

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Cabinet

DECISION NO:

22/00097

For publication

Key decision: YES

Subject Matter / Title of Decision

The Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy

Decision:

Cabinet;

- approves the Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy, subject to final recommendation by the Integrated Care Partnership; and
- Delegates authority to the Director of Strategy, Policy, Relationships & Corporate Assurance to take relevant actions to implement this decision.

Reason(s) for decision:

Integrated Care Systems came into existence in July 2022. The Integrated Care Partnership is required to produce the Kent and Medway Interim Integrated Care Strategy, and this has been managed by the three statutory partners of the Integrated Care Partnership - KCC, Medway Council and the Integrated Care Board (NHS Kent and Medway). Development of the Interim Strategy has followed the requirements set out in statutory guidance and it sets out the commitment to closer working and integration between health and care services and with other services that influence the wider determinants, many of which are provided by KCC as well as other partners in the public and voluntary and community sectors.

The Department for Health and Social Care requires that Integrated Care Strategies are published by the end of December 2022 to inform the first 5-year joint forward plans which Integrated Care Boards (NHS) must agree before the next financial year. The guidance recognises that 2022 to 2023 will be a transitional period and that Integrated Care Partnerships will want to refresh and develop their Integrated Care Strategy as they grow and mature. Therefore, the Strategy published by the end of December will be an interim version that will be subject to further development.

In its Council Strategy, Framing Kent's Future, KCC has committed to seize the opportunity of integrating our planning, commissioning and decision making in adult, children, and public health services through being a partner in the Kent and Medway Integrated Care System at place and system level. Through its statutory requirements and the commitments, it has made, KCC is a key partner in the development and implementation of the Integrated Care Strategy.

Financial implications:

There are no direct financial costs associated with the development of the Integrated Care Strategy for KCC other than staff time in supporting the Steering Group overseeing its development. Further work on the consultation and engagement plan for the Strategy is ongoing, but any financial or non-financial resources required to support that exercise will be met from within service budgets. To fully maximise the opportunities that arise regarding integration and joint arrangements that the ICS offers, further resources to support the operation of the ICS Partnership architecture will be included

within the Budget considered by the County Council in February.

Legal Implications:

The Health and Care Act 2022 requires Integrated Care Partnerships to produce an Integrated Care Strategy to set out how the assessed health and care needs of the area can be met through the exercise of the functions of the ICB, partner local authorities or NHS England.

Equalities Implications:

An Equality Impact Assessment has been led by the ICB and is attached to the report and through the link here. The NHS EIA template and process has been followed with partners providing commentary and input as appropriate. This is a live document and will be developed further as the consultation and engagement process takes place and the strategy is further iteratively developed throughout 2023.

Data Protection Implications:

None

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

Cabinet Committee consultation was not possible due to the timescales involved – legal deadlines required implementation of the Interim Strategy by the end of 2022.

Given the limited time available for the development of the Interim Strategy, engagement with stakeholders has been focused on key partner organisations across the Kent and Medway Integrated Care System, including at a symposium on 28th October 2022 involving partners across the public, VCSE and private sector, and presentations at Joint Kent Chiefs and Leaders meetings. An online platform was also set up to allow stakeholders and the public to comment on key themes. Feedback and priorities identified through this engagement have shaped the development of the Interim Strategy.

Public and partner consultation will be delivered throughout 2023 to shape the development and implementation of the next iteration of the Strategy.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

No alternatives were considered due to the requirement from Department of Health and Social Care for all Integrated Care Systems to publish an Integrated Care Strategy by the end of December 2022.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None.

1 December 2022

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date