

Appendix 1 – Update on and refresh of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy theme ‘Tackling the wider determinants of health’ - Actions active in last 5 years

Priority 1: Housing Tackling fuel poverty by increasing the number of households with access to warm homes	
Commitment	Actions Achieved
1. Tackle fuel poverty through design standards and building control.	<p>Adoption of Northumberland Local Plan (March 2022) which includes a number of policies to support the delivery of JHWS priorities including supporting Health and wellbeing and healthy and sustainable homes. Policy HOU 1 (making the best use of existing buildings), Policy STP4 (climate change mitigation and adaption), policy STP 5 (health and wellbeing), Policy HOU 5 (housing types and mix), policy HOU 6 (affordable housing provision), policy HOU 11 (homes for older and vulnerable people), policy QOP (design principles) make specific reference either to healthy design or low carbon design.</p>
2. Promote energy efficiency schemes to public and front-line workers.	<p>Energy Redress scheme – EARN (Energy Advice for Rural Northumberland) - Community Action Northumberland</p> <p>Advice at events, home visits, and telephone support, and to over 3,000 households provided over 4,000 small energy-saving measures to over 700 households.</p> <p>Household support Fund (HSF) & N'land Emergency and Transition Support, Covid Winter Support Grant (CWSG) - NCT in partnership with Citizens Advice Northumberland</p> <p>Support with food, energy costs & equipment (£5.2m)</p> <p>CWSG (food / utility bills) 12/20-6/21 - £2.315m spent)</p> <p>DWP HSF (energy / water) 10/21-6/23 - £2.913m spent.</p> <p>Developed a network of Warm Spaces and Places - NCT with VCSE partners which complement the network of Warm Hubs supported by Community Action Northumberland</p> <p>Developed a Warming Homes Information Resource for Professionals - Warm Homes Group (multi agency group)</p> <p>Enabled frontline staff to navigate support and advice available for residents, helping residents to stay safe, warm and well at home and provided links to efficiency improvements</p>

<p>3. Maximise take up of retrofit measures</p>	<p>Major Repairs Reserve (MRR), through the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons budget - NCC</p> <p>Dedicated Housing Occupational Therapist</p> <p>560 adaptations to council-owned dwellings, enabling those living with disabilities to remain in their own homes.</p> <p>Additional three one bed accessible 55+ units in Allendale.</p> <p>Major Repairs Reserve (MRR), Social housing decarbonisation fund (SHDF), Government funding schemes (LAD SHDF, HUG) - NCC, Registered Providers.</p> <p>Improving energy efficiency of housing stock (NCC 783/8563 homes 9.1%)</p> <p>Energy Company Obligation (ECO) scheme - Privately owned or privately rented properties, not in receipt of qualifying benefits Improving energy efficiency of homes (324 homes)</p> <p>Allocated funding to reduce health inequalities, increasing capacity of advice services through an Energy Plus pilot for residents with long term health conditions to link them to energy advice and retrofit measures - Integrated Care Board and NCC Public Health</p>
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Priority 2 Housing - Supporting people to living independently for as long as possible through regulations

Commitment	Actions Achieved
<p>1. Consider needs of older/disabled people to live independently</p>	<p>Empty three-bedroom wardens house in Allendale, have been converted to create 3 one-bed units for residents over 55. The Housing Occupational Therapist continues to work closely with the teams delivering all improvement works to the Council's housing stock to ensure that the needs of the tenants are considered and included within the work specifications where possible. Four further properties are anticipated to be completed in the next 18 months, providing a further 42 flats across Bedlington, Morpeth, Berwick and Alnwick. October 2023 70 people are currently seeking independent living accommodation.</p>
<p>2. Use Local Plan to create healthier places</p>	<p>Adoption of the Northumberland Local Plan in March 2022 included Strategic Policy (STP) 5 – Health and wellbeing (P57) and TCS 6 – Hot Food Takeaway (P115), supporting initiatives aimed at improving health and wellbeing. The guidance for application requires all applications to provide a Healthy Planning Checklist, and large-scale major applications for 100 or more residential dwellings/housing units or 10,000sqm (non-residential) floor space or minerals and waste applications to provide a Health Impact Assessment.</p>

<p>3. Maximise Disabled Facilities Grant take up</p>	<p>Since January 2022, the MRR has funded around 560 adaptations to council-owned dwellings through the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons budget, which includes the installation of 74 level access shower installations as well as major works to create additional living space to 3 homes.</p>
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Priority 3: Increasing the number of people with long term health conditions moving into and sustaining work.

<p>Commitment</p>	<p>Actions achieved</p>
<p>1. Continue to develop opportunities to integrate employment and health services</p>	<p>Employment and Skills Partnership established to improve coordination of employment support system and health services.</p> <p>Development of Combined Authority and ICB (Integrated Care Board) Work and Health Strategy which is recommended for inclusion in Northeast Mayoral Combined Authority work programme.</p> <p>Delivery of the Work and Health Programme (branded Better Working Futures) through Northumberland Skills Employability Team.</p>
<p>2. Employer focused interventions to improve recruitment/retention of people with long term health conditions</p>	<p>Mange examples from individual employers including Northumbria’s Community Promise and Bernicia Housing.</p> <p>Employed Engagement Coordinator in Advance Northumberland to support employers to develop inclusive recruitment processes.</p> <p>The Better Health at Work Award supported by TUC and Public Health have resulted in 135 Northumberland workplaces covering 80112 employees achieving the award (33 Bronze, 26 Silver, 16 Gold, 12 Continuing Excellence, 48 Maintaining Excellence and 13 Ambassador Employers.</p> <p>The North of Tyne Combined Authority Good Work Pledge seeks to improve employer practices in supporting people with health conditions and disabilities. However, still requires greater focus to increase reach. 129 businesses accredited in the North of Tyne area, 12 are in Northumberland.</p>
<p>3. Support carers into work/sustain work.</p>	<p>Employment support delivered through partnerships (Bridge Northumberland, North of Tyne Working Homes etc.) supported economically inactive people, including those with caring responsibilities, into training and work.</p> <p>Return to Work Carers project, funded through Combined Authority, delivered by Carers Northumberland. Employment supported integrated with wider carer support.</p> <p>Individual organisations HR practices and carers policies.</p>

4. Support over 50s into work/sustain work.	No activities are commissioned specifically for this age group, but many service users of this age will access commissioned employment programmes delivered in partnership to 2023 (Bridge Northumberland, North of Tyne Working Homes) included support for 50+ (as do mainstream national commercial programmes – Restart, Work and Health Programme etc)
5. Support users of Mental Health and therapy services into work	<p>Mental Health Trailblazer (Individual Placement and Support in Talking Therapies) ran until 2019, during this time 1,450 people received support with their employability and skills while receiving talking therapies. Over 270 had moved into employment by the end of the project. Since the end of the pilot the learning has been taken forward as part of the Work & Health Strategy (see point 1) and we are awaiting further info regarding national roll out.</p> <p>CNTW (Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear) continue to deliver IPS (Individual Placement Support) in secondary care.</p> <p>Coordination of employment support with VCS wellbeing and therapy services (Cygnus Support etc.).</p> <p>Review of employment support and mental health services integration evidence and options as part of the North of Tyne Work and Health strategy. It is anticipated the strategy will be taken forward with ICB and Northeast Mayoral Combined Authority.</p>
6. Actively engage with employers to promote good work	<p>North of Tyne Good Work Pledge (See point 2 above)</p> <p>Advance Northumberland – recently appointed employer engagement lead – promote Good Work Pledge and support employer recruitment and retention practices.</p> <p>Early discussions with Major Employer Forum to share good practice, identify support required and improve standards.</p>
7. Progression from low wage economy	<p>Regeneration initiatives such as Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, Energising Blyth, Ashington Town Deal and Rural Investment Plan</p> <p>Deliver skills and training for residents that meets their ambitions and supports Northumberland’s business future workforce needs e.g., Energy Central Campus, Skills for a low carbon economy.</p>

Priority 4: Ensuring local transport policy delivers on providing resilient, flexible, and sustainable transport options across the county, particularly rural areas.

Commitment	Actions Achieved
Improving Equity of Access to Public and Community Transport	<p>Northumberland Line is projected to open to passengers in 2024. The construction of the line has created nine new apprenticeships for local people and 93 full time equivalent local jobs so far.</p> <p>Public and Community Transport Health Needs Assessment ongoing (Mapping of current services, holding focus groups within</p>

	<p>communities, review of other models of public and community transport national and internationally) Completion target Dec 23.</p> <p>In March 2023, NCC agreed to participation in Northeast Enhanced Bus Partnership and Scheme which is a statutory partnership between local Transport Authorities, and bus operators which identifies a clear vision for bus service improvements and the standard to be met by local authorities and bus operators. This was necessary to unlock significant national funding to support new ticketing products and local bus service improvements and improved reliability and speed of bus routes, demand responsive transport in rural areas, park and ride schemes, and improved customer information.</p>
<p>Increase children and young people's active travel.</p>	<p>Transport behavioural change activity</p> <p>The <u>Schools Go Smarter initiative</u> promotes sustainable and active travel to teachers, children and parents. Schools are provided with support and information via the Councils website and monthly newsletters.</p> <p>NCC continue to support and fund school travel plan engagement via MODESHIFT STARS which is a national school's awards scheme that recognises excellence in schools moving to cleaner and greener ways to travel. Allendale Primary School won North East Primary School of the year in 2022 and <u>Stannington First School in 2023</u>. 3 schools have silver accreditation (52 hold this nationally).</p> <p>Schools are encouraged to take part in national events e.g., Walk to School Week, Bike Week, Walk to School Month, The Big Pedal as well as local events such as Love Northumberland and bespoke activities with individual schools.</p> <p>Parents are also engaged in discussing family travel habits and practical alternatives.</p> <p>Safer Routes to School Programme has delivered 7 school street schemes and other infrastructure improvements around schools.</p> <p>Road Safety training is also delivered as part of active travel interventions.</p> <p>NCC continue to fund the Ride Leader Training programme to support schools to develop their own cycling projects.</p> <p>Good practice in schools is celebrated via the Big Northumberland Gear Change Channels.</p> <p>NCC cycle libraries continue to allow schools and community groups free access and extended loan periods of cycles.</p> <p>For Autumn 2023 NCC is launching cycle libraries accessible for residents seeking further educational and employment opportunities, again for extended loan periods.</p>
<p>Increase walking and cycling</p>	<p>In 2020 Northumberland and Walking Cycling Board have published <u>Our Way</u> which sets out Northumberland's ambition to encourage</p>

through local infrastructure improvements and behaviour change approaches.

more people irrespective of their age and background to walk and cycle more. It aims to attract increased investment to support walking and cycling in our County.

Delivery of Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Programme, many of these schemes are at consultation/design phases with delivery between 2023- 2025 -2025 which have included schemes in Ponteland to Callerton, Hexham to Corbridge, Bedlington, Ashington, Bondicar Terrace to South Beach, Blyth Seaton Delaval.

The Big Northumberland Gear Change was launched as a campaign to encourage walking and cycling, the website provides information to residents.

NCC have partnered with Wheels for All to deliver taster events for residents to try adapted cycles and get involved with including cycling opportunities.