



Gateshead Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Key Points 2009





Introduction

This refreshed version of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) will make sure that services are developed and organised to meet the current and future health care and well being needs of local people. The JSNA has been developed with a range of partners to help us understand local issues and priorities. The JSNA is required to look ahead over the next three to five years and to highlight where we need to change in order to:

- Reshape services in line with identified need and the wishes and needs of local communities.
- Reduce inequalities.
- Increase social inclusion.
- Provide better value for money through improved outcomes.

The JSNA must be considered alongside the Director of Public Health's Annual Report, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Review of Inequalities and the Children and Young People's Plan 2006-2009. These are all critical to our work in how we tackle the causes of ill health in order to reduce health inequalities. We need to do this across all ages.

We have looked at all the information we hold to identify issues important to Gateshead and linked this to other strategic processes and plans, including the Community Safety Strategic Assessment, Housing and Spatial Strategies and the Vision for Adult Social Care. We have consulted widely, engaging with users, carers, residents and providers to ensure that their views have helped to influence and shape our priorities.

One of our key strategic commissioning intentions is to move resources from acute care budgets to support prevention and community based care. In line with the national

framework provided through "Our Health, Our Care, Our Say", we aim to reallocate 5% of acute care budgets over the next three to five years to support these community based services. We plan to reallocate at least 1% of the budget this year but to increase this to 3% next year.

Putting it into practice

In 2008, circulatory disease and mental health were selected as areas in which new models of service delivery could be developed, with the focus being on preventative care.

In 2009, we will continue to analyse financial and service information relating to mental health and circulatory disease to help us assess the viability of this model.

This learning will be taken forward and applied to other priorities identified through the JSNA.

We have assessed emerging issues in terms of impact (death, years of life lost, hospital admissions and socio-economic implications) and also prevalence, trends, inequalities and effective, evidence-based interventions. The top issues emerging comprise:

- screening and early years;
- illness and chronic conditions;
- mental health and emotional well-being;
- drugs, alcohol and tobacco;
- sexual health;
- poverty and exclusion;
- domestic violence.

This has led to the following priorities for children and young people to:

- Promote health, well being and a range of service improvements around mental health services, specifically to provide earlier intervention to children and young people, to support their mental health and emotional well being.
- Promote healthy lifestyles, including the reduction of childhood obesity.
- Work with partners to address issues around alcohol, drugs and tobacco, including cultural and social aspects.
- Work to minimise the impact of domestic violence on children and young people.
- Narrow the gap between the most disadvantaged and the average, with a focus on children (in particular on educational aspiration and attainment, violence, early years and developmental screening).
- Continue work with all relevant partners to reduce teenage pregnancies and the underlying causes.
- Modernise our sexual health services, including reducing the rate of chlamydia.

The JSNA will inform the refresh of the Children and Young People's Plan to address these key issues.

This has led to the following priorities for working age adults and older people to:

- Prevent isolation and loneliness in old age (developing links with housing to support independent living).
- Promote the health and well being of older people with dementia and their carers.
- Tackle circulatory disease through early identification of those at high risk and working closely with PCT led initiatives to reduce risk factors.
- Work with partners to address issues around alcohol, drugs and tobacco, including cultural and social aspects.
- Provide supported accommodation options to address issues relating to the ageing population of family carers (of people with learning disabilities).
- Ensure continuity of care in relation to health, housing and employment for people coming out of prison.
- Work to eradicate homelessness, through innovative methods to enable householders to remain at home and avoid the need to apply as homeless.

Narrowing the gap

We will undertake community-led lifestyle work across all ages, starting with six neighbourhood planning areas (NPAs) in Gateshead with low life expectancy. The local authority and PCT will give high profile support to community engagement, particularly within these six NPAs. This will include mental health and well being initiatives, as well as financial inclusion and life style issues.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Review Service Improvement Plan indicated the need to develop a "Health Inequality Impact Assessment" that is systematically applied. We will work to carry out a full health impact assessment during 2009 to consider the effects of the recession. It is inevitable that the recession will have a significant impact on the economy and health of Gateshead's population.

We will also apply "Health Equity" audit approaches to ensure our services reach those groups showing low service take up, for example, the screening take up of people with learning disabilities.

Improving service delivery

Work will continue to establish clear links across the Health and Social Care Partnership, Children and Young People's Partnership, Community Safety, Housing, Culture and Economy and Development and Enterprise, including the Spatial Strategy.

Service improvement plans have been developed to address needs relating to inequalities. Pathway work around musculo-skeletal and respiratory conditions is underway. Modernising services for podiatry, continence and dentistry needs to be addressed.

A new GP led health centre will open in 2009, offering health services seven days per week. We will also combine two GP practices to form a new practice in Wrekenton, which will offer a wider range of facilities.

During 2009, work will be carried out to involve agency representatives and local people in developing a fresh community based approach to tackle low life expectancy and other health issues.



The full report, supporting data and analysis may be viewed on the Gateshead Council website www.gateshead.gov.uk/jsna (free access at your local library).

If you need a hard copy of this information please contact:

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