

LIVE WELL SOUTH TEES BOARD

A meeting of the Live Well South Tees Board was held on Thursday 16 January 2025.

PRESENT: Councillors B Suthers, U Earl, & J Ryles, P Rice, K Warnock, J Ryles, M Short and D Swainston

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors A Brown, L Henman, P Story, P Gavigan, L Robson & L Sergeant, P Neal, M Adams, D Gardner, B Kilmurray, J Sampson, E Scollay, A Tahmassebi, M Davis, M Graham, R Harrison, C Cooke - Elected Mayor, C Joynes, J Tynan, L Brown, S Rawson, L Grabham, J Todd and L Buckley

24/6 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

24/7 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received at this point in the meeting.

24/8 **MINUTES- LIVE WELL SOUTH TEES BOARD - 12 SEPTEMBER 2024**

The minutes of the Live Well South Tees Board meeting held on 12 September 2024 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

24/9 **SOUTH TEES HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY: MISSION LED APPROACH - DISCUSSION PAPER**

The Health Improvement Manager for Public Health South Tees delivered a presentation to the Live Well South Tees Board regarding recommendations for the Mission-led approach to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The Live Well South Tees Board had agreed to a "Mission-led" approach for the development of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

Members were advised that the Mission-led approach was about shifting from working in isolated silos, where each agency fixed its own small problems, to collaborating across organisations and with communities, tackling the deeper issues together and creating bigger lasting changes.

Missions were measurable, ambitious and time-bound objectives that had the potential to help enable transformative change.

The Live Well Board were asked to consider the following recommendations and provide comment:

System Leadership

Recommendation 1

We will identify system leaders for each mission considering the importance of developing new system leaders and engaging with latent system leaders. We will establish our long-term approach to give confidence that our System Leaders could be part of leading something that has the chance to produce real change across partners.

It was advised that 4 System Leaders had been appointed but there were 5 outstanding vacancies.

Recommendation 2

We will develop a model of support for System Leaders that considers:

- Supportive methodologies for problem-solving and decision making
- Clarity on the role of System Leader, focusing on leadership, insight and learning
- Training and support on building a learning culture, capturing, sharing learning and contributing to the development of the learning framework

Recommendation 3

We will create a regular facilitated space for System Leaders to identify and share learning, achievements, barriers, issues and decision-making governance.

Mission-Level Governance

Recommendation 4

We will develop mission-led governance structures to support the delivery of the missions that consider devolved autonomy to facilitate information sharing, support mission leadership and enable more agile decision-making across agencies.

Recommendation 5

We will connect our mission-led approach to the Tees Valley Anchor Network to explore the additional value we could generate by co-ordinating missions across approaches to procurement, employment, education and environment.

Engaging Communities and People

Recommendation 6

We will develop a model of mission-level community engagement that is embedded into policy development, decision making and learning processes to inform the development of our plans and approaches to deliver the missions.

Developing our Learning Approach

Recommendation 7

We will develop our learning approach and shared understanding of system change building on the learning from YGT to co-ordinate action across agencies to deliver our Missions.

Delivery through the Policy Frameworks and Powers

Recommendation 8

We will work with both Council's and partners to embed the ambitions of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy Missions into organisational policy frameworks.

Recommendation 9

We will consider how we can better use roles and powers of both Council's (and partners) to deliver our Missions.

Following the presentation Board Members discussed the recommendations the following points were raised.

- Duplication, lots of work already being undertaken across Tees for example in children's mental health, would it be possible to link in with this work to avoid duplication
- Narrowing the outcome gap already had a workstream
- Key part is scoping what is already in place
- What does it mean for the system leaders, it is a big ask
- Need to understand existing landscapes and structures
- Could be conflict between system leads and providers

- Recommendations had a negative tone structural issues/barriers – building and improving is what we want
- Assumption that current work is not working – lots of great work going on, need to understand what work is going on and build on it
- A lot of reliance on system leaders
- Should there be a system co-ordinator?
- Information sharing – where will information be held and who would have access to information
- Data sharing agreements would need to be put in place
- Need to understand what is meant by devolved autonomy, we have some governance processes in place
- Could the Poverty Network be across South Tees instead of just in Middlesbrough
- Poverty is a negative word
- Good to get positive lived experiences

AGREED: That the Board concluded that they were not able to endorse the recommendations at this current time and requested that this item be brought back to a future meeting of the Live Well South Tees Board.

24/10

HEALTH PROTECTION ASSURANCE REPORT

The Advanced Public Health Practitioner for Public Health South Tees presented the South Tees Health Protection Assurance Report 2023/24 to the Live Well Board.

Members heard that Local Authorities through their Directors of Public Health, required assurance that appropriate arrangements were in place to protect the public's health. The report provided a summary of the assurance functions of the Public Health South Tees Health Assurance Partnership and reviewed performance for the period of 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 for the Live Well South Tees Board.

The report considered the following key domains of Health Protection.

- Protection from environmental hazards
- Prevention of communicable diseases and outbreak management
- Improvement of community resilience around health protection issues
- Increase equitable uptake of immunisation programmes
- Increase equitable uptake of screening programmes

The Advanced Public Health Practitioner highlighted the following to the Live Well Board Members:

Environmental

- **Air Quality** - Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland councils produce annual Air Quality Status Reports for DEFRA, showing compliance with national air quality standards and a steady decline in NO₂ levels primarily caused by road vehicles; both councils promote sustainable transport and low-emission vehicle use, supported by a joint Clean Air Strategy (2024) with defined actions to improve and maintain air quality in the South Tees area.
- **Noise** - The Public Protection Service addressed noise complaints and ensured compliance with licensing laws to prevent public nuisance; in 2023-24, Middlesbrough recorded 983 complaints (down from 1203 in 2022-23) with minimal enforcement action (4 abatement notices), while Redcar & Cleveland recorded 629 complaints (slightly down from 634) with limited use of Community Protection Warnings and Notices, primarily related to barking dogs, loud music, and parties.
- **Housing Standards** - Good quality housing was essential for health and well-being, with Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Councils addressing housing standards through statutory powers, Selective Landlord Licensing (SLL) schemes, and responses to tenant complaints; SLL schemes had identified numerous Category 1 and 2 hazards, prompting remedial actions and enforcement where needed, while broader efforts focused on tackling damp, mould, and energy efficiency, alongside

national legislative changes to improve housing conditions and tenant protections.

- **Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs)** - HMOs, often housing vulnerable residents, require licensing for properties with 5+ occupants from multiple households. Middlesbrough had 240 licensed HMOs, and Redcar & Cleveland had 32. Inspections ensure compliance with housing standards, including fire and electrical safety, with enforcement actions taken as needed.
- **Affordable Warmth** - Redcar & Cleveland's "Warm & Well" service and Middlesbrough's South Tees Affordable Warmth Partnership provided advice and access to grants for energy efficiency. Initiatives like LAD2 and HUG schemes had improved over 200 homes, while partnerships like "Stay Safe and Warm" assist residents struggling to heat their homes.
- **Control of Environmental and Foodborne Infections:**
In 2023-24, Middlesbrough inspected 593 food businesses (75% rated 5) and Redcar & Cleveland inspected 648 (91% rated 5). Regulatory actions included business closures for hygiene breaches. Both councils oversee cosmetic treatment premises to ensure public health compliance, with enforcement taken against unregistered operators.
- **Emergency Preparedness:**
The Cleveland Emergency Planning Unit handled 16 incidents in 2023-24, with training and exercises to enhance resilience. Multi-agency meetings addressed risks like waste fires and extreme weather, while community resilience initiatives, including a grant scheme, were trialled.
- **Severe Weather:**
The South Tees Adverse Weather Plan consolidated heat and cold weather strategies, ensuring weather alerts were cascaded to councils, care facilities, schools, and health partners to prepare and protect vulnerable populations during extreme weather events.
- **Excess Winter Deaths:**
In 2021-22, Middlesbrough recorded 20 excess winter deaths (13% higher for ages 85+), while Redcar & Cleveland had zero (1.6%). Compared to 11% for England. Most deaths resulted from circulatory and respiratory diseases, influenced by factors like temperature, and existing circulatory /respiratory diseases rather than hypothermia.

Communicable Diseases

- Covid-19, Flu and RSV cases were monitored, with efforts made to reduce local admissions to alleviate winter pressures.
- Scarlet fever and Group A strep returned to normal levels in February 2023 after high levels from September 2022, they remained normal throughout 2023-24.
- HIV rates increased in 2023, there was an increase in Middlesbrough to 23 cases (from 7.4 per 100k to 15.1 per 100k). Redcar & Cleveland had a low rate at 4.3 per 100k. HIV testing rates had improved from 2020, with a focus on reducing transmission and late diagnosis.
- A Syphilis outbreak in Teesside impacted heterosexual men and women in the 18-34 age group. Gonorrhoea rates also increased. A Tees wide campaign was deployed to increase condom use amongst the younger age group. High chlamydia detection was recognised as a good thing as it prevented onward transmission.
- TB was linked closely to deprivation and health inequalities and was prevalent in those with alcohol/drug misuse, homelessness, prison, mental illness and asylum seekers. Middlesbrough had the highest rate in the Northeast in 2022 according to the latest data available.

Community Resilience

- Making Every Contact Count trained 506 people in 2023-24 total with a total of 1049 people trained.
- South Tees NHS Foundation Trust embedded Making Every Contact Count into training, campaigns and communications
- Health Protection Assurance workshops in 2023-24 were well attended, 88 people attended the Children and Young People workshop and 30 attended the adult's workshop.
- HealthStart – focused on improving physical health in schools

Immunisation

Redcar & Cleveland had always performed better in immunisation uptake rates, there are links with levels of deprivation and issues with vaccine records for non-English children.

- Middlesbrough was below 95% target for all 13 indicators, Redcar & Cleveland was below for 8 of 13 indicators. Atrial was taking place in Middlesbrough and Hartlepool with a wide range of partners – GP, midwifery, registry office, promoting 5 steps to protection, school admissions, nurseries, promoting it's not too late.
- The seasonal uptake was similar to national trends, Redcar & Cleveland was slightly above England, Middlesbrough slightly below for covid and flu
- Older adults' uptake was similar to England with PPV (pneumonia) 71% compared to shingles at 48%

Screening

- One of the most effective public health intervention for protecting against serious illness
- Newborn screening at 97.8% compared to England 99%
- The National Child Measurement Programme indicated growing obesity concerns in Middlesbrough (Reception:30% - Y6:40%) and Redcar & Cleveland (Reception:27% - Y6: 39%) – which leads to implications for NHS.

The Live Well Board thanked the Advanced Public Health Practitioner for Public Health South Tees for attending and providing the update to the Board and noted the content of the report.

24/11

HEALTH AND WELLBEING EXECUTIVE ASSURANCE REPORT

The South Tees Integration Programme Manager presented the Health and Wellbeing Executive Assurance report, which provided an update on progress with the delivery of the Board's vision and priorities and assurance that the Board was fulfilling its statutory obligations.

Members were advised that the Better Care Fund (BCF) policy framework, planning requirements and confirmation of national minimum funding contributions for 2025/26 were yet to be released.

Indications are that the principles for the 2025/26 BCF Policy Framework would be:

- To support the government's Health Mission and the shift to a "neighbourhood health" approach"
- To better support patients and service users by enabling people to live more healthy and independent lives for longer
- To support hospital flow and positively contribute to the NHS ability to move towards constitutional standards
- To make the BCF work better for local authorities and the NHS by reducing administrative burdens and providing greater flexibility in to meet BCF priorities

It was advised that the next Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) was due to be published in October 2025. The Health and Wellbeing Executive had agreed to delegate responsibility to the PNA Steering Group and would receive updates by exception when required.

ORDERED: The Live Well South Tees Board note the report.