

## HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

**Subject Heading:**

Havering's Integrated Starting Well Plan  
2024-27 - *Happy, Healthy Lives*

**Board Lead:**

Tara Geere, Director of Starting Well  
(Statutory Director of Children's Services)

**Report Author and contact details:**

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Improvement (People)

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following themes of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>The wider determinants of health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase employment of people with health problems or disabilities</li> <li>• Develop the Council and NHS Trusts as anchor institutions that consciously seek to maximise the health and wellbeing benefit to residents of everything they do.</li> <li>• Prevent homelessness and minimise the harm caused to those affected, particularly rough sleepers and consequent impacts on the health and social care system.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Lifestyles and behaviours</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prevention of obesity</li> <li>• Further reduce the prevalence of smoking across the borough and particularly in disadvantaged communities and by vulnerable groups</li> <li>• Strengthen early years providers, schools and colleges as health improving settings</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>The communities and places we live in</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Realising the benefits of regeneration for the health of local residents and the health and social care services available to them</li> <li>• Targeted multidisciplinary working with people who, because of their life experiences, currently make frequent contact with a range of statutory services that are unable to fully resolve their underlying problem.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Local health and social care services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of integrated health, housing and social care services at locality level.</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>BHR Integrated Care Partnership Board Transformation Board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older people and frailty and end of life      Cancer</li> <li>• Long term conditions      Primary Care</li> <li>• Children and young people      Accident and Emergency Delivery Board</li> <li>• Mental health      Transforming Care Programme Board</li> <li>• Planned Care</li> </ul>

## SUMMARY

The requirement to have a Children’s Trust Board and a Children and Young People’s Plan was revoked in 2010. Some local authorities have retained their boards and continued to produce a children’s plan while others, like Havering, have not, favouring individual service plans and subject-matter-specific strategies instead.

A decision has been taken to produce an integrated children’s plan (or ‘Starting Well Plan’, to align with our life course approach and directorate name) so that we can more clearly articulate the Council’s vision and priorities for children and young people. The plan will also complement our Starting Well Improvement Plan, developed following our inspection by Ofsted in December 2023.

Whilst ours is a Council owned and produced plan, it brings together a number of key strategies and areas of work that cut across multiple departments of the Council, as well as our wider partnership.

We have consulted widely with partners and with children and young people in developing the plan, which is structured around five key priorities and our vision: *Enabling our children and families to lead happy, healthy lives.*

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- Note the contents of the Integrated Starting Well Plan and the approach that has been taken to its development; and
- Adopt the suggested five Starting Well JSNA recommendations - each of which is aligned to one of the five priorities within the Plan - for inclusion in Havering’s refreshed Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

## REPORT DETAIL

Our Integrated Starting Well Plan is called *Happy, Healthy Lives*. It brings together several key strategies which collectively respond to evidence, JSNA recommendations and, importantly, feedback from children and young people, in order to deliver our vision: *Enabling our children and families to lead happy, healthy lives.*

There is no statutory requirement to produce a Children’s Plan but having one will allow the borough to better articulate our vision and priorities for children and young people. The plan further builds upon the visions for both People and Place, as set out in the Council’s current Corporate Plan.

The Plan also complements our Starting Well Improvement Plan, developed following our inspection by Ofsted in December 2023 under the Inspection of Local

Authority Children's Services (ILACS) framework. *Happy, Healthy, Lives* does not attempt to replicate the actions that have already been identified as required through our improvement journey for our services. Instead, it describes a vision for *all* of Havering's children and young people.

The plan organises the work required to achieve our vision under five priorities, which together describe our **WISH** for children and young people in Havering. The first four priorities are that we want children and young people to be:

- **Well;**
- **Inspired;**
- **Safe;** and
- **Heard.**

The fifth priority is a commitment, to doing all we can to ensure that children and young people in Havering are **treated fairly**.

*Happy, Healthy Lives* has been informed by the views of children and young people that have been gathered over the past two years, including through numerous SHOUT surveys and the Havering Youth Wellbeing Census.

The plan includes a high-level action plan, which sets out several of the recommendations made in the Starting Well Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) chapter, published earlier this year. The action plan will be further populated (with lead officers, timescales etc.) in the final version of the document, once updated in response to consultation feedback.

It is recommended that the following five JSNA recommendations (one for each priority) are adopted by the Health and Wellbeing Board for inclusion in Havering's refreshed Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy:

1. Develop a joint strategy to improve adolescents' mental health and wellbeing;
2. Focus on early intervention to improve school readiness, including through increased delivering of joint 2-2.5-year checks by Health Visitors and staff in Early Years settings, and targeted checks for children who have not been brought for any check;
3. Havering statutory and voluntary sector partners to consider ways of intervening earlier to prevent admission to hospital as a result of self-harming, aligning actions to the overall suicide prevention strategy for Havering;
4. Good quality engagement with young people is required to understand how to better manage their transition from child-focused to adult services for on-going care and support, whether related to health or social care;
5. Partners to work collectively to decrease the inequalities in educational outcomes for young people.

A consultation on the draft plan opened on 3 October 2024 and will close on 31 October 2024. The link to this can be found at Appendix 2.

The draft plan has also been consulted upon with Havering's Youth Council, where it was agreed that once the plan has been formally adopted, Youth Council will work with us to coproduce a child-friendly and accessible version.

## IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

*Happy, Healthy Lives* is a three-year strategic plan and as such, it is appropriate that individual Equalities and Health Impact Assessments would be produced for individual strategies or activity contained within it. The plan is structured around five priorities: Well, Inspired, Safe, Heard and Treated fairly. All five priorities aim to improve outcomes for children and young people, with the latter having particular resonance for equalities.

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- i.the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- ii.the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- iii.foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economic and health determinants.

### **Health implications and risks:**

Having been informed by public engagement and the intelligence-based findings and recommendations from the recent Starting Well JSNA, *Happy, Healthy Lives* offers an important opportunity to take forward partnership action to address issues which have been demonstrated to be negatively impacting on health and wellbeing and of importance to children and young people in Havering.

Effective delivery against the Starting Well recommendations, including the five recommendations to be adopted by the Health and Wellbeing board, will contribute



to an improvement in health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people in Havering, while supporting efforts to address of health inequalities.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

There are no legal implications regarding the contents of the Integrated Starting Well Plan and the approach that has been taken to develop this plan.

### **HR implications and risks:**

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce. Recruitment into existing Havering posts will be managed in accordance with the Council's policies and procedures.

### **Financial implications and risks:**

This report concerns the Integrated Starting Well plan which the Board is asked to note. A consultation on the plan is currently underway. There is no new funding associated with this plan and all activities will have to be met from existing resources including the Council's General Fund budget, the Dedicated Schools Grant and the Public Health Grant. All of these funding sources are under significant pressure and unfortunately this will act as a constraint on the level of ambition. However the plan will provide a framework for prioritisation.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix 1: Integrated Starting Well Plan 2024-27 – *Happy, Healthy Lives*

Appendix 2: Link to consultation:

<https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/childrens/starting-well-plan/>