

<b>Housing and Health Committee Meeting</b>	
<b>Meeting Date</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
<b>Report Title</b>	Health System in Kent
<b>EMT Lead</b>	Emma Wiggins, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
<b>Head of Service</b>	Charlotte Hudson, Head of Housing and Communities
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Zach Evans, Health and Wellbeing Officer
<b>Classification</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Recommendations</b>	1. To note the update provided on the new structure for health systems in Kent.

## **1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary**

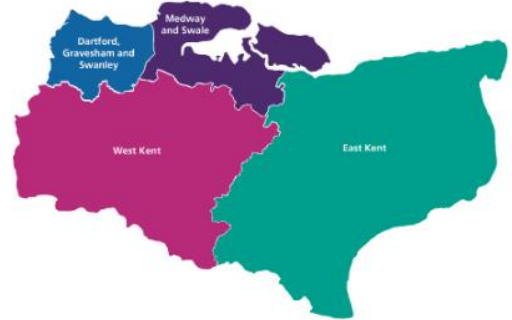
- 1.1 This report provides the Housing and Health Committee with an update on the health system in Kent, since the national changes and move away from Clinical Commissioning Groups.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 Within Kent, we have a number of different health systems that form a pyramidal structure, joining in partnerships with other systems until an overarching board or system remains at the top. In The case of Kent and Medway, that system at the top of the pyramid is the Kent and Medway Integrated Care System, or Kent and Medway ICS.
- 2.2 The purpose of the ICS is to develop further working relationships between local and district councils and the NHS system in the region. This will allow for the improvement of services provided through collaborative working and feedback reporting of the local areas health needs by the councils to the NHS. The aim to deliver better and more tailor-made care for the region in which the ICS is responsible for.
- 2.3 Some of the priorities for the Kent and Medway ICS are:
- Giving children the best start in life and working to make sure they are not disadvantaged by where they live or their background and are free from fear or discrimination
  - Helping the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in society to improve their physical and mental health; with a focus on the social determinants of health and preventing people becoming ill in the first place
  - Helping people to manage their own health and wellbeing and be proactive partners in their care so they can live happy, independent and fulfilling lives; adding years to life and life to years

- Supporting people with multiple health conditions to be part of a team with health and care professionals working compassionately to improve their health and wellbeing
- Ensuring that when people need hospital services, most are available from people's nearest hospital; while providing centres of excellence for specialist care where that improves quality, safety and sustainability
- Making Kent and Medway a great place for our colleagues to live, work and learn.

2.4 An important aspect of the ICS is the Health and Care Partnership (HCP), which allows the NHS, Local Councils and the community at large (including Voluntary and Community Services) to work together to tackle the wider determinants of health, such as housing, education and employment in addition to examining and improving the health and wellbeing of all residents within their respective areas.



Within the Kent and Medway ICS there are 4 such HCPs:

1. Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley
2. East Kent
3. West Kent
4. Medway and Swale

2.5 Another important aspect of the ICS is the health and wellbeing board. The main purpose of this board is to develop Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) using research as a means to provide information about the health and care needs within Kent, as well as developing collaborative channels through which the HCPs are able to work effectively.

2.6 The Medway and Swale HCP (formerly known as the Integrated Care Partnership, or ICP) includes members from the Acute Hospital, mental health, community health and local councils, and serves the purpose of collaborative working in order to develop future interventions and services. Whilst the HCP is yet to be fully established, work is happening behind the scenes to develop this HCP to the point in which it may become future-proof.

2.7 One of the challenges within the health system in Swale is the difference between health options across the borough. With Sittingbourne and Sheppey being serviced by the Medway and Swale HCP, Faversham is serviced by the East Kent HCP. The East Kent HCP has largely the same functions as the Medway and Swale HCP, but due to the inclusion of the rest of East Kent, has different priorities and focuses than that of the Medway and Swale HCP, largely due in part to the difference in health needs across the areas.

2.8 There are a number of sub-groups within the wider Medway and Swale HCP, including but not limited to:

- District Councils Engagement Forum
- M&S VCS Framework
- Social Prescribing Partnership Meetings
- System wide Action Learning Set Meetings
- VCS task and Finish Group
- M&S HCP Engagement and Communications Group

2.9 This is in addition to sub-group meetings held by the KCC Whole Systems Obesity Approach (WSO) meetings, which largely feed into the HCP, due in part to the focus on both childhood obesity and childhood asthma.

2.10 The HCP allows for the various stakeholders across the health network area to come together and work collaboratively to develop a shared goal of a healthy now and a healthier future. It is important (and also highly recognised by both the HCP and the ICS) to remember that the interventions made now may not have an immediate effect on the health of the populace and may not have any effect seen for a few years at the very least. But neglecting the interventions now due to having no immediate, observable effect is short sighted and detrimental to the health of many in a few years' time.

### **3. Proposals**

3.1 To note the update provided on the new structure for health systems in Kent.

### **4 Alternative Options**

4.1 None

### **5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed**

5.1 None

### **6 Implications**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Implications</b>
Corporate Plan	3.2 Reduce health inequality by developing more productive relationships with local health partners and making health and wellbeing a central consideration in all relevant council decision-making, recognising especially the link between housing and health

Financial, Resource and Property	Officer resource to participate in the Health and Care Partnership system.
Legal, Statutory and Procurement	None
Crime and Disorder	None
Environment and Climate/Ecological Emergency	None
Health and Wellbeing	This is our method of involvement within the local health system for our residents.
Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	None
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None
Equality and Diversity	None
Privacy and Data Protection	None

## **7 Appendices**

None

## **8 Background Papers**

**None**