



HSC&WB STRATEGY GUIDANCE

WAG published draft guidance for consultation on the next HSC&WB Strategy on July 20th, alongside draft guidance for Children & Young People's Plan (see summary appendix 1.)

There have been no changes to the regulations for the HSCWBS, and consequently the guidance is more concise than previously, building upon the existing strategies. The Strategy is to remain as a 3-year plan and WAG requires that each local authority are develops a plan for the local community. The Strategy should be informed by the Local Health Boards 5-year Plan

The HSCWBS should be underpinned by the following key planning principles:

- sustainability and well being
- an outcomes focus
- needs-based planning
- relationship with other partnerships and plans
- accountability and responsibility
- integration of planning and delivery including joint commissioning and pooling of budgets
- commitment to equality and diversity
- commitment to the Welsh Language.

The 2011 HSCWBSs should focus on:

- i. Improving health and well being and reducing inequities, that is inequalities in health that are unfair and avoidable
- ii. Improving the provision, quality, integration, and sustainability of 'overlapping services', that is in situations where the NHS, local government and their partners, together provide interlocking services to identifiable groups.

A. Our Healthy Future

The guidance gives detail of expectations around two main areas and requires that the HSCWBS must reflect the local response by the Local Authority and LHB to 'Our Healthy Future' (OHF) as the strategic framework for public health in Wales, which aims to:

- Reduce inequities in health
- Improve people's mental well-being
- Improve health in the workplace
- Reduce the level of smoking
- Increase physical activity
- Reduce unhealthy eating
- Stop the growing harm from alcohol and drugs
- Reduce the number of teenage pregnancies
- Reduce the number of accidents and injuries
- Increase immunisation rates.

The Prospectus for Local Authority Outcome Agreements (issued to Chief Executives and Leaders of all local authorities on 31st March 2010) focuses on sustainable development and promoting the well being of people in Wales. The development of these Agreements between WAG and local authorities will set out how each will work towards improving outcomes for citizens, within the context of the Government's priorities. The Agreements will cover the period 2010-11 to 2012-13 and include strategic themes and outcomes linked to the OHF, and should demonstrate local government commitment and contribution to partnership working towards the prevention and health improvement agenda. The key outcomes expected are:

- Improved Health through the Lifecourse
- Reduced Inequities in Health
- Healthier Sustainable Communities

The guidance outlines the strategic framework supporting the breadth of OHF which includes:

- Statutory Public Health Controls
- Creating an Active Wales Local Action Plans
- Obesity Pathway
- Sexual Health and Well being Action Plan
- Local Public Health Strategic Frameworks
- Air Quality Action Plans

B. Overlapping Services

The guidance requires that the HSCWBS should focus on integration, quality and sustainability of services and recommends service mapping that considers 'how people move through services.' The aim should be to support people and deliver appropriate services and the Strategy needs to consider:

- Duty of co-operation to promote joint working
- Services to move to greater focus on prevention and early intervention, reduce social exclusion and promote independence
- LHB and LA to define how services will be jointly planned, developed and managed to improve integration, eliminate waste, duplication and confusion, and minimise the likelihood of harm resulting from poor co-ordination of care
- How services will measure outcomes of care and improve them over time.

The guidance specifies particular groups of people where planned, joint, service provision should be detailed to ensure quality and effectiveness of service delivery and compliance with national guidance:

- older frail people
- people with long-term conditions
- people with mental health problems
- people with learning disabilities
- people with physical disabilities
- people with substance misuse problems

Process

In developing the HSCWBS, partners are required to:

- make an assessment of the health and well-being needs of the local population
- publish and consult on the draft HSCWBS for a minimum of 12 weeks and have regard to the results of that consultation in completing the strategy
- formally sign off the final HSCWBS and make it publicly available
- conduct a review and report progress annually to government.

The Regulations are clear that both the consultation and final document must:

- contain an executive summary
- be in an accessible electronic format
- be available at LA and LHB offices, public libraries, and on the Internet
- be published in English and Welsh
- be subject to consultation with bodies dealing with race equality and disability

Consultation

The guidance is subject to public consultation and responses are required by September 14th to the following questions:

1. Is the guidance clear on what needs to be achieved through the HSCWBS, and if not what needs to be done to ensure it is?

2: Is the relationship to other strategies clear, and if not what needs to be done to ensure it is?

3: In particular, is the guidance for the HSCWBS for 2010/11 to 2012/13 and for the Children and Young People's Plan sufficiently aligned so as to minimise the burden on local bodies while maximising the local impact of the resulting plans.

4: What is your view on whether we need to have all of the existing local partnerships and whether the existing structure of partnerships is fit for purpose?

5: We have asked some specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them: