

One Eastern Devon (OED) Health Inequalities Framework: Recommendations of the Implementation Subgroup

Introduction

A small group of partners met on 30 June to consider the approach to implementation of the Eastern Devon Health Inequalities framework and make recommendations to the One Eastern Devon Partnership Forum.

Key points of discussion

- A simple summary version of the Strategic Framework, supported by an infographic, should be produced and shared widely with partners, particularly local Health and Wellbeing Alliances and emerging Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs). These partnerships provide a strong opportunity to embed the framework into local delivery arrangements. Following the meeting work has been undertaken to develop a potential infographic and two examples are attached to this paper.
- The One Eastern Devon Partnership Forum should be used to share learning from existing work that reduces inequalities and aligns with the Strategic Framework. This should begin with projects funded through the Health Inequalities Programme and demonstrate quantifiable outcomes and impact. One example is the “All About the Place” model.
- The Strategic Framework should not sit alongside the One Eastern Devon (OED) programme as a separate workstream; rather, it should be considered the underpinning strategy for OED’s work on health inequalities and it’s developing Integrated Neighbourhood Team agenda, recognising the significant overlap between these areas.

Recommendations

- Use forthcoming changes in OED leadership as an opportunity to reintroduce the Strategic Framework to new Forum and Board Chairs, ensuring there is a shared understanding of the strategy and the commitments made by OED when the framework was endorsed. This will help ensure that the framework continues to underpin the business of both the Partnership Forum and the Executive Board, including work relating to Health Inequalities and INT development.
- Invite Paul White to a future OED Partnership meeting to present the “All About the Place” to stimulate a discussion on:

- how the framework can be communicated and used more effectively
- creating a structured approach to capturing learning from funded projects, neighbourhood activity, partner initiatives and community insight, through regular feedback loops and discussion.
- how the framework can remain a living document through a light-touch six-monthly review and refresh cycle, ensuring emerging learning continues to inform priorities, delivery approaches and future investment decisions.
- Use the One Eastern Devon Partnership Forum as the mechanism for receiving reports from Health Inequalities projects, sharing learning and demonstrating measurable outcomes.
- Provide a summary of the framework (in line with the infographics appended to this paper) to stimulation discussions with partners including Health and Wellbeing Alliances and emerging INTs to enable local ownership and implementation



VISION 2030

Everyone, regardless of background or postcode, can live a longer, healthier and more fulfilling life.



WHY THIS MATTERS – HEALTH INEQUALITIES EXIST ACROSS EASTERN DEVON


Up to
7-20 YEARS
difference in life expectancy between communities


Poor housing, fuel poverty and low incomes affect health outcomes


Rural and coastal communities face transport and service access barriers


Mental health needs, suicide and self-harm rates remain high in some areas


Social isolation and digital exclusion particularly affect older people


Child poverty exceeds 25% in some communities



OUR PURPOSE

Reduce health inequalities by aligning action, empowering communities and tackling the root causes of poor health.

- ✓ Aligning action across organisations
- ✓ Empowering communities
- ✓ Tackling root causes
- ✓ Shifting investment towards prevention and early intervention



OUR FOUR STRATEGIC PILLARS



PREVENT

Act early and promote wellbeing before problems develop.

- Early years support
- Mental wellbeing
- Healthy ageing
- Prevention of long-term conditions



REDUCE

Target support towards those with the greatest need.

- Focus on Core20PLUS populations
- Inclusion health groups
- Communities experiencing multiple disadvantage



EMPOWER

Put communities at the centre of decision-making.

- Community leadership
- Co-design
- Strengthening VCSE partnerships
- Sharing power with local people



TRANSFORM

Create a more joined-up and proactive system.

- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams
- Collaborative working
- Shared priorities and resources
- Reduced duplication

WHO ARE WE PRIORITISING?



People living in deprived urban, rural and coastal communities



People experiencing homelessness



Refugees and asylum seekers



Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities



Minority ethnic groups



People with severe mental illness or learning disabilities



Children and young people with SEND



People facing overlapping disadvantages

HOW WE WILL WORK TOGETHER



1

Work together on the ground

Building strong relationships and trust



2

Develop Integrated Neighbourhood Teams

Place-based, multi-disciplinary teams



3

Use shared community insight and data

Understand needs, target support and track impact



4

Align resources and investment

Work together to reduce duplication



5

Test, learn and continuously improve

Evidence what works and scale up

OUR ENABLERS



Integrated Neighbourhood Teams



High-quality data and community insight



Strong VCSE partnerships



Shared accountability



Trauma-informed practice



Continuous learning culture



We will work with communities, not do to communities. Community voice and lived experience are at the heart of everything we do.



WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE BY 2030



Narrower life expectancy and health outcome gaps



Better access to services for underserved communities



Stronger community voice and involvement



More effective neighbourhood working



Improved mental health and wellbeing



Fewer avoidable hospital admissions



Greater focus on prevention and wider determinants of health



2025–2027: TEST, LEARN, SCALE

The current period is a testbed phase, focused on:

- Piloting new models
- Building evidence
- Strengthening partnerships
- Understanding what works to shape a fuller implementation strategy from 2028 onwards.



Improving health and reducing health inequalities requires collective action across health, local government, VCSE organisations, communities and wider partners. No single organisation can achieve this alone.





VISION 2030

Everyone, regardless of where they live or their circumstances, can live a longer, healthier and more fulfilling life, with access to the opportunities, connections and support they need to thrive.



WHY THIS MATTERS

Communities across Eastern Devon experience significant differences in health, wellbeing and opportunity.



Up to 7-20 year difference in life expectancy between communities



Poor housing, fuel poverty and low incomes affect health and wellbeing



Rural and coastal communities face transport and access barriers



Mental health challenges remain disproportionately high in some communities



Social isolation and digital exclusion affect quality of life



Child poverty exceeds 25% in some communities



Access to community assets, services and opportunities varies significantly by place



Communities experience different levels of resilience, social connection and support



OUR PURPOSE

Reduce health inequalities by strengthening the conditions that enable people and communities to flourish.

- Align action across organisations
- Strengthen communities and neighbourhoods
- Address root causes of inequality

- Invest in prevention and early intervention
- Build on local strengths and assets
- Use community intelligence alongside system data



OUR FIVE STRATEGIC PILLARS



PREVENT

Act early to support healthy lives and stop problems developing.

- Early years support
- Mental wellbeing
- Healthy ageing
- Long-term condition prevention
- Financial wellbeing



REDUCE

Focus effort where inequalities are greatest.

- Core20PLUS5 populations
- Multiple disadvantage
- Inclusion health groups
- Health access barriers
- Poverty-related inequalities



EMPOWER

Enable communities to shape their own futures.

- Community leadership
- Co-design and co-production
- Local decision-making
- Community connectors
- Neighbourhood leadership
- Shared power



PLACE

Create neighbourhoods that support health and wellbeing.

- Community hubs
- Transport and connectivity
- Green and blue spaces
- Housing quality
- Access to services
- Local high streets and facilities
- Digital inclusion
- Social infrastructure



TRANSFORM

Create a more connected and preventative system.

- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams
- Shared priorities and resources
- Collaborative commissioning
- Learning and adaptation
- Reduced duplication
- Joined-up citizen journeys



Population Groups



People living in deprived communities



People experiencing homelessness



Refugees and asylum seekers



Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities



Minority ethnic communities



People with serious mental illness



People with learning disabilities



Children and young people with SEND



People facing multiple disadvantages



Priority Places

Rural communities

Coastal communities

Isolated villages

Communities with poor transport links

Areas experiencing cumulative disadvantage

Communities with limited access to services



HOW WE WILL WORK TOGETHER



1

Build trusted relationships
Work together across organisations and communities.



2

Strengthen neighbourhood partnerships
Support place-based teams and local collaboration.



3

Combine data, insight and lived experience
Understand how people experience places, services and opportunities.



4

Invest in communities
Support local organisations, leaders and community assets.



5

Align resources around shared outcomes
Reduce duplication and focus on what matters most.



6

Test, learn and adapt
Use evidence and community feedback to improve continuously.

OUR ENABLERS



Strong partnerships

- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams
- VCSE leadership and participation
- Local authority collaboration
- Community leadership networks



Insight and intelligence

- Population health data
- Community insight
- Lived experience intelligence
- Place-based evidence



Community capacity

- Community hubs
- Social infrastructure
- Volunteer networks
- Local connectors



Culture and leadership

- Shared accountability
- Trauma-informed practice
- Asset-based approaches
- Continuous learning

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE BY 2030



Improved Outcomes

- Narrower life expectancy gaps
- Better mental health and wellbeing
- Fewer avoidable hospital admissions
- Improved access to support and services



Stronger Communities

- Increased community participation
- Greater sense of belonging
- Stronger local networks
- More community-led solutions



Thriving Places

- Better connected communities
- Increased use of local assets
- Improved access to opportunities
- More resilient neighbourhoods



Better Systems

- Services designed around people's lives
- Stronger neighbourhood partnerships
- Better use of shared resources
- Decisions informed by community insight



OUR PRINCIPLE

We will work with communities, not do things to communities.

Health is created through thriving places, connected communities, meaningful opportunities and accessible services. Improving health equity is therefore a shared responsibility across organisations, businesses, communities and residents.

