

Oxfordshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Health and Social Care Bill currently making its way through Parliament, places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to establish Health and Wellbeing Boards. By April 2013 the boards are expected to be fully operational.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment will both be statutory requirements of the Health and Wellbeing Boards.

What is a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies are made up of the top priorities agreed by health and wellbeing board members. These priorities are the focus for joint work and form a basis for (but not the totality of) the members' own commissioning plans and decisions.

The strategy is the mechanism for Local Authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups to address the needs identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and to set out agreed priorities for collective action. The priorities should be the things requiring the greatest attention and should focus on the things that can be done together that will make the biggest difference¹. The strategy should also include details of how success can be measured and what outcomes will be achieved.

What is a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)?

JSNAs are tools to identify the health and wellbeing needs and inequalities of a local population to inform more effective and targeted service provision. They provide a framework to examine all the factors that impact on health and wellbeing of local communities (including employment, education, housing, and environmental factors) providing impartial evidence on which to base local decisions².

The JSNA is designed to encourage joined-up responses to complex issues by providing a shared evidence base for planning. Joint health and wellbeing strategies will build on this to identify priorities for commissioning and decommissioning.

The Oxfordshire JSNA is currently available on the Oxfordshire data observatory website; it is planned that the data will be refreshed by March 2012 and redeveloped by March 2013.

http://www.oxfordshireobservatory.info/wps/portal/dataobservatory/data?WCM_GLOBAL_CONTEXT=http://apps.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/DataObservatory%2FData%2FThemes%2FJSNA%2F

Planning timetable for a Health and Wellbeing Strategy in Oxfordshire

- **March 2012** – JSNA data refreshed
- **April 2012** – Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy drafted from the priorities agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board in March
- **May / June 2012** – consultation period for Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- **July 2012** – Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012-2016 agreed by Health and Wellbeing Board. Strategic priorities embedded in member organisations plans for 2012-16
- **March 2013** – JSNA fully revised and published

¹ JSNAs and joint health and wellbeing strategies – draft guidance, Dept of Health, Jan 2012

² JSNAs and joint health and wellbeing strategies – draft guidance, Dept of Health, Jan 2012

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- **July 2013** – revisions to Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy agreed based on the 2013 revised JSNA. Revised outcomes set for 2013-16 as appropriate. Strategic priorities embedded in member organisations plans for 2012-2016