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**STARTING WELL**  
**LIVING WELL**  
**AGEING WELL**

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Doncaster Health and  
Wellbeing Board

First Annual Report

June 2021- June 2022

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# Welcome



"I am delighted to welcome you to the Health and Wellbeing Board's first annual report which provides you with an opportunity to understand the challenges and achievements of the Board in 2021-2022. I would like to thank the members of the Board and their organisations for the incredible work they do day in and day out improving health and wellbeing for residents of all ages. Our work is diverse and we have constantly challenged how we currently work, what we can do differently and how can we work better together to make sure we deliver better health and wellbeing outcomes with and for our residents. Our thinking and what we do is driven by our residents, their experience and their aspirations. Our meetings are held in public and at every meeting we have a public session and I would encourage residents to take part, highlight their concerns and help the Board to understand even more what matters to your community or your group. As we move into the new Integrated Care System (ICS) the role of Health and Well Being boards will become even more important, ensuring that in the place, here in Doncaster we continue to champion and deliver what matters to Doncaster residents and our work influences the work of the ICS.

Please do get involved and contact [PHEnquiries@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:PHEnquiries@doncaster.gov.uk) for more information

**Cllr Rachael Blake**  
Chair of Doncaster's Health and Well-being Board Portfolio holder for Childrens Social Care, Communities and Equalities



"We know that there has been considerable impact on the wellbeing of local people and our staff over the past 12 months, this has resulted in an increase in people coming forward for mental health support. The way in which services were provided had to adapt and respond to immediate needs as further waves of the coronavirus pandemic hit. I am glad to have been part of a collective Doncaster response to the challenges that we faced. One success has been the ongoing COVID-19 vaccination programme; this has provided an evergreen offer of 1st and 2nd doses, utilised pop up sites for our underserved communities, expanded further to younger age groups, offering eligible 3rd booster jabs and even 4th doses to immunosuppressed patients. Over 628,000 dose have been administered to Doncaster people! Thank you to all the local volunteers and staff who have made this happen. Looking ahead we acknowledge that there is now a need to focus on recovering the backlog of unmet need from the past two years.

**Dr David Crichton**  
Vice Chair of Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board

## The Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board

The Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is a strategic partnership which sets the vision and direction for health and wellbeing for the Borough. Its aims are to:

- Improve the health and wellbeing for the residents of Doncaster and to reduce inequalities in outcomes;
- Promote integration and partnership working between the local authority, NHS and other local services and to improve the local democratic accountability of health.

The key responsibilities/duties of the Board are:

- Assessing the health and wellbeing needs of the population.
- To oversee the development of and monitoring the implementation of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) ensuring that issues highlighted in the strategy are taken forward by commissioners;
- Promote integrated working and partnership working between health and social care, through joined up commissioning plans.
- Take a strategic approach and promote integration across health and adult social care, children's services, including safeguarding and the wider determinants of health;
- Produce and maintain a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA).
- To receive the Doncaster Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Annual Report.

## The current membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board is:

### Cllr Rachael Blake (Chair)

Portfolio Holder for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities

**Meetings (4/5)**

(Vice-Chair), Chair of Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group

**Meetings (3/5)**

### Cllr Nigel Ball

Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning

**Meetings (5/5)**

Director of Public Health, Doncaster Council

**Meetings (5/5)**

Chief Executive RDaSH

**• Meetings (1/5)**

Chair of Healthwatch Doncaster

**Meetings (1/5)**

Head of Co-Commissioning, NHS England (Yorkshire & Humber)

**Meetings (0/5)**

Chief Executive of Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**• Meetings (4/5)**

Chief Officer DCCG

**Meetings (2/5)**

Director of Adults, Health & Wellbeing, Doncaster Council

**Meetings (4/5)**

Director of Learning, Opportunities & Skills, Doncaster Council

**• Meetings (4/5)**

### Cllr Andrea Robinson

Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

**Meetings (4/5)**

### Cllr Cynthia Ransome

Conservative Group Representative

**Meetings (3/5)**

District Commander for Doncaster, South Yorkshire Police

**• \* Meetings (1/5)**

Group Manager, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

**^ Meetings (2/5)**

Deputy Chief Executive of Doncaster Children's Services Trust

**Meetings (2/5)**

Director of Economy & Environment, Doncaster Council

**Meetings (0/5)**

Chief Executive, St Leger Homes

**Meetings (2/5)**

Chief Executive, Primary Care Doncaster

**Meetings (0/5)**

Health and Social Care Forum Representative

**Meetings (4/5)**

Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Doncaster

**Meetings (4/5)**

\* New post holder joined the Board in Jan 2022

^ New post holder joined the Board in Sept 2021

• This member has had a substitute for at least one meeting

**Note:** Board Members can nominate substitutes from their respective organisations to attend in their absence, so in some instances the figures in the table may include attendance by substitutes. Details of substitutes attending meetings are recorded in the formal minutes of the Board meetings, which can be viewed on the Council's website.

## COVID-19 Update

In 2021/22 the COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a significant impact on the health of Doncaster people. At the start of 2021 the country went into a national lockdown in response to the Alpha variant of COVID-19. A Delta variant followed in the summer of 2021 and then as we moved into 2022 the Omicron variant arrived and by March it was the BA.2 variant of Omicron that was dominant.

The direct impacts of COVID are still felt, as people are still catching COVID-19 and despite a successful vaccine programme there are still too many avoidable infections, hospitalisations and deaths. The thoughts of the Board are with all those who lost loved ones or have been impacted by the pandemic in other ways. The disruption to people's lives, livelihoods, the services and institutions we rely on has been profound. The pandemic has unearthed and exacerbated long standing inequalities experienced by older residents, those in key worker roles, those in poverty and those from ethnic minorities. Women have borne the brunt of the pandemic as formal caring, informal caring, childcare and home schooling roles all needed to be fulfilled, at the same time as working shifts or working remotely.

In 2021 the Health and Wellbeing Board was supported by a COVID oversight board, chaired by Mayor Ros Jones, a COVID control board and a daily incident management team. In 2022 the Health and Wellbeing Board will be supported by a revamped Health Protection Board and initially a twice weekly incident management team.

Some of the lessons learnt from the first 2 years of the pandemic were highlighted in the Director of Public Health annual report 2021. These included:

- Doncaster people, families, communities, businesses, groups and institutions have all still pulled together really well. In the second year of the pandemic, the numbers of people able to volunteer has reduced as people return to work, although many have found ways of continuing.
- The importance of 'Key workers' was reinforced during the first national lockdown, but abuse and aggression to key workers has increased as the pandemic has continued.
- Not everyone was impacted equally, and many individuals and communities will continue to be impacted by the wider effects of the pandemic.

- 1 Impacts directly from COVID-19
- 2 Long term physical and mental health impacts of COVID-19 infection (long COVID)
- 3 Impacts of overwhelmed health services and delays to treatment
- 4 Impacts of changes to health services
- 5 Impacts of lockdown and other measures
- 6 Impacts on particular communities and groups including women, people from ethnic minorities and carers
- 7 Ongoing impacts on accessing health and care services due to the initial disruption and now increased demand on health and care services (especially people with diabetes, or suffering with poor mental health, self-harm or depression).

- Many of the working practices that the health and care system developed at the start of the pandemic have continued, but workforce shortages and staff 'burnout' are bigger challenges for the system now than money.
- National decision makers are still too remote and lack the local knowledge needed for many decisions including the implementation and relaxation of lockdowns, supporting local schools and the return of elite sporting events.
- Pandemic preparedness should still continue. This includes better understanding of how local people live their lives, investment in health protection, establishing clear, agile, system leadership and supporting better data to aid management as well as increasing transparency. Local surveillance, responding to new threats (or variants). Communication that is based on behavioural insights avoids polarisation in key, including a focus on supporting people to access and understand large amounts of new guidance and information. This could involve health and media literacy, fact checking websites, critically looking at media sources and reviewing the role of the curriculum.
- Health and the economy are still intrinsically linked and the best way to address the pandemic is good for both health and the economy.

## Understanding Doncaster

### Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) developments in 2021/22

In 2018, the Board agreed a new approach to move away from lengthy and static snapshot documents to reflect the collaboration between health and care analytics teams and the growth in new Business Intelligence tools. In 2021, following the immediate impacts of the Covid-19 response, the Board agreed a refresh to this policy reflecting the impact of the pandemic but also the extent by which health inequalities had both been exposed and exacerbated by Covid-19.

Since that refreshed plan was agreed, a new suite of information has been published for the Doncaster JSNA. A new website has been set up to host a range of information – both a public facing dashboard showcasing Outcomes data profiling the Doncaster population and a growing suite of other demographic and population information. This site can be found here:

<https://www.teamdoncaster.org.uk/jsna>

As well as these developments, the teams have been following the plan agreed at the Board and have been working together on “operations” over winter on understanding pressures and flow across the health and care system. There is also a focus on inequalities with a testbed project between the Council and Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDASH) looking at mental health inequalities, initially focussing on analysing data from the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services that support people with anxiety and depression. With the release of the 2021 Census later this calendar year, a wealth of new demographic data will become available, allowing us to understand more about our communities.

### Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)

Section 128A of the National Health Service Act 2006 (NHS Act 2006) requires each health and wellbeing board to assess the need for pharmaceutical services in its area and to publish a statement of its assessment. Termed a ‘pharmaceutical needs assessment’, the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, as amended (the 2013 regulations) set out the minimum information that

must be contained within a pharmaceutical needs assessment and outline the process that must be followed in its development.

(Pharmaceutical needs assessments Information pack for local authorities: Department Health and Social care, October 2021).

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a mandatory duty to produce a Pharmaceutical Needs assessment every three years. Due to the covid-19 pandemic a decision was made nationally to defer the development and publication of PNA's until 1st October 2022. The current PNA refresh is underway and will be published on the council web site by October 2022.

### Research and the Health and Wellbeing Board

The Health and Well Being Board is the system sponsor for research. During 2021/22, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust and Doncaster Council have worked together on the Born and Bred in Doncaster (BaBi-D) research programme (<https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/babi-d/>).

Expert research support is provided by our partner universities – the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University – and the programme aims to help improve the health and wellbeing of children and families across Doncaster maintaining a strong focus on health inequalities and inclusion. In the next few months, the BaBi D project will begin to invite pregnant women to join the project and allow health researchers to join together routinely collected data about them and their baby. The data provided from this cohort study will help us to gain a better understanding of what local families want and need from healthcare services across the borough. We are part of the Born and Bred in (BaBi) network of local electronic birth cohort studies which includes Wakefield, Leeds and Bradford. This network is supported through the Born in Bradford for All (BiB4All) centre.

### Health and Wellbeing across the Life Course

The Board has adopted three overarching periods of life, starting well, living well and ageing well to organise its work.



Starting Well

The health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken to 'protect the NHS'.

Service delivery, in response to mental health concerns due to the pandemic were accelerated throughout the past year and in response to an increase in the number of young people presenting at A&E with mental health needs a Social Emotional and Mental Health proactive monitoring group was established. This ensures appropriate services are involved in planning support around the young person including a Mental Health in schools strategy and further support for young people with eating disorders. The children and young people's Mental Health Strategy has been to the Board with an initial one year action plan for change. As a partnership, we have adopted three key principles: 'Reflective, Resilient, Responsive' as the traits we are aiming to embed across all of our service areas in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people across Doncaster. The application of these three principles will enable us make evidence informed commissioning decisions and build a robust system in which each-and-every Doncaster resident can have complete confidence.

Two areas of the Doncaster Place Plan continue to be delivered the 1001 days and Vulnerable adolescents pilot. The first year of the pilot for the first '1001 days' of life has been embedded. Evaluation of the impact of an integrated offer for parents and families is underway. General feedback from families is that they value the service and are finding input from the professional useful and timely.

The Vulnerable Adolescents pilot has now moved into the implementation phase there is an immediate need, exacerbated by the pandemic, to develop system wide practice to support adolescents as they enter the more uncertain, more complex and more risk taking world of independence.

Work is on track for the majority of areas including the development of the service specification for the post diagnostic offer for Neuro-developmental pathways. Sub-contracting has also begun with Healios (online provider) to reduce the time waiting for assessment on the Children's Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder pathway. The 5-19 Healthy Child Programme has been recommissioned.

The Early Help offer continues to embed co-ordinated support and evidence-based interventions, through a practice framework across agencies. Young Carers remains a priority service area.

A couple of areas were delayed due to capacity issues and restrictions caused by the pandemic including the service specification for Children's Community Nursing and Children's Therapies. Elements of the Future Placements strategy relating to short breaks overnight provision and the development of in house care homes were delayed due to a buoyant property market following lockdown and social care focus on delivery of front line service and practice over the last year.

Plans are in place to accelerate these areas in next year's plan.

## Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Every Local Authority and their partners have a process to immediately respond to any child death in their place. Places also have a responsibility to conduct a review of the death, in Doncaster this is carried out by the CDOP and from September 2020 now reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Doncaster CDOP operates as one of four CDOPs in South Yorkshire and its primary focus is to confirm the cause of death and whether there were any modifiable factors that could have been addressed.

In January 2022 the 2020/21 SY CDOP report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board. Areas of focus for 2021/22 included improving bereavement to family members and siblings following the death of a child, continually improving data capture as the electronic National Child Mortality Database develops, to review how factors relating to social deprivation are captured. Rotherham MBC has hosted the South Yorkshire CDOP in 2021/22.

## Safeguarding

In 2021 the Board noted the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Partnership's Annual Report.



Living Well

## Mental Health

A mapping exercise of community based assets through the lens of mental health support has been completed and will inform the developing delivery plans linked to the national mental health transformation agenda of which two key areas of focus will be i) Housing and Support especially for those in transitions and Complex Rehabilitation and Recovery pathways and ii) the development and coordination of the mapped mental health community assets and resources as part of the prevention and recovery pathway work.

## Learning Disability and Autism

Delivery of Doncaster's All Age Learning Disability and Autism Strategy (2021-2024) has continued during 2021/22 across a range of work streams including:

- Diagnosis of Autism
- Education and Inclusion
- Employment
- Carers and Short Breaks
- Housing & Support

A further work stream focussed on Preparing for Adulthood will commence during 2022.

## Substance Misuse

A full substance misuse update will be presented at the June 2022 Health and Wellbeing Board.

Over the past year multiple short term funded pilots have been progressing:

- Aspire/Riverside substance misuse integrated supported housing pilot; to July 2022
- Universal Criminal Justice allocation; to July 2022
- Regional Inpatient detoxification allocation; to July 2022, £853K for Yorkshire & Humber regionally, with Doncaster as lead local authority for consortium of 11 Local Authorities
- Families intervention work: to April 2023, funded by local Public Health Allocation
- Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant; to April 2023

Following the Dame Carol Black review, a 10 year national drug strategy has been published, and Doncaster has received notification that there will be an additional three year funding settlement for substance misuse to 2024/25.

The priorities and proposed operational plans to utilise the additional funds will be worked up via the Substance Misuse Theme Group, endorsed by the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership and also presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board for endorsement in June 2022.

## Homelessness and Rough Sleeping

Work has progressed under each of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy delivery plans – Prevention, Accommodation and Care and Support. This includes convening of a range of multi-agency forums to drive forward delivery including:

- Convening of a Housing First (HF) Steering Group focussed on the expansion of Doncaster's HF offer to reduce the numbers of rough sleepers in Doncaster
- Homelessness Prevention Working Group (including a Private Rented Sector sub group) to focus on initiatives to prevent rough sleeping and homelessness in the first instance e.g. averting tenancy breakdowns/evictions

Doncaster has secured a range of Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID, formerly Public Health England) funding linked to homelessness and rough sleeping totalling £1.5m in 21/22, which has supported delivery of local plans. During recent months, Doncaster has seen a reduction in numbers of people rough sleeping, which mirrors the national trend. However, there is further work to do to ensure that repeat and/or entrenched rough sleepers have a more appropriate accommodation and support offer. To this end, a multi-agency assessment hub is being introduced as an 'off the street offer' for this cohort during 2022/23.

## Carers charter

Since the Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to sign the Carers Charter, the Carer's Service, Carers Lead and Carers have completed the Mind the Gap project around improving ethnic minority carers access to GPs surgeries; this has led to improved training for primary care staff, reduced health inequalities through improved access and raised carer awareness.

The young carers and adult carer services' have improved support available for young adult carers through a short term initiative, funded through NHS England which has led to an improved young adult carer pathway and protocol and more active support to help with transition from children to adult services.

Carers have co-produced an improved carers wellbeing service and, through tender, have identified the successful provider – the new service which offers preventative support, carers assessments and Carers Direct Payments will go live in April 2022.

Carers, alongside the Carers Strategic Lead are currently in the process of finalising the All Age Carers Strategy for 2022-2025 this will be launched in April 2022.

## Harmful/Problem Gambling

Gambling harms don't just affect the person gambling, they affect families, friends and communities. Gambling can lead to debt, unemployment, mental illness, relationship and family problems, homelessness and crime.

This list is not exhaustive, problem gambling can ruin lives with some individuals feeling the only way out is to end their lives.

There are 58 registered betting premises in Doncaster. This includes betting shops, bingo halls, tracks and adult gaming centres. This is the total number of currently licenced premises (as at January 2022) and includes those that are vacant and not currently in use. The majority of which are located in areas of deprivation.

In October 2021 Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), formerly PHE published their 'Gambling-related harms: evidence review' noting that in 2018, 24.5 million people in England gambled (54% of the adult population). It found that men are more likely to gamble than women and this difference is most obvious for online gambling where 15% of men participate, compared to 4% of women. They estimated that, based on 2018 figures, 0.5% of the population reached the threshold to be considered problem gamblers, and that 3.8% of the population are classified as at-risk gamblers.

Based on ONS population projections for 2021 in Doncaster (age 15+) this means we are likely to have 1294 problem gamblers and 9832 at risk gamblers in Doncaster.

In order to focus in on the potential issue in Doncaster, Public Health facilitates a Gambling and Financial Inclusion working group whose purpose is to bring together partners to work collectively to raise awareness of problem/harmful gambling across the borough.

The group is in the process of updating its Action Plan for the forthcoming year, which will focus on:

- Leadership and partnership
- Influencing the regulatory environment
- Reducing exposure of vulnerable people to gambling products
- Improving identification and recognition of problem gambling
- Protecting children & young people from gambling related harm
- Workplace health and wellbeing
- Building and sharing the evidence base

## Safeguarding

In 2021 the Board noted the Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report.



# Ageing Well

In 2021-22, we continued to work in partnership with our colleagues across health and social care to further develop services so everyone has the opportunity to age well, have a good quality of life and to be able to live as long and as independently as possible. A good quality of older life has been described as one of “well-being” where people are satisfied by having control over their lives and a sense of purpose. Well-being is not just about health and social care services, it also includes housing, transport, income, energy, education, support to stay in employment, having a social life and interaction with the community. It’s about how people live the life they choose. The Pandemic has made it harder for older people to look after their physical health, they have had reduced opportunities to be physically active but also access to care and treatment has been delayed. Older people have told us that they feel that they have “aged, lost some independence and have reduced ability to do things that they enjoy doing.”

The ongoing vision for Doncaster residents is that they will receive their health and social care in a cohesive, integrated, coordinated way, eliminating inefficiency and waste by providing a model that supports people remaining safely at home, wherever possible, with an increase in strength based preventative activity. This will be achieved by changing:

- From fragmented services to integrated locally based services.
- From multiple, single focused assessments to one holistic assessment.
- From multiple (sometimes conflicting care plans to one co-ordinated care plan).

The national NHS Ageing Well programme focuses on how we care for our population in the community. It’s part of the NHS Long Term plan which was published in 2019 but more recently the national Covid-19 response and ongoing recovery has also highlighted the importance of providing crisis care within the community to prevent avoidable hospital admissions and accelerate the treatment of people’s urgent care needs closer to home. Preventing avoidable hospital admissions is not just about bed management and managing increasing demand, as important as these are. But research is clear that even a short stay in hospital leads to physical and mental deconditioning, particularly for older people. Deconditioning refers to changes in the body that occur after a period of inactivity, such as bedrest or a sedentary lifestyle.

It can lead to people finding it difficult to accomplish normal daily activities and remain independent.

There are three elements to the programme:

- Urgent Community Response (UCR) is about ensuring that rapid crisis response care and reablement is available to all people within their homes or usual place of residence, including care homes. A two-hour crisis response is available across Doncaster. This service will continue to develop over the next 12 months to increase referrals directly from 111 and 999 as well as local health and care front line staff.
- Enhanced Health in Care Homes (EHCH) which is focused on improving the health care provision of care home residents. The EHCH model has three principle aims: 1. Delivering high-quality personalised care within care homes. 2. Providing, wherever possible, for individuals who (temporarily or permanently), live in a care home access to the right care and the right health services in the place of their choosing. 3. Enabling effective use of resources by reducing unnecessary conveyances to hospitals, hospital admissions, and bed days whilst ensuring the best care for people living in care homes. Integration and co design remained during 2021-22 bringing together partners providing care across the care home sector, moving away from traditional reactive models of care delivery towards proactive care that is centred on the needs of individual residents in a whole-system, collaborative approach. Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) were co-produced across multi-agencies providing physical, mental and social aspects of care ensuring that the care discussions take place in a joined-up way, as well as conducting structured medicine reviews and completing Respect and Advanced care plans.
- Anticipatory care which is about supporting people to proactively manage their health conditions and avoid a health crisis. This work has not yet commenced in Doncaster due to the pandemic, but is included within the Ageing Well delivery plan for 22/23.

Underpinning all of this is a focus on health promotion and prevention. The NHS Long Term Plan includes priority commitments to support people keeping healthier for longer, maximising the opportunities that patient contact brings to not only treat people but prevent them from getting ill in the first place.

## Focus on Dementia

Progress was delayed in implementing the actions and recommendations from the Dementia Deep Dive which was undertaken during 2019-20, due to Covid-19. However the findings of the deep dive have been revisited and are still valid including prevention and awareness, early identification opportunities, elimination of variance across Doncaster, supporting patients and carers, referral, assessment and diagnosis and in post diagnostic and care planning areas. A recovery plan for dementia diagnosis is being implemented to address the decline in diagnostic rates during Covid-19.

Post Diagnostic Support - The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Doncaster Council jointly continued to commission a dementia post and a diagnostic service across Doncaster under an Alliance Agreement. A number of organisations are involved in the Alliance including Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH), Making Space, Alzheimer's Society, Age UK, Royal Voluntary Service and Choices 4 Doncaster. During the pandemic they have continued to support people with dementia and carers and families through the pandemic and have adapted the traditional service offer by supporting them via regular telephone contacts, Zoom group meetings which involved cookery classes, quizzes, reminiscence sessions, conversation cafés and many other activities to reduce isolation and ensure people still felt connected and supported. We are also working with the Alliance to develop a service offer to support patients' and their carer's needs whilst awaiting assessment for dementia along with improved identification and referral to ensure appropriate referrals are made for diagnosis. This will support individuals through their journey from first noticing signs and symptoms, GP referral and throughout the assessment process and will also signpost to other services to support their mental wellbeing throughout the assessment process.

A new dementia collaborative was formed in late 2021 and consists of members of organisations providing dementia services, Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (DCCG), Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (DBTHFT) and allied health professionals, DMBC officers including Public Health and Ageing well commissioning, third sector representatives, Alzheimers Society and Donmentia.

The collaborative provides a voice for dementia patients and their carers a mechanism for further engagement around a local dementia strategy and a one stop portal for information, guidance and support.

## Social Isolation Alliance (SIA)

55 organisations are members of the Social Isolation Alliance.

The Voluntary Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) Humanitarian Fund closed on the 13th October 2021. The SIA successfully devolved £325,123.04 to 50 VCFS organisations (collaboration on projects allowed 59 organisations to receive funding in total), with an estimated 25,000 residents being assisted with the funding. Each organisation had 12 months to spend the money, and we are starting to receive reports from some of the first projects that were funded in 2021.

On the 1st November, the Winter Support Fund (assisting people identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) with getting back to together safely over the winter period) opened and to date £24,641 has been devolved to 8 organisations. This funding has now been extended from March 2022 to March 2023.

£45,000 from the Emergency Winter Support Fund was devolved to six organisations to assist with Doncaster's Winter Plan (transport, befriending (in-person and digital), winter wellbeing packs, hygiene products, and digital, community, employment, and transport support for those with drug and alcohol problems, and complex needs). The funding runs until the end of March, and it has allowed organisations to increase their capacity to meet the increase in demand during the winter period.

The SIA is currently involved in the following:

- SIA is chair of the Central Social Isolation and Low-Level Mental Health Subgroup – focusing on ensuring that within communities there are varied and available activities to help ease social isolation / low level mental health (including identifying gaps) and identifying those that require support for social isolation / low level MH but have not yet self-referred.
- The Accelerated Evidence Based Co-Design (AEBCD) research project with Manchester Metropolitan University, the Universities of York and Aberdeen, and DMBC – this is in the 2nd phase (the co-design phase) and the groups are looking at 2 priorities: groups/support and transport.

## Age Friendly Doncaster

In autumn 2021 the first age friendly festival took place across localities in Doncaster, the aim being to promote positive ageing and to start a conversation about becoming an age friendly borough. Over 18 organisations supported the event providing information and resources which included a touring bus across six locations and a series of 25 social and wellbeing activities and events at multiple locations across Doncaster. Over 330 responses during the week's events will be captured to develop a 12 month plan going forward and further links will be made across the localities.

## Safeguarding

In 2021 the Board noted the Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report.

## Ways of Working

### Doncaster Delivering Together

The Doncaster Delivering Together Strategy was agreed in September 2021 and sets out the strategic ambitions for Doncaster up to 2030. It sets out a bold ambition for Doncaster's future with a central mission for Thriving People, Places and Planet which balances the well-being of people and places with the planet.

It proposes new ways of working that respond to local needs and opportunities, seeks to reduce inequalities and improve people's well-being. There are six well-being goals that set out the vision for our future:

- Greener and Cleaner Doncaster
- Skilled and Creative Doncaster
- Prosperous and Connected Doncaster

- Safe and Resilient Doncaster
- Healthy and Compassionate Doncaster
- Fair and Inclusive Doncaster

In order to deliver this longer-term vision, eight cross-cutting priorities (the 'Great 8') will drive the delivery of the work. Behind each of these priorities will be an action plan that sets out some high level deliverables that can be monitored and reported upon via partnership performance management mechanisms. We will be bringing forward key products forward in 2022 to ensure we are best placed to deliver this strategy including;

- Reviewing the way the Partnership operates
- Making public a Doncaster Delivering Together Outcomes Dashboard
- Exploring a Fairness and Well-being Commission
- Aligning the Council's decision making reports to Doncaster Delivering Together.
- Refreshing the Health and Wellbeing Board strategy



## Physical Activity and Get Doncaster Moving

Over the last 5 years Doncaster has been working resolutely on addressing physical inactivity through Get Doncaster Moving (GDM), our 10 year strategy to increase levels of physical activity and sport across the borough. A recent review of the GDM strategy was shared at the Health and Wellbeing Board in January 2022; highlighting that significant progress and learning has taken place. It identified that there is a requirement to refresh the GDM strategy for the next 5 years in light of our progress, learning and the development of local and national policy.



Network of Partners includes:

- Active Communities, in partnership with Well Doncaster – recruitment of four Community Connectors, hosted by Community Anchor Organisations, who support residents to access opportunities close to where they live. Over 50 Active Communities Grants awarded to individuals and groups to increase support, access and opportunity for inactive people.
- Doncaster Future Parks – Community engagement on the first phase of sites has begun. A Green Space Network Coordinator has been appointed, to support the huge network of people involved in maintaining and developing green space in Doncaster.
- Leisure Facilities, in partnership with DCLT – work continues to deliver investment into our leisure facility stock, phase one of work at Askern is complete, decarbonising the building from coal fired boilers to air source heat pumps. Phase two works have commenced to develop the offer and connect the centre with the country park. In addition survey work has been undertaken at Thorne and Edlington to enable concept design for their refurbishments be developed.”
- Communications Campaigns – Partnership with Doncaster Mumbler, to deliver a series of adventure trails in a number of parks.
- Dance, in Partnership with darts – a growing network of ‘Dance On’ activities are taking place across the Borough.
- Walking – 55 new Walk Leaders trained, to support existing and set up new community walking groups
- Children and Young People – Set-up Doncaster PE & Active Schools Network, engaging with over 30 primary school teachers in development opportunities for their schools.
- Sport – Preparation for the Rugby League World Cup taking place in 2022, including partnership with Leeds Beckett University to measure the social impact of RLWC2021. Successful Expression of Interest with Football Foundation Local Authority Grass Pitch Programme, which aims to support the improvement of grass pitches.

## Arts and Health

The Board established a subgroup to focus on Arts and Health. This Board is chaired by local charity darts and membership includes senior leaders from the council, social prescribing, health partners and other key culture, health and social care representatives. Our joint ambition is to embed arts and culture into health and social care pathways, so that all residents can access sustainably funded arts and health programmes in their communities.

In the last six months we have focused on developing creative activity for cognitive stimulation with adults living with dementia; improving mental health and wellbeing for adults; and increasing physical activity for inactive adults. Recognising the impact the pandemic has had on children and young peoples’ mental health, we have expanded to include them as a priority in our Arts and Health Board development work.

In November 2021 the Arts and Health Board delivered a consultative Think Tank exploring a 10 year vision for Doncaster, which has fed into the development of the new Cultural Strategy. University of Leeds published their research on Dance On (delivered by darts in Doncaster) which demonstrated how dance has increased and sustained participants physical activity.

From January -March 2022 darts have been developing ‘Breathe and Connect’ – an approach for adults with Long Covid using gentle movement, breath work and song to improve breathing, reduce anxiety and increase sense of connection with others. The pandemic has significantly impacted learning of young children, particularly personal, social and emotional development and part of our ‘Breathe and Connect’ work has focused on working with Early Years pupils to use creative activity to develop communication and language, social skills and gross physical development.

## Compassionate approach to weight

Development of compassionate approach resources for frontline health & wellbeing staff is our priority for the next 3 months. Conversations have begun with registered dieticians to support this work. We have prepared an application for the NIHR Public Health Research programme for research and evaluation support on our frontline resources and broader anti-stigma work.

We are working with colleagues in Policy, Insight and Change to ensure the Healthy and Compassionate goal is considered in decision-making processes in a meaningful way.

In partnership with our colleagues at the University of Leeds, two public consultations on health behaviours and perceptions of weight have received approx. 1000 responses overall. A third survey went out to health professionals. Results and analysis will be available shortly and will drive the focus of work going forward.

Application of compassionate approach principles into weight management programmes continues, including most recently the pilot Tier 2 Be Well, Feel Good service, and the SHINE Health Academy programme. An evaluation has been designed and will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the principles in these programmes.

Our relationship with Get Doncaster Moving, Well Doncaster, and Be Well continues. We are holding a refresher workshop with Well Doncaster Officers and Be Well Coaches in the New Year, and we will be involved in the Get Doncaster Moving strategy redevelopment to ensure the compassionate approach is embedded throughout.

A compassionate approach to health and wellbeing is embedded in the 10 year Borough Strategy.

## Well Doncaster

### Community Centred Approaches

Since 2015 Well Doncaster has added to the existing evidence base that investing in supporting, working with, and empowering communities facilitates healthy communities.

Some of our defining characteristics include; a continued commitment to utilising community centred approaches in creating a community led Health and Wealth approach, encouraging and facilitating asset based discussions with our

residents and ensuring communities are involved in decision-making about where they live, work and play.

We have been the leader in using Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) as the starting point in approaching local challenges and opportunities and feel embedding assets-based approaches in the way we work with individuals, families and communities is crucial to the achievement Team Doncaster’s overall vision.

Utilising the Public Health England framework for Community Centred Approaches for health and wellbeing, we have developed an evidenced base outcomes framework to shape and drive our work in reducing health inequalities and building stronger, more resilient communities.

## The framework focuses on three key areas: Individual, Community and Organisational

**Individual:** Promote increased health literacy, behaviour change, self-management and self-efficacy leading to improved health and wellbeing.

**Community:** Build resilience, social capital and strengthen community resources and leadership  
**Organisational:** Embed evidence-based community centred approaches across Team Doncaster, utilise VCFS intelligence and collaboration in shaping locality commissioning and redesigning services.

By focusing community centred approaches at an individual, community and organisational level, we have the best chance of closing the health gaps that have only widened through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

### Community Wealth Builder

Community Wealth Builder (CWB) continues to provide a wide variety of workshops and sessions to the organisation we are working with and the support they are telling us they need. Favourite sessions include our business start-up workshop, fundraising opportunities and the five fundamentals of social media, as well as new titles including strengthening resilience during change and Effective Time management. CWB attended the Business Doncaster Awards 2021 where they presented the Third Sector of the Year Award. All six finalists are part of the CWB project with Active Fusion taking the award and People Focused Group taking the runners up spot.

## Be Well Doncaster

Health and Wellbeing Coaches provide one to one support to residents using evidenced based behaviour change techniques to understand and address the root drivers of health behaviours. This approach enables the identification of gaps in both commissioned and community services leading to better understanding of where needs are not being met and inform the design and development of hyper local solutions through locality commissioning.

Be Well Doncaster has been working with community organisations and set up community-based peer groups for Wellbeing, Fibromyalgia, Diabetes and COPD across each locality and an online Hidden Conditions peer group. The peer groups provide education, information, and an opportunity for peer support to enable better self-management. The peer groups were adapted where necessary to be in line with Covid-19 guidance.

A range of communication and marketing material including videos and flyers have been developed to launch the text self-referral service in February. This allows residents to text a free number to request to meet with a Coach. It is hoped this approach will raise the profile of Be Well Doncaster across partners and with residents to increase referrals from outside the Primary Care Networks, widening the reach of Be Well Doncaster.

## Community

### Voluntary Community Faith Sector Capacity Building and Support (VCFS)

Well Doncaster team have continued to support the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) using community centred approaches and offering support in accessing funding, public health guidance updates and building community resilience as groups continue to make a return to their communities.

## Local Solutions Community Investment Fund

The Local Solutions Community Investment Fund was launched in September 2021 and was a test and learn approach to locality working, embedding Community Centred Approaches in its design. The Local Solutions Community Investment Fund has two grants: the Local Solutions Community Hub Grant and the Community Investment Fund.

The Community Investment Fund aimed to support up to thirty community organisations with up to £25,000 grant funding in the delivery of existing services that are addressing health, economic, social, and environmental challenges identified in their communities. In the first round of the Community Investment Fund, fifteen organisations were awarded a total of £344,450.39.

Due to and underspend a second round of the Community Investment Fund was announced in which twenty organisations were awarded a total of £310,644.89. Due to the strengths of the applications in meeting community priorities the 10 highest scoring organisations were awarded the full amount applied for, and the next 10 all received 50% of their application. The total funding awarded through the Community Investment Fund was £655,095.28.

Initially the Local Solutions Community Hub Grant was to support up to ten community anchor organisations with up to £60,000 grant funding with a minimum 10% match funding to support established community anchor organisations in the delivery of existing services addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges identified in their communities. However, due to the quality of applications, funding was made available to support a total of fifteen community anchor organisations with up to £60,000 of grant funding. This additional funding of £257,746 was made available through the Covid Outbreak Management Fund. The total funding awarded through the Local Solutions Community Hub Grant was £887,746.28.

In total £1,542,841.56 was distributed between 50 organisations, the breakdown of this across localities is displayed in the chart below.

## Appreciative Inquiry

Appreciative Inquiry is an evidenced based approach to gathering positive community insight and working with communities and stakeholders to co-design and co-produce community action plans. The four-stage approach outlined below will be carried out across twenty communities:

### Discovery:

Strength based conversations with residents focusing on gathering positive insight about their community which undergoes a thematic analysis to find key themes for each community.

### Dream:

Community workshops where residents and stakeholder's sense check and develop the themes identified through the Discovery into how they would like their community to look, feel and be.

### Design:

Community workshops where residents and stakeholder priorities ideas and aspirations developed in the Dream stage and co-design actions plans with short, medium and long term goals.

### Deliver:

Ongoing delivery of the co-produced community action plans by residents and partners.

A two week Discovery period was completed in twenty communities throughout July and August 2021 whereby community explorers had targeted conversations with residents in the community. Over 600 responses from across twenty communities were thematic analysed and provided the basis of the dream and design workshops in quarter three.

By February 2022, dream and design workshops had taken place where the thematic analysis of Discovery responses were shared with community members and discussions centred around community priorities leading to the co-production of community action plans. These action plans and highlighted priorities for each community will shape Well Doncaster's work and the Locality plans moving forward.

## Organisational

A Community of Practice has been developed consisting of members of the Voluntary Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) which is shaping and influencing locality commissioning and fostering collaboration and capacity building within the Sector. The Local Solutions Community Investment Fund and Community Booster Fund was designed and delivered as a test and learn approach to locality commissioning and participatory budgeting.

To further increase the understanding of community centred approaches and embed the approach and thinking into the Council, Well Doncaster delivered training to sixty council staff members. The Well Doncaster team play leading role in the Localities Silver Workshops for each locality where the team presented about Community Centred Approaches and the themes and assets in communities based on the Appreciative Inquiry insight.

For further information about Well Doncaster – please see [www.welldoncaster.uk](http://www.welldoncaster.uk)

## Better Care Fund (BCF)

Following approval of the Better Care Fund Plan (BCF Plan) 12th January 2022 by NHS England, current BCF spend is in line with the approved plan spend set out to the Health and Wellbeing Board via a corporate report 11th November 2021. We are currently awaiting confirmation of future funding, and do not anticipate significant changes in the funding allocation for the new financial year.

## Next Steps: Our Plan for 2022-2023

- Address health inequalities, reviewing access to services including primary care, health outcomes by population groups and establish a Fairness and Wellness commission:
- Continue to use the life course approach to coordinate activity and track progress. Agree a set of 'Deep Dives' within the life course approaches (e.g. children and young people's mental health, homelessness, substance misuse and dementia)
- Increase the voice of local residents in the Health and Wellbeing Board and refresh the Health and Wellbeing strategy.
- Develop effective working arrangements with the new health system structures and local Voluntary, Community and Faith groups
- Agree delivery responsibilities for Doncaster Delivery Together with the new Team Doncaster partnership structures.
- Continue to build on the compassionate and community centred approaches seen in Get Doncaster Moving, Well Doncaster and the compassionate approach to weight and develop joint investment approaches to health and wellbeing.
- Continue to receive Children Safeguarding, Adult Safeguarding and Child Death Overview Panel Annual Reports.



# Contacts

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