

## Health & Wellbeing Partnership Board 20<sup>th</sup> March 2008

### Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

#### 1. Introduction

The JSNA was first proposed in the *Commissioning Framework for Health and Well-being* that is designed “to enable commissioners to achieve:

- A shift towards services that are personal, sensitive to individual need and that maintain independence and dignity
- A strategic reorientation towards promoting health, social care and well-being, investing now to reduce future ill health costs”

The latest JSNA guidance was published Dec 2007 alongside the NHS Operating Framework that clarified the close fit of the NHS with wider Public Sector performance frameworks for the next three years. It also cross references ‘Our Health, Our Care, Our Say: a new Direction for Community Services’ and the Guidance on the Children and Young People’s plan.

The duty to undertake JSNA is set out in Section 116 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007), and described in the draft statutory guidance *Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities*, currently out for consultation. The duty is on the upper tier local authorities and PCTs and will commence 1st April 2008.

The statutory guidance emphasises that JSNA should be taken into account by the local authority and its partners in preparing the Sustainable Community Strategy, as part of a strengthened commitment to local priorities. The issues identified by JSNA will inform the priorities and targets set by the Local Area Agreement, the delivery agreement for the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The vision that the JSNA will lead to stronger partnerships between communities, local government, and the NHS is reinforced in the cross sector concordat *Putting People First: a shared vision and commitment to the transformation of adult social care (2007)e*.

#### 2. What is the JSNA?

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment describes a process that identifies current and future health, social care and wellbeing needs in light of existing services, and informs future service planning taking into account evidence of effectiveness.

In the context of this guidance, needs assessment is a systematic method for reviewing the health, social care and wellbeing needs of a population, leading to agreed commissioning priorities that will improve health, social care and wellbeing outcomes and reduce inequalities. The JSNA is an aggregated assessment of need and should not be used for identifying need at the individual level.

A good JSNA will:

- Use local community views and evidence of effectiveness of interventions to shape the future of local services
- Define achievable improvements in health and well-being outcomes for the local community
- Support the delivery of better health and well-being outcomes for the local community
- Inform the next stages of planning and aid better decision-making

### **3. Benefits of a JSNA**

#### ***Defining a common purpose***

- Regularises the joint work that is already happening
- Provides a mechanism to develop joint service provision between health and social services based on the same planning data

#### ***Making the priority setting process explicit***

- Puts populations and their needs at the centre of planning
- Enables gaps in provision to be identified whether by geography, population or type of need.
- Increase the understanding that not all health and social care services can or should be funded.

#### ***Increasing the efficiency of health and social care intelligence sharing***

- Develops baselines and benchmarks for ongoing comparisons and defines meaningful correlations between indicators
- Increases efficiency of data sharing and allows processes to be put in place to maintain confidentiality
- Provides online tools and libraries of datasets, able to be refreshed and updated with ease of access and use
- Identifies gaps in data collection and allows this to be addressed in future

It is unlikely that the JSNA will provide completely new insight into Oxfordshire, it will build on what is already known as the minimum data set is at a very high level. It will provide easy access to shared data that can be built on it in future years. If gaps in the data are found then more relevant data can be added in a systematic manner.

### **5. How is the JSNA being put together**

Oxfordshire County Council and Oxfordshire PCT have jointly commissioned an external agency to collate and analyse the required minimum dataset. This analysis will include ranking wards in terms of their needs according to specific indicators, for example numbers of children living in poverty. Additionally, specific in depth joint needs assessments are being undertaken, for example around older people and adult mental health.

Following this initial analysis further in depth needs assessments will be identified and undertaken.

## **6. Publishing and feedback**

The findings of the JSNA will be fed back to the local community using various formats and means including Annual Reports and PCT and local authority websites. PCTs are required to incorporate the findings of the JSNA into the PCT Prospectus.

See attached Minimum Dataset Feb. 08

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