HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

MINUTES of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on Thursday 17 September 2026 at 10.00 am at Southwark Council, Ground floor meeting rooms, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT:
Councillor Victor Chamberlain (Chair)
Councillor Rebecca Corn (Vice-chair)
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Dr Nancy Kuchemann
Hakeem Osinaike
Aled Richards
Sangeeta Leahy
Alasdair Smith
Anood Al-Samerai
Cassie Buchanan
Louise Dark
Rhyana Ebanks-Babb
Ade Odunlade
Mohamed Osman
Gabi Darby

OFFICER SUPPORT:
Paula Thornton, Constitutional Officer
Maria Lugangira, Principal Constitutional Officer
Chris Williamson, Assistant Director of Public Health
Rosie Lucs- Dalton, Head of Programmes.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and all attendees introduced themselves.

2. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Althea Loderick.

3. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Rebecca Corn (Executive Member for Education and Care) be elected as a vice-chair for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

Those listed as present were confirmed as the voting members.

5. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

6. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

None were declared.

7. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2026 be approved as a correct record.

8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

9. JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Officers presented the item to the Board, providing key highlights on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Programme update, identifying some of the planned projects for the coming year.

Officers confirmed as part of the presentation that they have

successfully delivered on five health needs assessments and wider projects of work.

The following points / action were requested:

- Investigation into disability/ SEND, autism and intersectional vulnerability
- Key ages of transition from children to adult and
- To focus on older people, in view of the projected increase of the figures of this population.

RESOLVED:

That the following be noted by the Health and Wellbeing Board:

1. The findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Annual Report 2026 and that an annual update be received.

2. The key achievements and challenges highlighted in the JSNA Annual Report for the development of the Neighbourhood Health Plan.

3. The completed projects across the JSNA programme over the past year and approve the JSNA projects recommended for the coming year.

10. STATE OF URBAN HEALTH RESEARCH

Officers presented the item to the Board to talk about the state of Urban health and the latest research that impacts on urban health.

Urban Health aims to break links between health poverty and racism where links are more visible in urban areas. Focus on a specific issue, like food and improving conditions people live (social determinants of health). Officers explained that data and evidence inform work and evidence is shared to build a greater understanding of factors that impact people's health.

Important to understand not only where inequalities are but essentially how they shape people's lives.

RESOLVED:

1. That the findings and recommendations of the State of Urban Health report be noted.

2. That the Health and Wellbeing Board considers the implications for improving health equity in Southwark and implications for the neighbourhood health agenda.

11. COUNCIL VISION

Councillor Victor Chamberlain presented an overview of the joint administration vision.

The joint administration ambition is to make Southwark more affordable, safe and green. The vision sets out seven priorities making Southwark a borough that people can afford, action on the climate emergency and that this is a council that listens to its residents.

Particularly, want to see as listening and shaping agenda that community councils will play a role in neighbourhood health delivery and a proper feedback mechanism. Work will be taking place around tackling the housing crisis, more climate resilient borough and being good partners and working alongside the health, voluntary and community and care partners.

Councillor Rebecca Corn confirmed that a participative process was central and throughout the plan and the development of support for the younger and older population. Also focus on the experience and importance of continuation in prevention and early intervention for families and communities.

Feedback included focus on looking at inequalities, community safety for older people, poverty at the heart of the challenges and opportunities with the voluntary and community sector. The voluntary sector has expressed concern about financial pressures and impact of any cuts and who will have to fill the gaps and pick up the slack. Aim to translate priorities into plans for the Board.

12. JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD HEALTH PLAN

Officers outlined the key points of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the direction of travel, reminding the Board of the four priority areas as follows:

Priority 1 – A health start in life
Priority 2 – Healthy work and lives

Priority 3 - Support to stay well and
Priority 4 - Healthy communities.

Officers are looking to refresh the strategy in 2027. There was an acknowledgment of the amazing progress on work undertaken from the maternity health commission. Work has started on connecting to the work agenda and outreach work within the borough outside the normal settings. The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies are likely to be replaced by Neighbourhood health plans, with core plans remaining the same.

Officers were seeking the Board's agreement on the proposed approach.

An outline of Integrated Neighbourhood Teams and tackling those with complex needs with the aim of trying to understand people holistically was given and identifying these patients.

RESOLVED:

1. That the work to date on the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy be noted.

2. That the potential implications of the NHS Modernisation Bill regarding the responsibilities of the Health and Wellbeing Board be noted.

3. That the co-leadership of work to identify future priorities of the Board be agreed.

4. That the underpinning principles to the development of future priorities outlined in section 22 of the report be agreed.

5. That the recommendations outlined in section 23 of the report in developing a Neighbourhood Health Plan be agreed to:

    - Focus on a small number of cross cutting priorities
    - Include an action plan with clear accountability, focused on prevention
    - Borough-wide actions to be delivered via neighbourhood specific approaches
    - Strengthen existing and emerging work to avoid overstretching system capacity.

6. That the proposal to host a future workshop to discuss future priorities be agreed.

13. CRISIS AND RESILIENCE FUND

An officer introduced the report to the Health and Wellbeing Board and recommendations.

The core point of the fund was explained as not only being a crisis response but as a practical prevention programme, giving a way to address financial insecurity earlier, strengthen financial resilience and tackle some of the wider social factors that contribute to poor health and inequality.

The link to the Board was explained in the context of, financial insecurity which connected poor health, housing debt and caring responsibilities and difficulties navigating public services and use of hubs as a clear resource to help this with a referral network in place.

It was explained that the report builds on the Boards's work of embedding financial advice in integrated neighbourhood teams based in GP practices in areas, with a focus on prevention and further escalation of financial and related issues.

Provides an opportunity to connect financial resilience directly with neighbourhood health and reduce inequalities by intervention at an earlier stage.

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress made in designing and mobilising Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF)-funded Resilience Services in Southwark, including the outcome of the Task & Finish Group process and the commencement of procurement for a Hub Delivery Organisation (HDO) be noted.

2. That the proposal to embed Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) supported financial advice posts — piloted in Camberwell & Walworth and Peckham & Nunhead — within the CRF-funded Hub Delivery Organisation model, and the progress made in securing support for this approach from Integrated Neighbourhood Team (INT) partners be noted.

3. That the direction of travel set out in the report be endorsed, noting that several scope and design questions remain open pending the outcome of the Council's preliminary market engagement (responses due 25 September 2026) and the Council's internal governance and approval processes.

14. BETTER CARE FUND 2026-27

Officers introduced the report outlining the overlap between the borough and neighbourhood agenda. It was explained that this will be fully incorporated into the neighbourhood agenda.

RESOLVED:

1. That the 2026-27 Better Care Fund (BCF), as set out in the planning templates (Appendices 1 and 2 of the report) be approved.

15. ALIGNMENT BETWEEN THE SOUTHWARK MATERNITY COMMISSION AND LEARNINGS FROM OKENDEN

Councillor Victor Chamberlain placed on record his thanks to Councillor Evelyn Akoto for the work of the Maternity Commission and all those who had contributed to its work.

Councillor Evelyn Akoto (who chaired the Maternity Commission) raised a query about the steering group and their recommendations and when this might be translated into tangible actions / next steps. Officers confirmed that a fuller discussion is planned at the Health and Wellbeing Board and will also ensure that Councillor Akoto closely kept informed and aligned to this work.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.

16. SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH STRATEGY

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

17. HEALTHWATCH HEALTH, HOUSING AND HOPE REPORT

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted and that the Board had asked for a co-ordinated response to the 19 recommendations.

18. ANY OTHER OPEN BUSINESS

None.

The meeting ended at 12.25pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: