

<b>COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR SOUTH LAKELAND</b>
<b>Meeting date: 12th May 2022</b>
<b>From: Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services</b>

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITY - UPDATE**

### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1.1 This report draws attention to key Community Development and Public Health Activity undertaken by the South Lakeland Area Support Team and the Locality Public Health Manager.**

### **2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

**2.1 Community Development and Public Health Activity contribute to achieving the outcomes set out in the Council Plan 2018-2022 in particular;**

- People in Cumbria are healthy and safe, and,**
- Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving.**

**The activity embraces the ‘New ways of working’ with a focus on**

- Working with partner organisations and communities to achieve shared aspirations, and,**
- Exploring new ways to deliver services and maximise our resources.**

**Additionally, Community Development and Public Health Activity addresses the overarching ambition of the Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019-2029 “To enable Cumbrian communities to be healthy and to tackle health inequalities”. By identifying and**

***productively connecting unconnected local assets the Area Support Team and the Locality Public Health Manager are working to progress the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy which emphasises the importance of building five types of community assets, namely;***

- ***Natural assets: A high quality natural environment that provides opportunities for engagement with the natural world.***
- ***Human assets: People with the skills, knowledge, and experience that give them the capacity to take part in society and have meaningful and fulfilling lives.***
- ***Social assets: A good social infrastructure, with networks and institutions that allow people to connect to each other.***
- ***Physical assets: A good physical infrastructure including housing, transport, and a commercial environment that promotes healthy behaviours.***
- ***Financial assets: Adequate financial resources that are fairly distributed.***

**2.2** ***All activities undertaken are assessed to ensure that the equality and diversity impacts are understood and appropriately addressed.***

### **3.0** ***RECOMMENDATION***

**3.1** ***Members are asked to note the content of this report.***

### **4.0** ***BACKGROUND***

**4.1** This report draws attention to key Community Development and Public Health Activity undertaken by the South Lakeland Area Support Team and the Public Health Locality Manager to progress the Council's Strategic aims, the Cumbria Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2019-2029 and the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy in South Lakeland.

**4.2** As we move to living with COVID-19, the South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership has reviewed its local priorities within the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy. This report describes the role of the South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership, the agreed priorities of the partnership and provides some rationale.

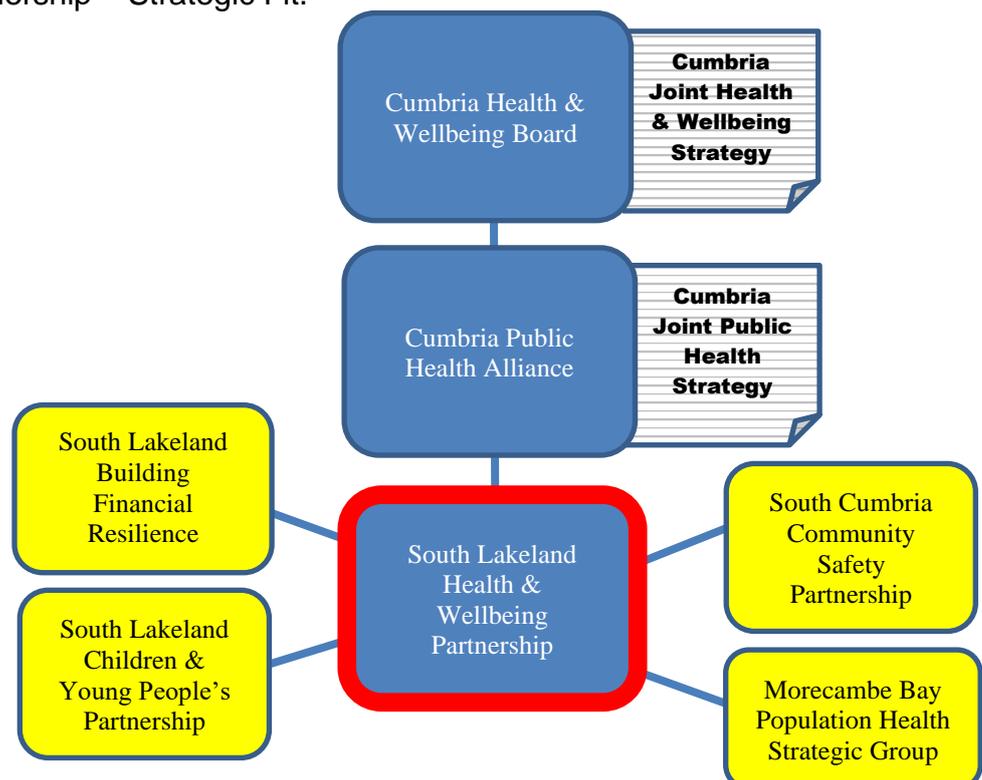
4.3 The South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership provides a mechanism for collaboration among partner agencies and communities to deliver improved health and wellbeing outcomes for the residents of South Lakeland. It promotes and monitors local implementation of the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy. The partnership is recognised by the Cumbria Public Health Alliance as a local influencer and as having a role exploring effective methods of working in South Lakeland. The partnership takes an overview of local issues, providing a means of bringing together partners, and connecting with local communities to mobilise resources to impact on health and wellbeing. Working through the Cumbria Public Health Alliance it has a key role in ensuring that locality issues are represented at the Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Board. The Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Board is a statutory body that exists to provide strategic leadership and promote closer integration of health and care.

Current terms of reference for the South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership are provided in Appendix I.

The South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership is one of five key strategic partnerships that each have a key role in local delivery of the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy locally, the other partnerships being;

- The South Lakeland Building Financial Resilience Partnership.
- South Lakeland Children and Young People’s Partnership.
- South Cumbria Community Safety Partnership.
- Morecambe Bay Population Health Strategic Group.

Fig I. South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Strategic Fit.



- 4.4 The South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership, having been instructed by the Cumbria Public Health Alliance to describe its medium/long term priorities with reference to the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy, held a workshop on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, members unable to attend were invited to contribute through a questionnaire. Members were asked to determine both the relative importance of the domains and their attendant sub-domains within the strategy, and which of these the partnership believed it was best placed to influence and/or affect. In addition, partnership members were asked to review the relevance of the partnership's existing 'life course' priorities which had been agreed before the launch of the Joint Public Health Strategy.
- 4.5 Planet, people and prosperity attracted greatest priority among the 5 domains of the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy. People was the domain the partnership felt best placed to influence and/or affect; promoting education, skills and lifelong learning was considered the most important of the people sub-domains and was that sub-domain the partnership felt best placed to influence and/or affect. Ensuing meaningful & high quality occupations for all, and tackling discrimination & exploitation were together considered the next most important of the people sub-domains, however respondents felt the partnership was least well placed to influence and/or affect these.

Although the participation domain was considered of relatively less importance than planet or prosperity the degree to which the partnership felt it might have influence and/or affect in this domain indicated that this was an appropriate area for prioritisation. Building stronger communities was clearly deemed both the most important sub-domain and that which the partnership believes it is best placed to influence and/or affect. The degree to which the partnership believes it can influence and/or affect the promotion of social inclusion suggested this should be prioritised above building safer communities albeit it will be appropriate (given comments made) to ensure the partnership maintains its strong links with the Community Safety Partnership to facilitate collaboration in this area.

Place ranked second among the domains when importance and ability to influence and/or affect were conflated. As three of the sub-domains (ensuring high quality and safe housing, developing a sustainable transport system, and promoting healthy town and country planning) are concerned with infrastructure, are addressed in other fora, and are subjects of existing strategy (i.e. the South Lakeland District Council Housing Strategy 2016 to 2025) it was deemed inappropriate for the partnership to seek to provide leadership in these areas. Nevertheless, it is appropriate that the partnership be recognised as a key stakeholder for development programmes e.g. housing and transport infrastructure.

Access to healthy food (a sub-domain of place) was deemed both of relative importance and an area the partnership could influence and/or affect. Access

to healthy food is complex as it includes not only issues of transport and cost but is a function also of ability to prepare food, understanding of nutrition, personal taste etc. Additionally, in the current economic climate there are significant concerns about the ability of struggling households to afford food and much work has been undertaken to support community infrastructure (food hubs etc.) designed to mitigate risk in this area. It was agreed that the partnership collaborates with the South Lakeland Building Financial Resilience Partnership to establish a working group to address issues attendant to ensuring local households have access to sufficient and healthy food.

Given the overriding importance placed by the partnership on planet it was agreed that relatively low confidence the partnership was able to influence and/or affect in this area should not prevent efforts to progress the aspirations of the Cumbria Joint Public Health Strategy. It was agreed that the partnership establish a sub-group or companion partnership to support activity attendant to the sub-domains and to facilitate a coordinated local approach.

The partnership agreed that the existing 'life course' priorities were appropriate and should be maintained. These are;

For Children, Young People and Young Families;

- Diet, exercise and weight management
- Educational attainment
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health

For Those in Midlife;

- Job security and prospects
- Activity and physical health
- Housing

For Older People;

- Loneliness
- Maintaining independence
- Access (to goods, services, etc.)

The partnership met on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and agreed the following:

**1)** The Partnership will collaborate with and support the Education and Skills Sub-Group of the South Lakeland Building Financial Resilience Partnership to develop a medium to long term plan for Promoting Education, Skills and Lifelong Learning.

**2)** Building on current work the Partnership will develop a medium to long term plan for Building Stronger Communities to include addressing Social Inclusion.

**3)** Collaborate with the South Lakeland Financial Resilience Partnership to establish a working group to address issues attendant to ensuring local households have access to sufficient and healthy food.

**4)** Establish a sub-group or a companion partnership to support activity attendant to planet issues (biodiversity, waste reduction, green spaces, climate change and air quality) and to facilitate a coordinated local approach.

**5)** The Partnership will maintain strong links with the Community Safety Partnership to facilitate collaboration regarding building safer communities including tackling discrimination and exploitation.

**6)** The Partnership will work to ensure it is recognised as a key stakeholder for local development programmes e.g. housing and transport infrastructure.

**7)** The Partnership will maintain and strengthen where appropriate, links to:

- South Cumbria Future in Mind Group (children & young people's mental health)
- South Lakeland Children's Partnership (diet, exercise and weight management in children and young people)
- Morecambe Bay Population Health Strategic Group (activity and physical health in midlife, maintenance of independence for older people)

**8)** The Partnership aspires to develop links with the Local Economic Partnership to;

- explore opportunities to progress meaningful and high quality occupations for all locally,
- explore opportunities to reduce income inequality locally, and
- promote sustainable economic development.

A detailed report on the priority setting exercise is provided in Appendix II.

#### 4.6 Dates for your Diary:

##### May 2022 – **Maternal Mental Health Month**

Each May the spotlight is shined on Maternal Mental Health with the whole month being Maternal Mental Health Month.

[Maternal Mental Health Month 2022 - Awareness Days Events Calendar 2022](#)

**May 2022 – National Walking Month**

Encouraging people to walk more during the month of May.

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/national-walking-month>

**May 2022 – Make May Purple / Action on Stroke Month**

Make May Purple /Action On Stroke Month is arranged by The Stroke Association and runs annually throughout May.

<https://www.stroke.org.uk/take-action/make-may-purple>

**9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – Mental Health Awareness Week**

Educating the public about mental health issues and promoting better mental health.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

**13<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – National Numeracy Day**

Activities and events to encourage everyone to build their confidence with numbers.

<https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/numeracyday>

**16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 – National Vegetarian Week**

A Chance to Showcase Veggie Food

<https://www.nationalvegetarianweek.org/>

**17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 – Dementia Action / Awareness Week**

Dementia Action Week is a national event that sees the UK public taking action to improve the lives of people affected by dementia.

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-involved/dementia-action-week>

An extensive list of national and international awareness days and events can be found using the link below.

[Awareness Days Events Calendar - US, UK & International Awareness Days](#)

## 5.0 OPTIONS

5.1 Members are asked to note the content of the Community Development and Public Health Activity Report.

## 6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, which is for noting. (SR 3.5.2022)

## 7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the report  
7.2 Ps 28.4.22

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 the Council's strategic aims and public health objectives is dependent upon robust community engagement and community development. With the support of officers members are ideally placed to ensure effective community development promotes public health and contributes to achieving these aims and objectives in South Lakeland. As a consequence engaged and empowered residents benefit from healthier, happier and more resilient communities.

**Colin Cox**  
**Director of Public Health**  
27/04/2022

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## APPENDICES

**Appendix I. South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Terms of Reference.**

**Appendix II. South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Partnership - Priority Setting Exercise (2022)**

Electoral Division(s): All South Lakeland

Executive Decision

	No*
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Key Decision

	No*
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A*
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	No*	
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A*
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No*	
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A*
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A*

**N.B.** *If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.*

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**  
*[including Local Committees]*

***No previous relevant decisions.***

**CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

***Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.***

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

***No background papers.***

**REPORT AUTHOR**

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