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2026-30.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

2.1 The programmes of work described in the Strategy will help us to deliver our vision of a healthy, happy and prosperous Torbay by helping to promote the health and wellbeing of our population.

2.2 Members received and agreed a draft of the Strategy at the September meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Only very minor changes have been made since that date.

2.3 The draft Strategy will be launched for public consultation following agreement by Cabinet 16 December 2025.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

3.1.1 Members are asked to note the consultation draft.

1 Background

Local authorities and NHS have a joint duty to produce, through the Health and Wellbeing Board: (1) a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and (2) a Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

The Strategy should:

- address the needs & inequalities identified in the JSNA
- set out key strategic priorities for action & outcomes members will jointly achieve
- inform local commissioning
- promote integration between health & care, as well as other Local Authority functions such as housing, transport, economy, and environment.

The main requirement is to involve all Health and Wellbeing Board partners in development & delivery. There is no prescribed timing, content, format or lifespan.

Our current Strategy runs from 2022-26. Torbay – in parallel with Devon – is developing a new Strategy to run from 2026.

2 Key considerations

Some key considerations in the preparation of the 2026 Strategy:

- This is a time of particular organisational change, with the clustering of Integrated Care Boards and the prospect of Local Government Reorganisation. Any Strategy needs to be flexible in adapting to future local structures.
- Learning from the 2022-26 Strategy suggests it is desirable to allow for a refresh of detailed action plans annually or biannually, within the four year framework.
- The Government's 10 Year Plan for the NHS contains implications for local authorities. Alongside specific programme commitments, the plan proposes the creation of a 'Neighbourhood Health Service'. Local Authorities are partners in the development of neighbourhood health plans, under the leadership of Health and Wellbeing Boards.

3 Allied strategies and stakeholders

In addition to the 10 Year Plan, there are local strategies and stakeholders with a particular relevance to the development of our Health and Wellbeing Strategy, including among others:

- The new Devon Health and Care Strategy
- Torbay Corporate Plan, Economic Strategy, Housing and Homelessness Strategies, Regeneration plans, and strategic plans relating to Children's and Adults Social Care.

- The Torbay Story and Place Leadership Board.

4 **Our approach**

In the light of (2) and (3), our approach in development the 2026 Strategy therefore follows some key principles:

- Engaging Health and Wellbeing Board members as a minimum
- Working in close partnership with Devon County Council and Plymouth City Council in terms of Strategy development and timescales
- Working closely with Integrated Care Board (ICB) colleagues and taking account of the developing ICB Health and Care Strategy
- Engaging with the Place Leadership Board, Local Care Partnership and Economy colleagues to enable shared priorities and some consistency of approach
- A focus on neighbourhood health and wellbeing.

5 **Timetable**

The development timetable for this year’s report is below. This includes formal and informal engagement with Council and partner forums to allow opportunities for key constituencies to input into the report.

Activity	Timeline
Scoping discussions with partners	March – June 2025
Develop outline content	Sept – Oct 2025
Finalise draft Strategy	Oct – Nov 2025
Public consultation	Dec 25 – Jan 26
Approve & publish Strategy (full Council)	May 2026

6 **Outline of content & themes for the 2026-30 Strategy**

The Strategy is designed to influence the implementation of health and wellbeing improvement programmes through the following routes:

- 1 Highlighting the needs in our population that all of us developing strategies, or commissioning services, need to respond to.
- 2 Summarising the areas of activity required to address our population needs, in the ways people have said they want to see.
- 3 Identifying the principles and priority areas which will inform delivery of the Strategy over the next four years.
- 4 Developing an annual delivery programme of three programmes each year which will be sponsored by the Board.

The **key challenges** in the Strategy are taken from the recently published 2025/26 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment TORBAY JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2025/26.

Feedback from the recent **engagement** on the NHS 10 Year Plan has informed the Strategy.

The **vision** of the Strategy is around *healthy neighbourhoods*, with a focus on delivering *prevention in place*.

Draft **priority delivery programmes** for the first year, developed and agreed with Health and Wellbeing Board members, are:

- *Healthy spaces - children and young people*
 - Tackling the issues of low physical activity, poor diet, home or school insecurity, education underachievement, and unreadiness for work.
 - Focusing on the work relating to the 'play' domain begun under the auspices of Child Friendly Torbay.
 - Led by community groups in partnership with the local authority and other stakeholders.
 - Involving a programme of activities to build physical, mental and social health and wellbeing.
- *Healthy work - working age adults*
 - Tackling the issues of unemployment through physical or mental ill health, NEETs, and disparities in opportunity for care experienced young people and carers
 - Focusing on Connect to Work with wrap around support from NHS and VCSE partners
 - Building confidence, employment opportunities, mentoring, practical, health, and social support.
- *Healthy ageing - older adults*
 - Tackling disparities in frailty onset, ill-health, and dependence on social care, isolation, housing insecurity
 - Age Friendly actions around housing, transport and health

- Led by VCSE, with local authority and other partners

7. Financial Opportunities and Implications

7.1 None identified

8. Legal Implications

8.1 None identified

9. Engagement and Consultation

9.1 The draft Strategy has been developed with input from stakeholders including Health and Wellbeing Board and Torbay Place Board members, Council teams, commissioners, Local Care Partnership representatives, Voluntary and Community sector colleagues. It incorporates feedback from recent public engagement in relation to the NHS 10 Year Plan including the plan for neighbourhood health.

9.2 This paper requests approval to proceed to public consultation.

10. Procurement Implications

10.1 None identified

11. Protecting our naturally inspiring Bay and tackling Climate Change

11.1 Promoting health and wellbeing includes enhanced use of our natural green and blue spaces through active travel, physical activity, healthy spaces, and connecting with nature.

11.2 Climate change is an identified risk to health through increased infections, population displacement, excess heat and cold, and mental distress. Actions to mitigate the impact are included in our recommendations around health protection and health promotion.

12. Associated Risks

12.1 No specific risks are identified. The Strategy is built on tackling the needs and risks to population health highlighted in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

13. Equality Impact Assessment

Protected characteristics under the Equality Act and groups with increased vulnerability	Data and insight	Equality considerations (including any adverse impacts)	Mitigation activities	Responsible department and timeframe for implementing mitigation activities
Age	<p>18 per cent of Torbay residents are under 18 years old.</p> <p>55 per cent of Torbay residents are aged between 18 to 64 years old.</p> <p>27 per cent of Torbay residents are aged 65 and older.</p>	<p>The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.</p> <p>Different age-groups have different health risks; these are highlighted for priority activity. Year 1-2 priority 1 focuses on mental, physical and social wellbeing of children and young people. Priority 3 focuses on Age Friendly actions around housing, transport and health.</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable
Carers	<p>At the time of the 2021 census there were 14,900 unpaid carers in Torbay. 5,185 of these provided 50 hours or more of care.</p>	<p>The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.</p> <p>Carers are highlighted as a priority for support.</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable

Disability	In the 2021 Census, 23.8% of Torbay residents answered that their day-to-day activities were limited a little or a lot by a physical or mental health condition or illness.	The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision. People with physical and mental ill-health and disabilities are highlighted for activity.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Gender reassignment	In the 2021 Census, 0.4% of Torbay's community answered that their gender identity was not the same as their sex registered at birth. This proportion is similar to the Southwest and is lower than England.	The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Marriage and civil partnership	Of those Torbay residents aged 16 and over at the time of 2021 Census, 44.2% of people were married or in a registered civil partnership.	The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Pregnancy and maternity	Over the period 2010 to 2021, the rate of live births (as a proportion of females aged 15 to 44) has been slightly but significantly higher in Torbay (average of 63.7 per 1,000) than England (60.2) and the South West (58.4). There has been a notable fall in the numbers of live births since the middle of the last decade across all geographical areas.	The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Race	In the 2021 Census, 96.1% of Torbay residents described their ethnicity as white. This is a higher proportion than the South	The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our	Not applicable	Not applicable

	West and England. Black, Asian and minority ethnic individuals are more likely to live in areas of Torbay classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived areas in England.	<p>population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.</p> <p>The Strategy contains guidance for commissioners and those developing strategies which includes analysis of differential provision, access and outcomes when planning services, to ensure inequalities are addressed.</p>		
Religion and belief	64.8% of Torbay residents who stated that they have a religion in the 2021 census.	<p>The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.</p> <p>The Strategy contains guidance for commissioners and those developing strategies which includes analysis of differential provision, access and outcomes when planning services, to ensure inequalities are addressed.</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable
Sex	51.3% of Torbay's population are female and 48.7% are male	<p>The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.</p> <p>The Strategy contains guidance for commissioners and those developing strategies which includes analysis of differential provision, access and outcomes when planning services, to ensure inequalities are addressed.</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable

Sexual orientation	In the 2021 Census, 3.4% of those in Torbay aged over 16 identified their sexuality as either Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or, used another term to describe their sexual orientation.	The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision. The Strategy contains guidance for commissioners and those developing strategies which includes analysis of differential provision, access and outcomes when planning services, to ensure inequalities are addressed.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Armed Forces Community	In 2021, 3.8% of residents in England reported that they had previously served in the UK armed forces. In Torbay, 5.9 per cent of the population have previously served in the UK armed forces.	The Torbay Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and wellbeing across the whole of our population. No adverse impacts are anticipated from this decision.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Additional considerations				
Socio-economic impacts (Including impacts on child poverty and deprivation)		People in more challenged socio-economic circumstances are at greater risk of poor health and wellbeing and are therefore highlighted for priority activity.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Public Health impacts (Including impacts on the general health of the population of Torbay)		All programmes are designed to improve population health.	All programmes are designed to improve population health.	Not applicable
Human Rights impacts		Services and providers will remain cognisant of human rights, including the right to life,	Not applicable	Not applicable

		health, privacy, education and prohibition of discrimination.		
Child Friendly	Torbay Council is a Child Friendly Council and all staff and Councillors are Corporate Parents and have a responsibility towards cared for and care experienced children and young people.	Highlighted as a priority activity.	Not applicable	Not applicable

14. Cumulative Council Impact

- 14.1 The Strategy takes account of priorities and activities across People and Place teams, including economic strategy, adult and children's social care, education and housing.
- 14.2 All teams are expected to take note of the needs and priorities highlighted in the Strategy when developing strategy or commissioning services.

15. Cumulative Community Impacts

- 15.1 All of these programmes involve close partnership working across the Integrated Care System, including voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector, and all are intended to promote and improve health across the whole of our population.