

Divisions Affected - All

Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board

16 December 2021

Plan for the 2022 update of the Oxfordshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Report by Corporate Director of Public Health, Oxfordshire County Council

RECOMMENDATION

1. **The Health and Wellbeing Board is RECOMMENDED to**
 - a) agree the proposed six-month delay to the release of Oxfordshire's 2022 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), to allow for inclusion of the Census 2021 results.
 - b) contribute information and intelligence to further the development of the JSNA (through the Steering Group) and participate in making information more accessible to everyone.

Executive Summary

2. The production of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is a statutory duty, however the content and timing of the JSNA is a decision for the Health and Wellbeing Board.
3. The Office for National Statistics plans to publish Census 2021 results from May/June 2022 onwards (provisional date), this will provide a rich picture of health and inequalities data at a local level to include in the JSNA.
4. It is proposed, therefore, that the JSNA annual report is delayed by around 6 months to allow for inclusion of the Census 2021 data, moving the JSNA item from the agenda of the Board meeting in March 2022 to the Board meeting in early October 2022.
5. The JSNA team will continue to share evidence about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, develop interactive content and provide support to partners in accessing JSNA resources.
6. There will be a "call out" for evidence for the 2022 JSNA report and partners are asked to continue to support this work with information and data and make use of this shared evidence base.

Background

7. The continuous process of developing and sharing the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is a statutory duty of Health and Wellbeing boards¹. The guidance states that the format and content of the JSNA will be “*unique to each local area*” and that “*Health and wellbeing boards will need to decide for themselves when to update or refresh JSNAs...*”
8. The Oxfordshire JSNA annual report is usually submitted to the March meeting of the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board and then disseminated to partnerships and teams to support the planning and commissioning of services.

Timing

9. From (the provisional date of) May/June 2022², the Office for National Statistics plans to release results from the national 2021 Census, carried out on 21 March 2021. This data will provide a rich source of demographic and social statistics, including the health and caring responsibilities of Oxfordshire’s population, that we will be able to analyse and visualise by age, location, ethnicity and other factors.
10. In order to include this Census 2021 data, it is proposed to delay the timing of the 2022 JSNA report to the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board from March 2022 to the board meeting in early October 2022.
11. The JSNA annual update process, overseen by the JSNA steering group, includes research, analysis, reporting and peer review. The update work starts around 4-5 months before submission of the annual report to the board meeting, so this proposal gives a revised start month of May 2022.

Developing the 2022 JSNA report

12. The delay to the annual report will enable the JSNA team to continue to develop:
 - (a) More information on the impact of COVID on health and wellbeing;
 - (b) A clearer picture of inequalities within the JSNA, extending the interactive inequalities dashboard and incorporating the “most deprived” ward profiles;
 - (c) More data, where available, on climate change and environmental impacts on health and wellbeing;
 - (d) Content designed to meet web accessibility standards.
13. In addition, the team will continue to publish and share JSNA-related content (for example through the short “bitesize” reports) and provide support to partners in accessing JSNA resources.

¹ [Statutory guidance on joint strategic needs assessments and joint health and wellbeing strategies \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

² [First results from the 2021 Census in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

Gathering data

14. The JSNA team is supported by partner agencies in the process of planning research, gathering and sharing evidence.
15. This collaborative effort relies on the willingness of partners to participate in deciding which information is relevant and useful and making their information available.
16. As in previous years, the JSNA will issue a “call for evidence” as part of the update process and will continue to encourage participation through formal and informal networks.

Financial Implications

17. There are no financial implications relating to this report as the publishing of an annual JSNA is already accounted for within business as usual service planning.

Legal Implications

18. The proposed delay to the JSNA in 2022 does not breach the Health and Wellbeing Board’s statutory duty to publish a JSNA each year.

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