

Health and Wellbeing Board

Thursday 13 March 2025

10.00 am

Southwark Council, Ground floor meeting rooms, 160 Tooley Street,
London SE1 2QH

Supplemental Agenda

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Date: 12 March 2025

Health and Wellbeing Board – 13 March 2025 – Public Questions and Responses [15minutes]

Questions relating to items on the agenda

Question Raised by	Agenda Item	Public Question
Omotola Wonuola Southwark Community Health Ambassador	9 - Annual Public Health Report	What are the biggest health challenges in Southwark right now, and how can we ensure support reaches those who need it most?
	Response	
	<p>The Annual Public Health Report has focused on health inequalities in the borough. Reducing these persistent inequalities is the biggest challenge we face in health and wellbeing. Within Southwark there is a gap in life expectancy of almost 10 years among women, and almost 12 years among men. These inequalities are not inevitable, and can be reduced through coordinated and sustained effort to improve the social and economic conditions in which we live. To significantly reduce the inequalities in our borough, such action needs to be taken at scale and be proportionate to the needs of different communities.</p> <p>The report sets out key principles that should be adopted by all partners to reduce inequalities as well as a series of specific recommendations, including improving both the access and experience of services.</p>	
	Agenda Item	Public Question
	10 - Southwark Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy action plan 2025-27	How will the plan address gaps in services, particularly for those living within the borough's borders and in areas with limited access to transportation? Additionally, can community ambassadors play a role in shaping it?

	Response
	<p data-bbox="450 156 2085 225">How will the plan address gaps in services, particularly for those living within the borough's borders and in areas with limited access to transportation?</p> <p data-bbox="450 268 2145 373">The new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy action plan describes the actions that the Health and Wellbeing Board will take to prevent ill-health, promote wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. Actions involving services therefore relate to services that play a role in prevention of ill-health, rather than treatment. These services include:</p> <ul data-bbox="499 379 1384 842" style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and family hubs • Children's special educational needs and disability services • Local Child Health Teams • Employment support services • Leisure services • Hubs for Health and health check outreach service • Integrated Healthy Lifestyle Service • Southwark Wellbeing Hub • Women's Safety Centre • Falls prevention services • Carer's Centre • Housing Options service <p data-bbox="450 879 2154 1059">Two key principles of the strategy are "Embedding an approach to tackling health inequalities across all our policy making, services and delivery" and "Targeted place-based approach and population groups". Over the course of the delivery period 2025-2027, the Health and Wellbeing Board will monitor and have oversight over the delivery of the actions, ensuring that they are implemented in a way that supports the reduction of health inequalities, including areas of the borough where there may be poorer access to services and transportation.</p> <p data-bbox="450 1096 2101 1201">The Board will use data insights related to service delivery and population health outcomes to monitor the impact of action delivery on geographic inequalities, and receive updates from action owners, to ensure that these services are benefiting residents across the whole geography of Southwark.</p> <p data-bbox="450 1225 1482 1260">Additionally, can community ambassadors play a role in shaping it?</p> <p data-bbox="450 1265 2107 1332">The Community Health Ambassadors have a vital role to play in delivery of the action plan, especially with regards to actions that relate to community outreach and the voluntary and community sector, and the promotion of services and</p>

offers that will be delivered through the plan. In particular, Ambassadors play a key role in action 3.1 regarding the delivery of Southwark Hubs for Health and increasing uptake of Vital 5 health checks.

The Community Health Ambassadors also have a key role in providing a community voice in the development and implementation of interventions outlined in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, ensuring they meet the needs of local residents.

Agenda Item	Public Question
12 - Delivery of Connect to Work in Southwark	How will this programme assist residents facing health-related work barriers? Will it collaborate with local community groups?
Response	
<p>Connect to Work is designed to provide additional specialist resources to assist residents facing health-related barriers to work. Support will be delivered in line with the internationally recognised Individual Placement and Support (IPS) and Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) models which build support around a person's full range of needs, capabilities and aspirations in relation to employment. The Connect to Work service will work alongside health and wellbeing support services to raise awareness among residents and their support teams, engage residents who may benefit from support and to join up the health and employment related support residents receive. Employers are also actively engaged so that appropriate adjustments can be made in job roles and environments, and to support retention once a resident secures a job.</p> <p>Integration of Connect to Work with community support networks is at the heart of Southwark's approach to delivery. Connect to Work will be delivered alongside local community groups, which will play an important role in raising awareness and enabling support to be accessible to those with health-related work barriers who could benefit from the programme. We know that many residents who could benefit from support are known to local voluntary and community sector organisations where they hold an established and trusting relationship. Employment specialists will work with community groups to engage residents and understand their needs, they will also be empowered to spend time in community settings and to meet people in familiar locations.</p>	

Question Raised by	Agenda Item	Public Question
Sandra Tomlinson Southwark Community Health Ambassador	9 - Annual Public Health Report	What are the key findings from Southwark's Annual Public Health Report, and what new initiatives will be introduced as a result?
	Response	
	<p>The Annual Public Health Report has focused on health inequalities in the borough. Reducing these persistent inequalities is the biggest challenge we face in health and wellbeing. Within Southwark there is a gap in life expectancy of almost 10 years among women, and almost 12 years among men. These inequalities are not inevitable. They can be reduced and removed through coordinated and sustained effort to improve the social and economic conditions in which we live. If we are to significantly reduce the inequalities in our borough, such action needs to be taken at scale, and be proportionate to the needs of different communities.</p> <p>The Annual Public Health Report has directly influenced the development of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy action plan, with an increased focus on the social and economic determinants of health. In addition, the report has made a series of recommendations to reduce inequalities, focusing on improving access and experience of services, and ensuring residents are involved in the design of services.</p>	
	Agenda Item	Public Question
	10 - Southwark Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy action plan 2025-27	How will the refreshed action plan address health inequalities in Southwark, particularly in communities disproportionately affected by poor health outcomes?
Response		Reducing inequalities in health outcomes that have been identified through our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is a primary goal of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and corresponding action plan. The reduction of health inequalities has and will be considered at every phase of action plan delivery:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development: In line with the recommendations of the Annual Public Health Report on health inequalities, the action plan has focused on addressing the wider determinants of health that drive inequalities (such as employment, housing, finances and environment). This iteration of the action plan has an extended reach across the public sector, with action owners and partners including the Council's Housing, Planning, Environment, Exchequer Services, Education and Community Safety teams. • Delivery: Actions will be implemented proportionately to the needs of different communities, with those most in need receiving the greatest support. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment identifies six key population groups that partners across the system should focus on when tackling health inequalities: Carers, residents with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ residents, asylum seekers and refugees, rough sleepers and Black, Latin American and minoritised ethnic groups. The Health and Wellbeing Board will work to ensure that the needs of these communities are served through delivery of the action plan. • Monitoring and evaluation: The outcomes that the Board will monitor have been selected on the basis that they will reveal the impact of the actions on inequalities.
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General questions to the Health & Wellbeing Board

Question Raised by	Agenda Item	Public Question
Miles Lloyd Southwark Community Health Ambassador and Development Manager at London Sport, Southwark Based Charity	N/A	<p>Physical inactivity is one of the four key behavioural risk factors for non-communicable diseases, as recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO), yet it remains an underutilised lever for addressing health inequalities. In Southwark, this issue is particularly acute—Sport England data shows that the areas with the highest levels of inactivity are also those with the greatest social need. This directly impacts long-term health outcomes, contributing to conditions such as cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and poor mental health. Childhood obesity data also paints a concerning picture, with 46% of Year 6 pupils in Faraday living with obesity, compared to just 17% in Dulwich.</p> <p>Southwark's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and latest Public Health Report have already made it clear that tackling health inequalities must be a priority, with a strong focus on prevention and addressing the wider determinants of health. A place-based whole-system approach to embedding physical activity (defined as 'all movements', whether that be walking, gardening or an organised sport) is essential to delivering on these ambitions. In this space there's a range of great initiatives and assets in Southwark—such as Community Southwark, the Southwark Inclusive Sport & Physical Activity Network, school superzones, GP exercise referral and the Southwark 'Move' campaign. However, to ensure long-term impact, we must take a more coordinated approach that integrates physical activity across key sectors like housing, employment, and community</p>

		<p>infrastructure, in line with Asset-Based Community Development principles. This will help us tackle inequalities at their root.</p> <p>There is now a significant opportunity to bring new investment into Southwark through Sport England's Universal Offer funding, expected to open later this month, with a first application deadline likely in June. This funding is specifically designed to support place-based, whole-system approaches to tackling inactivity and health inequalities—an approach that has already been successfully tested over the past six years in pilots across the country. Nine other London boroughs, including Lambeth, have already begun working with London Sport to take this approach forward. However, Sport England has made it clear that successful applications must demonstrate strong cross-sector buy-in and leveraged funding from other sources, ensuring long-term sustainability and impact.</p> <p>Is the Board willing to explore this opportunity further? London Sport has already dedicated 0.5 FTE of my time to supporting this approach in Southwark, and I would welcome the chance to discuss how we can align efforts to make this a success.</p>
	Response	
	<p>The Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks and Young People recently met with London Sport to discuss opportunities of further collaboration between organisations. An action was requested for a meeting to be arranged between council officers and London Sport to discuss 'place based' working, and the Outdoor Recreation Manager is liaising with Miles Lloyd about taking this forward. The Policy Officer for Physical Activity is keen to be a part of this conversation.</p> <p>The extent of the opportunity provided by Sport England is not fully understood and so it would be useful to have more information about these so wider conversations can be had about aligning strategy and resource in Southwark.</p>	
Question Raised by	Agenda Item	Public Question
Lindsay Batty-Smith	N/A	<p>In my local area of Peckham we have been infiltrated by serious drug fuelled ASB since last August. Hyde housing, despite many requests from the multi agencies involved, have failed to act on their duties to secure their properties. The residents living in my road and the surrounding areas are very badly affected in going about their daily lives, and are very stressed at the ongoing situation. Can the</p>

Southwark Community Health Ambassador		Board put pressure on those responsible, to provide resources to departments to enable them to rid us of this extremely concerning situation?
Response		
<p>The Police and Council have been working together in and around Peckham Square on crime and ASB which included drug dealing and drug taking. These issues came to light last summer and as a result of police and council action through increased patrols, positive engagement and increased referrals into treatment services and a number of arrests, improvements have been seen in the area.</p> <p>Colegrove road in Peckham specifically involves residential property owned by Peabody and Hyde Housing along with owner occupiers. The council is aware of the residents' concerns, particularly regarding the doors on Block 4-18 Colegrove Rd. The Board has been informed that this has recently been escalated to Hyde's ASB service manager who advised that previous repairs have been done to the door in efforts to make it more secure but unfortunately these have been short-term successes and therefore a more appropriate and robust door is being considered. This work is on a programme of repairs and replacement doors, to improve security at a number of Hyde blocks, with this location being prioritised. Unfortunately, Hyde could not provide a timeline for this ahead of the Board meeting.</p> <p>Hyde encourage residents to report any incidents of ASB direct to Hyde via their My Account application, or by calling customer services on 0800 3 28282 so that the ASB can be investigated in partnership with the police and local authority, separate to the door acquisition work.</p> <p>Policing these drug related ASB concerns through increased patrols by the local policing team is a key priority and this will continue working in conjunction with the council and other partners.</p> <p>The Parks Liaison Officers (PLOs) and Community Wardens have also been undertaking dedicated patrols in the area since the start of the year. A total of 66 patrols have been completed, including undertaking weapon and drug sweeps, but with a nil return. Large groups of people gathering have been witnessed and they have been spoken to and warned about their potential activities. However, to date, the wardens have not witnessed anything that would warrant calling the police. This will continue to be monitored through the Councils intelligence and insight led approach to deploying resources.</p> <p>To tackle the ASB and drug taking in the surrounding area, the Local Authority has installed a CCTV camera that is being fully utilised and has had a positive impact, especially on drug dealing from vehicles.</p>		

	<p>As part of our commissioned drug and alcohol treatment and recovery service, Change Grow Live (CGL), have also been undertaking assertive outreach in the area to engage with people using drugs and to offer them a rapid entry into treatment. The council has committed to continuing additional investment with CGL in 2025-26 to support enhanced outreach delivery to try to reduce drug-related harm in our communities.</p> <p>In addition, to discourage concealment, there has been significant shrub and hedge pruning, with a hard prune of laurel, almost to the ground, along the path towards Peckham library. Significant amounts of understory including snowberry have also been cleared in several areas along the walk.</p> <p>For tree work - contractors completed 319 health and safety jobs across the site between April 2024 and January 2025. Many of these involved lifting crowns (pruning lower branches) and removing ivy which benefits maintaining site lines.</p> <p>To conclude the board will formally write to Hyde Housing to ensure that the issues raised in this question are prioritised along with an outline of the action that they are taking to secure their properties including clear timescales.</p>
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