

From: Vincent Badu, Chief Strategy Officer, NHS Kent and Medway

To: Kent Health and Wellbeing Board – 25 April 2023

Subject: NHS Kent and Medway Draft Joint Forward Plan

Classification: Unrestricted

Past pathway of report: N/A

Future pathway of report: Publication of final Joint Forward Plan by 30 June 2023

Summary: This report outlines the requirement for the development of an NHS Joint Forward Plan (JFP) in response to the Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy. The JFP has been developed in partnership between NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board and its partner NHS trusts and foundation trusts, as required by national NHS England guidance. The draft JFP is being shared with Kent Health and Wellbeing Board as part of our consultation across the Integrated Care System to seek views on whether the plan takes proper account of the Interim Integrated Care Strategy, which it is also recognised will act as the Kent Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Recommendation(s): The Kent Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to endorse the NHS Kent and Medway Joint Forward Plan as a plan that takes proper account of the Interim Integrated Care Strategy.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Health and Care Act 2022 requires integrated care partnerships to write an integrated care strategy to set out how assessed needs (from the joint strategic needs assessments) can be met through the exercise of the functions of the integrated care board, partner local authorities or NHS England (NHSE).
- 1.2 The Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy was developed in partnership between the NHS and lead local authorities including Kent County Council to meet this requirement and was published in December 2022, with the short deadline required to ensure it would influence the development of the JFP.
- 1.3 The National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended by the Health & Care Act 2022) requires that Integrated Care Boards (ICB) and their partner NHS trusts and foundation trusts prepare and publish their JFP before the start of each financial year. For this first year, however, the date for publishing the final plan is 30 June 2023.
- 1.4 NHS England guidance on the development of the JFP was published at the end of December alongside, and with reference to, the 2023/24 priorities and operational planning guidance. The NHSE guidance lists a number of specific statutory requirements the plan must meet as well as additional recommendations on subject areas to be considered, see appendix 1. As a minimum, the JFP should describe how the ICB and its partner NHS trusts and

foundation trusts intend to meet the physical and mental health needs of their population through arranging and/or providing NHS services. This should include delivery of universal NHS commitments, meet legal requirements and address the four core purposes of Integrated Care Systems (ICS), namely to:

- improve outcomes in population health and healthcare
- tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access
- enhance productivity and value for money
- help the NHS support broader social and economic development.

1.5 In future years it is suggested that the JFP should be a shared system delivery plan for the Integrated Care Strategy. However, in this initial year it will form the NHS delivery plan for the Interim Integrated Care Strategy in Kent and Medway.

2. Body of the report

2.1 The draft JFP is being shared with Kent Health and Wellbeing Board as part of our consultation across the Integrated Care System to seek views on whether the plan takes proper account of the Kent Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which is represented by the Interim Integrated Care Strategy. As the Interim Integrated Care Strategy is planned to be refreshed later this year, so will the Joint Forward Plan be refreshed next year in response to this.

2.2 As noted above the JFP has been developed in response to the Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy. The structure of the document follows that of the strategy and addresses each of the shared outcomes in turn, with a focus on actions that will be taken across the NHS to deliver the outcomes, as well as where links will be made to ensure partnership working across the ICS in delivering the outcomes.

2.3 As an example, the JFP includes reference to the system wide investment of £5.94m committed by NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board to address health inequalities in outcomes, experience, and access. Although there is no specific national requirement associated with the funding, the expectation is that it is used to help systems maintain work to reduce inequalities such as Core20Plus5 approach and the five NHS inequalities priorities. Working closely with the Health and Care Partnerships a range of programmes are being prioritised for support through the allocation of this resource. For example in West Kent the programmes include Shepway Community Larder with provision of diabetes and dietetics input, mental health social prescribing link workers and improving hypertension detection and management within areas of high deprivation. In Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley the focus is on targeted interventions to support health improvement and prevention linked to four areas of greatest health inequality (obesity, diabetes, cancer screening and respiratory) in specific community groups. The Swale programmes target hypertension, Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM), improving outcomes for children with asthma in deprived populations and a tier 3 childhood obesity service amongst others. In East Kent the programmes include expansion of the Integrated Diabetes Service, implementation of a homelessness pathway model following a successful pilot in Margate and supported self-management through the development of Integrated Neighbourhood Teams.

2.4 The JFP has been developed by NHS Kent and Medway and its partner provider trusts and foundation trusts. Through their provider leads Health and Care Partnerships have also contributed to its development. In addition the Integrated Care Strategy Steering Group, which includes the Kent Director of Public Health, has reviewed and commented on the plan as it was in development.

3. Conclusions

3.1 The Draft JFP has been developed in response to NHS England guidance as an NHS delivery plan for the Interim Integrated Care Strategy. It will be subject to an annual refresh, particularly as the Interim Integrated Care Strategy is refreshed. The structure of the JFP follows that of the strategy, focusing on key actions that will be taken across the NHS to deliver the shared outcomes and enablers. It also highlights where links will be made to ensure partnership working across the integrated care system.

4. Recommendation(s):

The Kent Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to endorse the NHS Kent and Medway Joint Forward Plan as a plan that takes proper account of the Interim Integrated Care Strategy.

5. Background Documents

None

6. Contact details

Report Author:

Rachel Hewett, Director of System Strategy, NHS Kent and Medway

r.hewett1@nhs.net

Relevant Director:

Vincent Badu, Chief Strategy Officer, NHS Kent and Medway

v.badu@nhs.net