

DECISION-MAKER:	Cabinet Council
SUBJECT:	Draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2026-2035
DATE OF DECISION:	27 January 2026 25 February 2026
REPORT OF:	COUNCILLOR MARIE FINN CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH
CORPORATE PLAN OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES	Outcome: A Healthier Southampton
	Priority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure young people have a good start in life. ▪ Support people to live healthy, active and independent lives.

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director of Community Wellbeing, Children and Learning (DASS and DCS)	
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY
N/a
BRIEF SUMMARY
<p>The existing Health and Wellbeing Strategy runs from 2017-2025. The draft new Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2026-2035 is recommended to replace the existing strategy.</p> <p>A 12-week public consultation on the draft strategy was launched on 4th August and closed on 26th October 2025. The consultation received 195 responses, and the draft strategy is to be brought to Cabinet on 27th January 2026 and to Full Council for approval (25th February 2026).</p> <p>The strategy's vision is for Southampton to be a place where everyone can live healthy, active and independent lives, create positive social connections, and maximise financial wellbeing.</p>

The draft strategy focuses on four thematic areas. For further details please see the section 6 below, and the full strategy at Appendix 1.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

CABINET	(i)	To approve the new Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2026-2035 and recommend to Council the approval of the strategy.
COUNCIL	(i)	To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Community Wellbeing, Children and Learning (DASS and DCS) to make minor amendments to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2026-2035.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	To ensure the statutory requirement of the Health & Wellbeing Board to produce a Health and Wellbeing Strategy is fulfilled, and a strategic direction is set for health and wellbeing in Southampton.
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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2.	None.
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DETAIL AND EVIDENCE (Including consultation carried out)

3.	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Boards are a formal statutory committee of the local authority and provide a forum where political, clinical, professional and community leaders from across the health and care system come together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. Health and Wellbeing Boards have a statutory responsibility to publish a local Health and Wellbeing Strategy which sets out the priorities for improving the health and wellbeing of the local population and how the identified needs will be addressed, including addressing health inequalities.</p> <p>The new draft strategy for Southampton also covers the Integrated Care Board 5 Year Health and Care Plan for the first time. This will deliver a cohesive approach to health, wellbeing and care for the city. The Integrated Care Board will have particular responsibility for one of the priorities (staying well) as well as working in partnership to help deliver the others.</p> <p>The existing Health and Wellbeing Strategy runs from 2017-2025 and the new Strategy will be published as early as possible in 2026.</p>
4.	<p>Engagement & Consultation</p> <p>The new strategy has been built ‘from the ground up’ and is informed by data and intelligence from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment¹ (JSNA). The strategy has also had input from the voluntary and community sector through two workshops (May 2024 and May 2025) and from the City Council and Integrated Care Board Managers</p>

¹ For more information about the Southampton JSNA please enter Southampton JSNA into any internet search engine, or follow this link: [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\)](#)

	<p>(March 2024), the City Council’s Public Health team and from 4000 residents as part of the City Plan survey feedback.</p> <p>The Health and Wellbeing Board have also discussed the strategy on several occasions and agreed the final priorities.</p> <p>Public consultation took place from 4 August to 26 October 2025 and 195 people responded. The purpose of the public consultation was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly communicate the proposed plans to residents and stakeholders • Ensure any resident, business or stakeholder in Southampton that wished to comment on the proposals had the opportunity to do so, enabling them to raise any impacts the proposals may have • Allow participants to propose alternative suggestions for consideration which they feel could achieve the objectives of the plans in a different way. <p>Feedback has been very positive; with 88% of people agreeing with the vision, 87% agreeing with the core principles, and 79% agreeing with the strategy overall. 80% of respondents said it was easy to read and understand. 67% said it had sufficient information in it. There was a high level of support for each of the priority areas (ranging from 88% - 95% for each priority area). The feedback has provided useful input and some minor changes have been made to the strategy in response. Collated feedback and responses are shown in the ‘You Said, We Did’ document available at Members Room Document 3.</p>
5.	<p>Links with the City Plan</p> <p>The new ten-year City Plan for Southampton is now adopted by partners across the city. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy supports delivery of the 10-year City Plan; a shared ambition across partners, which sets out five missions: to make Southampton a more equal, healthier, safer, greener and growing city. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is Southampton’s commitment to delivering the Healthier Southampton mission. The City Plan draws together other relevant strategies such as the We Can be Active, Tobacco, Alcohol & Drug Strategy and Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy.</p>
6.	<p>The Strategy</p> <p>The priorities in the new strategy are as below. For more detail, please see the full draft strategy attached as Appendix 1 to this report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting Well: ensuring every child has the best start in life through a whole system approach to childhood obesity. • Staying Well: ensuring people are supported to live healthy lives & maintain health as they age through protecting

	<p>independence with integrated, proactive, personalised care, with a particular focus on frailty & falls.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting Well: ensuring people enjoy social connection in safe and healthy spaces through supporting communities to be physically and creatively active through safe and accessible green spaces, and indoor spaces like arts and cultural activities. • Financially Well: ensuring people are supported to maximise their financial wellbeing through maximising opportunities for skills, training and employment.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
7.	<p>There are no direct financial implications of developing and approving the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.</p> <p>Existing resources built into the Medium-Term Financial Strategy will need to be used to deliver the priorities the Council are responsible for contained within the Strategy. Any additional future funding required above those levels will be subject to the standard budget planning process.</p> <p>A strong Health and Wellbeing Strategy can lead to future financial benefits through preventative health programmes which can reduce future demand on social care. It can also reduce progression of long-term conditions, frailty, falls, and mental health crises each of which would have beneficial impacts on adult social care budgets. These benefits will effectively be tracked through the budget monitoring process and can be incorporated into the Medium-Term Financial Strategy as they materialise throughout the duration of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy.</p>
<u>Property/Other</u>	
8.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
9.	Health and Wellbeing Boards were established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and have a statutory duty to produce and publish a Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
10.	The Council, in exercising its functions, must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not, in accordance with section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. Equality objectives are not considered to be adversely impacted by the proposals in the report. The Equality and

	Safety Impact Assessment can be found at Members Room Document 4.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
11.	None.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS including STRATEGIC IMPACT	
	The new draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy links with the 'Healthier Southampton' mission within the new City Plan for Southampton. The City Plan draws together other relevant strategies such as the We Can be Active, Tobacco, Alcohol & Drug Strategy and Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Draft new Health and Wellbeing Strategy (formatted version will be produced by SCC Design Team following formal approval)

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	Accessible version (presents the strategy in an easier-to-read format)
2.	Easy Read version (uses photosymbols and a shorter format)
3.	'You Said, We Did'
4.	Equality & Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA)
5.	Consultation Report

EQUALITY AND SAFETY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	Yes
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DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	
2.	