

Southwark Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027

Progress Report: November 2024

Contents

Southwark Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027	1
Background.....	3
Summary.....	4
Examples of success from residents	6
Priority 1: A whole family approach to giving children the best start in life	7
Priority 2: Healthy employment and good health for working age adults.....	10
Priority 3: Early identification and support to stay well	14
Priority 4: Strong and connected communities.....	19
Priority 5: Integration of health and social care	22
Recommendations	26

Background

Southwark's **Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2022-27** was approved by the Health & Wellbeing Board in November 2022. The strategy provides the strategic vision for both improving health & wellbeing and reducing health inequalities in the borough.

The strategy outlined **five priority areas**:






1. A whole-family approach to giving children the best start in life
2. Healthy employment and good health for working age adults
3. Early identification and support to stay well
4. Strong and connected communities
5. Integration of health and social care

The last progress update was reviewed by the Health & Wellbeing Board in November 2023. This report **outlines progress to date** in delivering all actions and **gives recommendations** for progressing to a refreshed action plan for 2025-27.

Summary

On discussion with action owners, it is recognised that the original action timelines were ambitious and that organisational restructuring within South East London Integrated Care Board since launching the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy has delayed several actions. However, most actions have progressed and this report outlines what has been achieved, summarised both quantitatively and qualitatively and then in more detail by action.

The table below outlines the five categories used to assign an updated status to current actions, with associated colours used throughout this document. Of 53 actions, 28 have been completed, 15 are ongoing and on track, 6 are ongoing with some concerns or minor delays, 2 have not progressed or have experienced significant delays and 2 have been closed after consideration. Figure 1 summarises action status across the five priority areas and Figure 2 outlines several key measures associated with action progress. A selection of testimonies from residents is shown on Page 6.

Action colour	Action status
	Completed
	Ongoing: work on track
	Ongoing: some concerns or minor slippage to timeline but fully recoverable
	No progress or significant delays to timeline
	Action closed after consideration

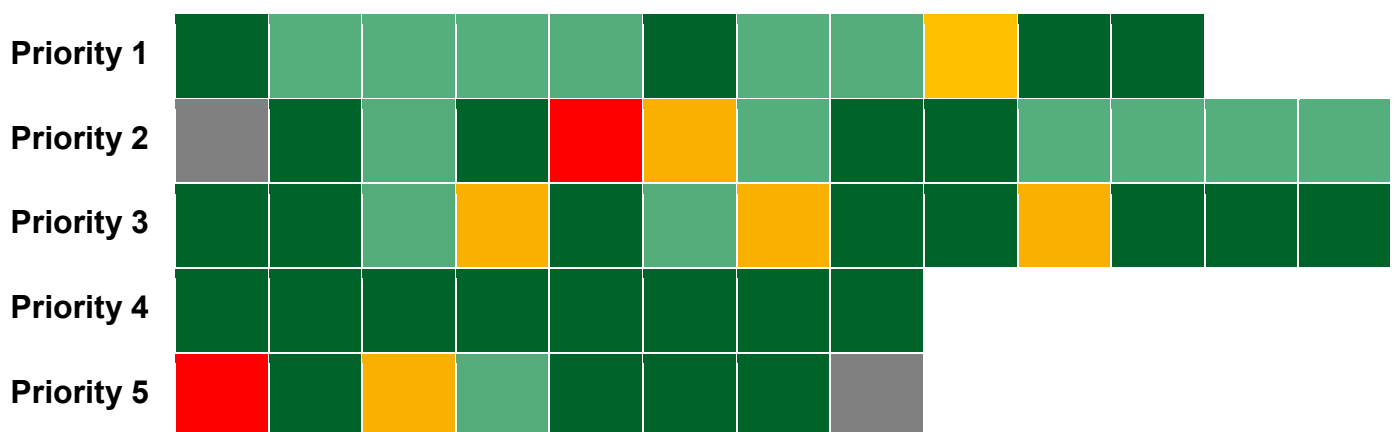


Figure 1. Action status as of November 2024 for 53 actions of Southwark’s Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027.

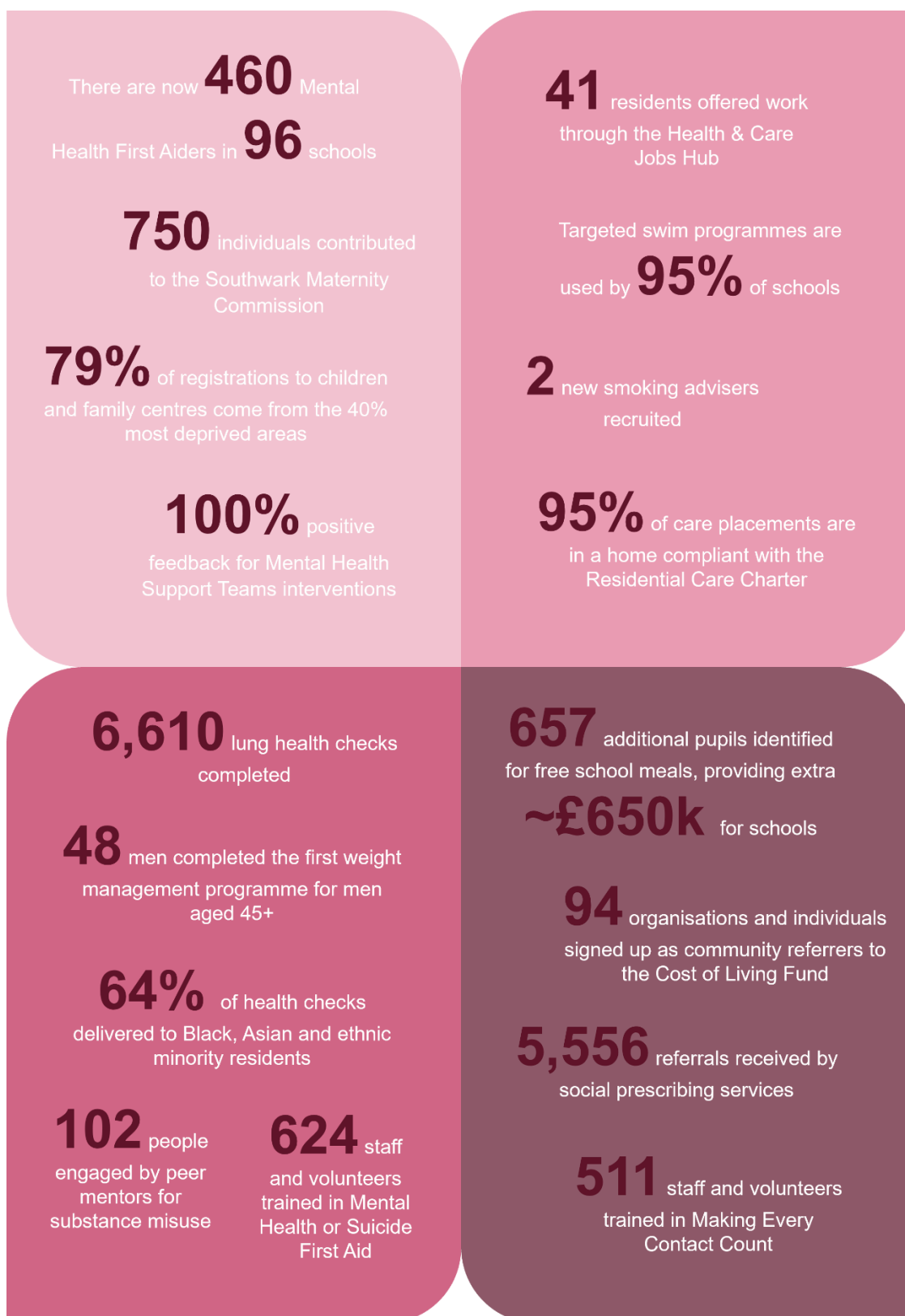


Figure 2. A summary of key measures recorded against actions in Southwark's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Examples of success from residents

Mental Health Support Teams

Mental Health Support Teams deliver interventions in schools to improve the mental health and emotional wellbeing of young people. Of those participants who completed a questionnaire on their experience, 100% agreed with the statement “Overall the help I received was good.” Two participants said of the interventions:

“They listened to my problems no matter what. It really helped to improve how I felt and I am grateful”.

“It helped me to think differently. Taught me different ways and strategies on how to support my daughter. I have made small changes but they've led to big changes for my daughter. Helped me to manage my stress as well.”

Health & Care Jobs Hub

The Health & Care Jobs Hub supports residents to gain the skills needed to access good work in Health and Care, with a focus on unemployed and underrepresented groups. To date, 41 Southwark residents have been offered work opportunities through the programme. One resident, who was offered employment at a local GP surgery, said:

“Before I did the course, I had lost confidence... I learned a lot through the course... I have climbed and will continue to climb this stairway to success and the course was the first step to reaching that final goal. The goal to a better successful career.”

The Avon Unit

The Avon Unit, a new nursing care unit in Southwark, is now fully operational, increasing nursing care and reablement capacity in the borough. The service has seen a reduction in care needs of clients on discharge compared to admission. Two patients said of their experience:

“After I fell over, I'd lost all confidence. I wouldn't have even have tried to get out of bed if I had gone straight home. Coming here was the best thing that could have happened to me, its set me up perfectly to go home.”

“I didn't think I would ever walk again, I was very frustrated day to day. I didn't want to go initially, but I'd go back there tomorrow if could! Its done so much for me and helped me build up my confidence. I can't thank the team enough for all their support.”

Priority 1: A whole family approach to giving children the best start in life

Aim: Ensuring all families benefit from access to good quality maternal care and support to maximise maternal wellbeing and reducing differential outcomes for Black women in maternity care

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Review causes of inequalities in and between maternal access, outcomes and experience	Public Health	The Southwark Maternity Commission launched its report in September 2024, following a nine-month investigation highlighting disparities in care and experience of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the early years. A Southwark Maternity Commission Panel was established to oversee the investigation and over 750 residents and maternity care professionals contributed. Recommendations have been put forward and an action plan is currently under development with a plan to finalise this and begin implementation from April 2025. A strategic steering group will be established to take ownership of actions developed.	
Scope and develop a collaborative maternity partnership group within Southwark to oversee the aim			
Development of action plan on tackling local inequalities based on recommendations on maternal access, outcomes and experiences			
Deliver action plan to implement national recommendations on maternity services	South East London Maternity & Neonatal system	Leading on from the ten recommendations of the Southwark Maternity Commission, an action plan is now being developed. Implementation of this action plan is due to start in April 2025 with a 5-year timeline through to September 2029.	

Aim: Build resilient families by ensuring there is holistic support and care during pregnancy and the first years of life

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Develop children and family centres to facilitate multi-disciplinary working in geographical areas with	Children & Family Services	The Family Hub Transformation programme is progressing well. A facilities and locality review has been completed and proposals developed for the designation of our primary Children &	

the highest levels of deprivation	Family Hub sites. This will include 5 primary hubs across the borough. Registrations for centres are reflective of the overall population. 79% of registrations come from the 40% most deprived areas. Positive progress is being made with partnership services to scale up the level of integration of services with Hubs. For example, Midwifery teams are now co-located in the Dulwich Wood Children & Family Hub. Further progress is being made with a view to greater integration of health services within hubs, such as Speech and Language Therapy Teams, social prescribers, as well as a range of other council and voluntary organisations.	
-----------------------------------	---	--

Aim: Improve the mental health and wellbeing of families, children and young people, ensuring 100% of children and young people who need support can access services

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Increase the number of Mental Health Support Teams in schools	Children & Young People Mental Health Working Group	The number of schools with Mental Health Support Teams has increased to 26, with 233 interventions completed. Successes include the delivery of parent carer workshops, development of whole school approaches to mental health and wellbeing and work with schools to address emotionally based school avoidance. Of participants completing a service questionnaire, 100% were positive. Ongoing community engagement is being used to adapt services.	
Ensure that the improving mental health in schools (IMHARS) support package and Mental Health Support Teams offer is comprehensive and equitable	Children & Young People Mental Health Working Group	The improving mental health resilience in schools (IMHARS) support package is being delivered to all schools in Southwark. There are now over 460 Mental Health First Aiders across 96 schools, benefitting over 36,000 children and young people. At least 140 delegates from at least 70 schools have participated in "Wellbeing First: IMHARS" training or workshops and 28 headteachers are accessing leadership coaching to support school effectiveness.	

Aim: Keep children and young people safe through early identification and support for families at risk of adverse childhood experiences

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Redevelop an early identification and prevention approach to Adverse Childhood Experiences in Southwark	Partnership Southwark: Start Well	The Family Hub programme is developing stronger place-based networks of universal and targeted support providers and the VCS. This will create a seamless offer of help and support for communities that is based on better relationships between trusted professionals. Development of a new Early Help Strategy is due by March 2025.	
Identify opportunities to strengthen how data on adverse childhood experiences is shared between services	Partnership Southwark: Start Well	The first iteration of the modern data platform is active. Development of the platform is progressively bringing more multi-agency data together to understand the profile of need in the area based on adverse childhood experiences. It is anticipated this work will be completed by March 2025.	

Aim: Accelerate the reduction in childhood excess weight and obesity in Southwark

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Extend the motivational interviewing work which supports pathway into child weight management programme	Public Health	Motivational interviewing has been embedded into standardised scripts that Everyone Health staff use when contacting eligible families after the annual National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). For the NCMP completed between June-August 2023, contact was attempted for all 937 eligible families, of which 36% booked onto the child weight management programme. For the most recent NCMP in October 2023, so far 26% of the 1,417 referrals have been contacted between April and July 2024 and 9% have been booked onto the programme.	
Strengthen National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) pathway, building on best practice in other areas	Public Health	Based on the review into the NCMP, completed in 2023, several recommendations have been implemented. Relationships between Public Health, School Nursing and Everyone Health have been strengthened through a working group that continues to meet regularly. Quality of family contact data shared from School Nursing to Everyone Health has been improved. An independent evaluation of the Everyone Health programme, including NCMP, is in progress.	

Priority 2: Healthy employment and good health for working age adults

Aim: We will increase access to good quality jobs, creating new routes to employment and providing support to those facing barriers to good quality jobs, including those facing systemic inequality such as ethnic minorities, older people, and others.

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Explore opportunities to use the apprenticeship levy in Partnership Southwark and voluntary and community sector roles	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	There has been no tangible progress to date in developing the apprenticeship programme in Partnership Southwark. However, there has been a review of the local apprenticeship offer across key partners in the borough including NHS trusts, Integrated Care System and Council.	
Develop an inclusive apprenticeship programme within the social care workforce, focusing on staff who may have been excluded from traditional university routes	Adult Social Care	The Social Work and Occupational Therapy apprenticeship programmes have been advertised and recruited to for three successive years from 2022 to 2024. Applications were accepted from within our existing workforce in an effort to 'grow our own'. Interviews were inclusive and in line with current EDI policies. There are currently 4-5 Assistant Practitioners enrolled on the programme and there is a plan underway to review the programme in 2025.	
Implementation of Workforce Race Equality Standard in Adult Social Care as an early adopter local authority	Adult Social Care	In 2023 the Department of Health & Social Care announced it would not be continuing to lead the WRES and the leadership/management would transfer to Skills for Care. Following that announcement, a stocktake of WRES engagement was undertaken and this work is now being progressed through the Southwark Stands Together programme and Adult Social Care Action Plan.	
Support the development, delivery and utilisation of the Health & Care Jobs Hub to provide targeted support towards employment in the health economy	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	The Health & Care Jobs Hub is being delivered, focussing on supporting unemployed and underrepresented groups to gain skills required to access good work in Health and Care. In Southwark, the hub partners with stakeholders including Southwark Works and GSTT. The 6-week Health & Care Sector Based Work Academy Programme, which includes a	

		guaranteed interview at the end of the programme, is ongoing and, to date, 41 Southwark residents have been offered work in health and care.	
--	--	--	--

Aim: Promote health and wellbeing across the health and wellbeing economy, through improving access to wellbeing and employment support

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
All anchor institutions to proactively provide accessible information for wellbeing and employment support, such as information on the Keeping Well Hub	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	Our Anchor Alliance involves the South East London Integrated Care Board, King's College London and NHS trusts and local authorities across south east London. In summer 2023 an engagement campaign was launched to shape the priorities and objectives for the anchor programme's work and to ensure the needs and voices of local communities are heard and responded to. Further work is required to progress this action following the ICB reorganisation.	

Aim: Lead by example by promoting good health and wellbeing across our workforce, and supporting this through our procurement practices

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Roll out Residential Care Charter to ensure fair pay for care staff	Commissioning	Of 15 adult residential care homes in Southwark, 6 have signed up to the Residential Care Charter (RCC). All six are older persons care homes. As of September 2024, this represents 95% (332 of 348) of in-borough Council funded placements being in a Charter compliant home. In terms of staff, 570 people (74%) are working in homes that are fully compliant. Discussions are underway with the final older persons care home to sign up to the RCC. Plans are underway to re-open conversations with the other care homes in Southwark to sign up to the RCC. Officers will be meeting to discuss concerns and challenges for these remaining homes.	

Aim: Support people to lead healthy lifestyles that keep them well, working with population groups and communities where lifestyle risk factors are clustered

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Evaluate stop smoking provision and implement recommendations to improve access and outcomes for at risk groups	Public Health	Several changes have been made to stop smoking provision locally. Maternity services now have an in-house stop smoking service to increase access among pregnant women. A specialist tobacco dependence adviser will be recruited to support individuals with a mental health condition in the community. Two new smoking advisers have been recruited using the OHID grant. They will focus on an outreach model of support to engage with priority groups, including weekly visits to supported accommodation settings and linking to drug and alcohol services. Evaluation of an insight research and marketing campaign will be available soon with data indicating an increase in stop smoking service uptake amongst routine and manual workers and young adults.	
Provide specialist training to non-alcohol specialist healthcare professionals on initiating conversations about alcohol use	Drug & Alcohol Action Team	Change Grow Live has delivered online training sessions for primary care colleagues about initiating conversations with patients about alcohol use, but these are no longer ongoing. From 2024, as part of a South-East London consortium, Southwark Council are offering free online training to colleagues to increase confidence around engaging with people who have drug and/or alcohol related challenges.	

Aim: Maximise access to leisure, daily movement and physical activity, ensuring that financial circumstance does not limit access

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Undertake collection of data across communities and groups to inform and understand current levels of participation and engagement in	Leisure Services	Since insourcing of services in 2023, data quality and completeness has vastly improved. A profile of participants using leisure services has been completed, with breakdowns by demographic groups. Work is underway to address gaps of up to 50% in data categories that are not mandatory for participants, including ethnicity and disability. This limits the ability to understand the populations	

physical activity and sport		using leisure services and work is underway to fill gaps where possible and build the trust of service users providing data.	
Connect communities and promote opportunities to engage in physical activity and sport, particularly for unrepresented groups and those in greatest need	Leisure Services	Leisure Services have offered several successful programmes since June 2023, including targeted swim programmes used by 95% of schools in Southwark. The Move Games free activity programme in summer 2024 provided free activities to local young people. The well-received Free Gym and Swim offer continues and a pilot scheme of free, supported swimming lessons with the Inclusive Swimming Association has received exceptional feedback from participants. Open water swimming sessions have been running July – October 2024, with positive attendance particularly with older women. There is work ongoing to collaborate with libraries, parks and youth centres to offer services in alternative settings.	
Improve the signposting and promotion of the Council's sport and leisure offer by the wider health & care system	Leisure Services	Leisure Services continues to work with Everyone Health for referral into leisure centres. Southwark Leisure has a strong online and social media presence to ensure services are promoted to a wide audience. Active partnerships have been built across the wider council, including Public Health, Education, libraries and Social Care.	
Review the current targeted leisure offer, following insourcing of leisure provision in June 2023, with a view to further promoting services to target those who are least active, have poorer health or greater health risks	Leisure Services	Work is ongoing to make services available for everyone in the borough. There are plans to review the Free Swim and Gym offer to make it more targeted to those with greatest need. A new, fully accessible leisure centre in Canada Water will be completed in Spring 2025, including facilities for people with additional needs. Work is needed to improve service user data completeness so that services can be better targeted.	
Evaluate access to Exercise on Referral ensuring services is reaching target groups	Public Health	Exercise on Referral is part of the wider Integrated Healthy Lifestyle Service. In response to the annual review of services completed in June 2024, two weight management services, for men over 45 years and for the Latin American population, were launched in April 2024. The services are being externally evaluated, which will provide a detailed assessment of impact and contribute to the development of future services.	

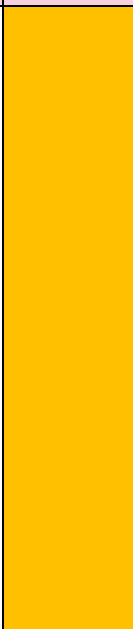

Priority 3: Early identification and support to stay well

Aim: Ensure that there are effective and accessible services that help prevent illness, including immunisations, screening and measures to tackle “The Vital 5”

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Increase uptake of NHS health checks by those with greater risks along with risk reduction interventions	Public Health	Southwark takes a targeted approach to NHS Health Checks and prioritises offers to residents with a higher predicted risk of developing cardiovascular disease or Type 2 diabetes. In 2023/24, providers exceeded targets, with 64% of health checks delivered via the core programme to Black, Asian and ethnic minority residents (against a target of 55%). The providers also exceeded the 25% target of case-finding those with high risk for CVD and/or Type 2 diabetes, at 31%. The programme has now been embedded into new contracts for NHS Health Checks and performance monitoring will continue.	
Extend the Community Health Ambassadors Programme, empowering more people to increase uptake of vaccinations and cancer screening and health improvement opportunities	Public Health	Community Health Ambassadors continue to be recruited and have been involved in projects such as the Health Outreach Programme, targeting health checks to communities with the poorest health outcomes. Ambassadors supported 64 events in 2023/24 and have already supported 81 in Q1 and Q2 of 2024/25. There has been consistent focus on vaccination, cancer awareness, mental health and cost of living support. Ambassadors have supported projects such as a Safe Surgeries audit, a long-COVID training course pilot and the South East London Cancer Alliance breast screening awareness campaign. The current target to maintain at least 150 ambassadors is being met, with 168 in total and 44 new ambassadors recruited in 2023/24. 74% of Ambassadors who provided ethnic background data selected a Black, Asian or minority ethnic group.	

<p>Pilot and evaluate a weight management programme for men aged 45+, targeting Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>After a successful pilot and evaluation, a new weight management programme targeted to men aged over 45 years from Black ethnic groups was implemented in June 2024. 48 men completed the first 12-week programme, of whom 82% lost weight, 21% were from a Black ethnic background and 75% were from areas of high deprivation. The second cohort is now in progress and an impact evaluation is planned. A weight management programme for people of Latin American background was also implemented in May 2024 in conjunction with two community organisations.</p>	
<p>Develop and pilot healthy eating and physical activity interventions with faith groups and evaluate the outputs and outcomes</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>A pilot health promotion programme is due to be implemented in two churches in Southwark from November 2024. There have been delays due to challenges with engagement. Outcomes from this initial pilot will be available in early 2025.</p>	
<p>Develop and deliver a Targeted Lung Health Check programme for people aged between 55-74 years who are current or ex-smokers</p>	<p>Guys and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust</p>	<p>The Targeted Lung Health Check programme in South East London launched in Southwark in November 2022. All residents aged 55-74 years who have ever smoked were invited throughout 2023. The mobile unit has been based in the Asda car park in the Old Kent Road and the programme will return every 2 years as an on-going screening programme. To date, 26,377 Southwark residents have been invited, 6,610 lung health checks completed and 2,523 scans. Of 158 referrals to stop smoking services, 115 set a quit date and 47 were smoke free at 4 weeks (41%).</p>	
<p>Evaluate peer mentor programme for substance misuse in hostel and hospital settings</p>	<p>Drug & Alcohol Action Team</p>	<p>Peer mentors are established at King's, in several hostels and a care home, including new programmes for 2024 in David Barker House and Aspinden Care Home. To date, 102 clients and patients have been engaged through therapeutic groups, 416 hours of activities and 11 campaigns, including stop smoking, naloxone, suicide awareness and breast care. An evaluation of the programme is due to be completed by March 2025.</p>	

Aim: Promote good mental health by supporting wellbeing and early detection

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
<p>Complete system-wide scoping activity to identify opportunities to integrate mental health in all policies, to improve the social determinants of poor mental health</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>Mental health has been incorporated into various work programmes. By September 2024, 624 staff or volunteers in Southwark have received training in mental health first aid or suicide first aid, equipping frontline teams to support residents with their mental health. A mental health questionnaire and signposting to relevant services has been included in Vital 5 checks delivered through Southwark’s health promotion programme and NHS Health Checks delivered in Southwark. A Public Mental Health stocktake is in development which will set out the evidence base for public mental health, capture local activity around prevention of poor mental health and provide recommendations for action. This is expected to be finalised by the end of 2024.</p>	
<p>Develop and implement an evidence-based suicide prevention strategy and action plan to reduce risk of self-harm and prevent incidences of suicide</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>The Preventing Suicides in Southwark Strategy 2023-2028 was approved by the Health & Wellbeing Board in November 2023. The strategy was developed and will be delivered by the Southwark Suicide Prevention Stakeholder Group, led by Public Health. From the strategy, a mental health first aid and suicide first aid training programme is being delivered. Guidance and a new training course for council staff responding to at risk residents has also been launched. A first specialised suicide prevention training session for professionals in the hair and beauty industry was delivered in July 2024, with a further session planned in late 2024.</p>	

Aim: Focus on preventing admission to hospital for falls

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Deliver public awareness campaign focused on how to reduce falls risk and services that can reduce risk	Guys and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust	The falls prevention public awareness campaign is now moving to business as usual, after a second print run of 5,000 updated leaflets. These are being distributed to, and awareness events delivered at, GP surgeries and VCS organisations. The programme will be transferred to the falls prevention team at GSTT and new funding will be required for reprinting of leaflets. Falls monitoring is ongoing in Southwark with most metrics currently on target. Southwark has moved positively amongst London boroughs for falls-related hospital admissions.	
Deliver education and training on falls risk and availability of local services and prevent incidences of suicide	Guys and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust	An e-learning package was completed and loaded on the Southwark learning resource site in November 2023. Council staff are able to use the service but there are technical issues for external users trying to access it. This means the service has not formally launched and the publicity campaign is on hold. Work is ongoing to find an appropriate external partner to host the resource so that this can progress.	

Aim: Provide the right support to help people to recover from admission to hospital

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Further embed the hospital discharge and community support guidance throughout the Southwark system	Partnership Southwark: Age Well	The Avon Unit is now fully operational, with half of its beds for reablement and half for Discharge to Assess. The service has seen a reduction in care needs of clients on discharge. Most hospital discharge workstreams have progressed to business as usual. The focus of work currently is on discharge to nursing care and ongoing service improvement. A multi-disciplinary team is being trialled as a project to improve the patient journey between hospital and care home. Community research has been completed resulting in the agreement for co-	

		produced documents and videos to improve the hospital discharge experience.	
Pilot a 'Hospital Buddies' programme offering volunteer support to older people before and after elective surgery	Partnership Southwark: Age Well	The 'Hospital Buddies' programme was piloted and a review completed in April 2024. There were limited referrals to the service during the pilot period and therefore the decision was made not to progress further with the programme. The funding has been used instead to focus on creating multi-disciplinary teams for improving the patient journey between hospital and care home.	

Aim: Support carers and families to look after their own wellbeing

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Develop the signposting to Ageing Well Southwark to ensure that a greater number of carers know how to access support	Adult Social Care	The Council continues to work with Southwark Carers and other voluntary organisations. New leaflets and posters have been printed for use in GP surgeries to signpost to Ageing Well Southwark and a refreshed Carers Strategy is in development. A new 12-month contract was started in May 2024 with Mobilise, who provide online support to unpaid carers. In the first 11 weeks, they have engaged with 410 people and supported 311 of those, all who were previously unknown to the Council. The service signposts to Ageing Well Southwark and other services and will help to create a more joined up offer.	

Priority 4: Strong and connected communities

Aim: Ensure that services are accessible to and meet the needs of all

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Mental health practitioners to be embedded in communities and neighbourhoods through Be Well Hubs	Community Mental Health Transformation Programme Delivery Group	Mental health practitioners have been embedded in communities in both North and South Southwark practices. There is a Clinical Service Lead for the programme and monthly touchpoint meetings including primary care and SLaM colleagues provide opportunities for development.	
Complete needs assessment to better understand health needs of refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants in the borough	Public Health	A needs assessment was completed in 2023, which directly informed work to successfully make Southwark a Borough of Sanctuary. Work is now underway to progress recommendations in the form of Southwark's Borough of Sanctuary Framework 2024-2027 and associated action plan, which was approved in September 2024.	

Aim: Reduce social isolation and loneliness, by creating a place where people feel connected and where loneliness is tackled as early as possible

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Support model of social prescribing that helps to connect local residents to relevant services that can tackle loneliness and social isolation	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	The social prescribing service was implemented in March 2020, with a broad scope supporting wider determinants of health including social isolation, finance, housing and mental well-being. Overall referral numbers across North and South Southwark teams increased from 3,880 in 2020-21 to 5,556 in 2022-23. Recent successes include specialist roles (e.g. a focus on children and housing); strong partnership working with VCS organisations and statutory services (e.g. Citizens Advice and Adult Social Care); a community outreach	

		programme; and innovative projects focusing on different population needs (e.g. monthly peer support for informal carers). Future priorities include developing an integrated neighbourhood approach and continuing to embed the principles and role of social prescribing in the wider health and wellbeing system.	
Delivery of Making Every Contact Count training to staff working regularly with people at risk of severe loneliness or isolation	Public Health	After the first 6 months of the programme, 511 staff and volunteers in Southwark have been trained in Making Every Contact Count, over half the overall target of 1,000 by 24 months. 97% of attendees stated they would recommend the training to others and 82% of those completing three-month post-training feedback reported their conversations had increased in quality. Specific content has been developed on social isolation and loneliness with attendees coming from a range of organisations. A full evaluation is planned after the end of the contract in 2025.	

Aim: Improve access to affordable, healthy food by adopting a Right to Food approach

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Develop and implement a Right to Food Action Plan. This will include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's food 2. Food for older and disabled people 3. Healthy food neighbourhoods and physical access to food 4. Cash first approaches 	Public Health / Southwark Food Action Alliance	The Sustainable Food Strategy, with actions integrated from the Southwark Right to Food action plan, was published in June 2023. Implementation of the strategy's year 1 action plan for 2023-2024 is underway. Successes this year include strengthening cross-council governance and oversight of the strategy delivery, offering free secondary school meals to all families who receive Universal Credit, and introducing benefits related Free School Meals auto-enrolment, which identified an additional 657 pupils for registration and means approximately £650,000 in additional Pupil Premium funding for Southwark schools.	

Aim: Work together to mitigate the impacts of the cost of living crisis for people in Southwark

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Undertake analysis of the likely health impacts of the cost of living crisis, identifying those who will be most impacted	Public Health	Four reports were completed on the impact of the cost of living crisis and the population groups affected, in July 2022, October 2022, April 2023 and November 2023. These reports fed into the support offer put in place by the Council for local residents. Sections on the cost of living crisis were included in the 2023 and 2024 JSNA annual reports, demonstrating that this issue has become a key part of regular monitoring. Now, a poverty fact sheet is in development as part of this year's JSNA programme, widening the focus from solely the cost of living.	
Ensure those working directly with residents most affected are aware of the support offer available in Southwark	Public Health	Public Health has funded and disseminated a cost-of-living booklet, reaching over 100 organisations in the borough. Winter signposting webinars were delivered in 2023, which Exchequer Services and Children and Adult Services presented at to 105 organisations. Cost of living information has also gone out to 101 adult social care providers, and 60 older adult VCS providers. The Ambassador Network was trained in Advice First Aid in October 2023 and June 2024. There has been regular promotion of support services and schemes via Ambassador communications. Regular Citizens Advice / cost of living surgeries have also been organised in community centres and faith settings.	
Identify health and wellbeing partners who can refer people into the Southwark Council Cost of Living Fund	Public Health	Overall, Exchequer Services signed up 94 organisations or individuals as community referrers to the Cost-of-Living fund last year. Of these, 19 were categorised easily as health and wellbeing partners including the two social prescribing teams and 12 Community Health Ambassadors.	

Priority 5: Integration of health and social care

Aim: Ensure joined-up care is delivered close to home, including exploring where care can be developed at a neighbourhood level

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Develop and pilot approaches to co-located multi-disciplinary teams (including primary care, secondary care, social care) in neighbourhood settings.	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	The delivery group for neighbourhood working has been paused due to the impact of the management cost reduction programme in the ICB, which led to a 30% reduction in the running cost allowance and pausing of certain projects. Neighbourhood working remains a key priority and there was renewed commitment at the Partnership Southwark board development meeting in October 2024. Work is underway to refresh the neighbourhood working proposal, but this will not be completed by April 2025; a revised timeline will be provided to the Health & Wellbeing Board.	
Develop and implement a person-centred model for community mental health, based around primary care networks and neighbourhoods	Community Mental Health Transformation Delivery Group	The Community Mental Health Transformation Programme was completed in March 2024 and most workstreams have now moved to business as usual with the service model being further developed. An evaluation has been drafted and should be completed by early 2025. The outcome framework and a dashboard have been developed.	
Increase nursing care provision in the borough	Children & Adult Services Commissioning	Nursing beds have increased in Southwark thanks to several changes. Tower Bridge Care Home was purchased by the Council and as part of the new care provider contract, the nursing bed block has increased, as well as several beds converting from residential to nursing. The Avon Unit provides nursing assessment beds. Waterside Care Home beds are in the process of converting from residential to nursing. A new nursing home is planned for construction in Southwark, a site has been identified and work is ongoing with Sustainable Growth to determine the best approach to design, build and provide support in the home.	

Aim: Strengthen how we involve local communities to help us better understand their needs and to co-design and implement services to meet their needs

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Establish a new approach to embedding community voices in shaping and implementing health and care priorities	ICB Communications & Engagement Team	Southwark continues to embed the community voice through membership of VCS and service users in boards and steering groups, including Partnership Southwark Strategic Board; the Health & Wellbeing Board; Start Well leadership group; Live Well leadership group; Age & Care Well leadership group; and the Clinical and Care Professional Leadership team. Board meetings are also regularly open to public attendance. Extensive engagement and codesign work with VCS representatives and service users has been further developed, tested, and implemented across 2023/24 when delivering Health and Care Plan priorities. Examples include the 1001-days work to design an early prototype neighbourhood model for 0-2s and delivery of the community mental health transformation programme. An integrated Frailty pathway with involvement of the VCS is currently in development.	
Pilot a new approach to engagement and neighbourhood working through the We Walworth programme and a second neighbourhood pilot	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	The evaluation report of the pilot is due imminently. The Social Model of Health/ Walworth Living Room team has submitted a proposal for the Health Inequalities Fund for further developments which is currently under consideration. Walworth Living Room recently received National Lottery funding for the next three years and is undergoing recruitment for neighbourhood and events roles.	

Aim: Ensure partners are able to hold each other to account in delivering good care to our residents

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Establish transparent governance arrangements following the formation of the Local Care Partnership	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	Our Local Care Partnership, Partnership Southwark, was established in July 2022 following the national reorganisation of the NHS and is now well embedded within the health and care system. The partnership holds bi-monthly public meetings, with membership from across the system and voluntary and community sector. In addition, a joint Strategic Director post has now been established between Southwark Council and South East London Integrated Care Board. The post is responsible for driving forward the integration of the planning and delivery of local health services for the benefit of local residents.	

Aim: Align budgets where possible to make the best use of the “Southwark pound”

Action	Owner	Progress Update	Status
Set out how budgets can be aligned and or pooled under the Partnership Southwark Health and Care Plan	Partnership Southwark: Delivery Executive	The Health & Care Plan was approved at the Partnership Southwark Strategic Board in July 2023. Through the Joint Commissioning Oversight Group, Better Care Fund Planning Group and Partnership Southwark Strategic Board, the partnership continue to identify opportunities to align and / or pool budgets across the health and care system to support the delivery of priorities set out in the Health & Care Plan and achieve the best outcomes for our residents. These discussions will continue, with future proposals brought to the Partnership Southwark Strategic Board or Health & Wellbeing Board as appropriate.	
Increase voluntary contributions to the Better Care Fund (BCF)	South East London Integrated Care Board	It was agreed not to increase voluntary contributions to the Better Care Fund above the 2022/23 baseline. This was due to the administrative delays and restrictive planning and assurance requirements that are	

	& Adult Social Care	associated with the Better Care Fund processes. Instead, it was decided that any further expansion of budget alignment is best pursued using bespoke local pooling or collaboration arrangements outside the Better Care Fund framework. This was discussed at the Health & Wellbeing Board in January 2023.	
--	---------------------	--	--

Recommendations

Progress has been made in most of the 53 actions in Southwark's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027. There is now an opportunity to refocus priorities for the next two years, building on successes to date, learning from challenges and aligning with other important local policy and strategy, including Southwark's vision for 2030. We therefore make the following recommendations to the Health and Wellbeing Board:

1. A new action plan should be developed for 2025-2027, for approval by the Health and Wellbeing Board in March 2025.
2. New actions should be fewer in number but larger in scope and potential for impact.
3. Actions should be ambitious, with a focus on where partners can work together to go over and beyond "business as usual".
4. A new outcomes framework should be developed with partners to monitor the impact of new actions.
5. The new action plan should align strongly with Southwark's vision for 2030.