



Living Well in Warrington
Health and Wellbeing Strategy
2024-2028

Foreword

'Living Well in Warrington' sets out our ambitions to give people the best possible start in life, for people to be happier and healthier, and to give people the support they need, when they need it.

The strategy has been refreshed to take account of some of the new and enduring challenges we face; ongoing recovery from the pandemic, the impact of 'cost-of-living' pressures and the growing risk that poverty presents to the health and wellbeing of some of our residents. It describes opportunities and strengths too; the excellent partnerships that Warrington enjoys, our resilient and resourceful people and communities, our dedicated workforce, and strong economy. To create the conditions that will help people in Warrington to live healthier for longer, it is crucial that everyone who lives, works, and studies here has the opportunity to see themselves reflected in its ambitions, supported by an engaged group of politicians to help steer transformational change in health and wellbeing across the town.

The latest Warrington 2022 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Core document provides an overview of the levels of health and wellbeing of our local population and has informed the refresh of our 'Living Well in Warrington Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024-8'.¹ To make a significant difference to the health and wellbeing of the people of Warrington, partners are agreed that we must focus on those things that impact most on health outcomes. The wider determinants of health – a range of factors such as access to affordable food and housing, income, education and employment and the environment we live in - are collectively, the most important drivers for health. They influence our

opportunities for good health and shape our physical health and mental wellbeing and this is fully recognised by the Poverty Action Group partnership response to the cost-of-living pressures which our residents are experiencing.

Our refreshed strategy incorporates eight priorities recommended by the "All Together Fairer" report, commissioned by the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside (C&M) Integrated Care Board (ICB) in 2022, and led by Professor Sir Michael Marmot, a leading voice on health inequalities.² These priorities place a focus upon identifying what more can be done and what can be done better, collaboratively, to improve health and address inequalities for all ages.



'Living Well in Warrington' sets forth an ambitious vision for health, care, and wellbeing, recognising that everyone can play a part in ensuring that people can live well. Health and wellbeing must underpin everything that we do, and it goes hand in hand with achieving our wider ambitions for the town.

**Councillor Paul Warburton,
Chair of Health and
Wellbeing Board**

Warrington Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is committed to removing barriers to health equity and to ensuring communities are supported in achieving their best health. We are fortunate to partner with many passionate community leaders in working towards achieving this vision. 'Living Well in Warrington' will guide our work together in the coming years.

Since the last Health and Wellbeing Strategy was published in 2019, we have faced many challenges as the UK entered first the pandemic and then the cost-of-living crisis, with impacts for Warrington for years to come.³ Through these times, we have shown resilience and strength by working in partnership across systems, to adapt innovative delivery with limited resources with which to serve the community.

The impacts of the pandemic on people's physical and mental health have not been equal across society. We have seen from data across England, the North West and in Warrington, that the most deprived communities have experienced higher rates of COVID-19 infections and illness, including Long Covid, with up to four times the rate of deaths as people living in the most affluent areas.¹ Ensuring that those living with Long Covid receive care and support that is meaningful and equitable and promoting COVID-19 immunisation programmes to all the residents of Warrington, is crucial. We must in particular offer support to communities where levels of uptake are still low, with a focus on protecting our most vulnerable people and settings.

The refreshed strategy aligns with Marmot's "Build Back Fairer" priorities as we believe that addressing health inequalities, using a system-wide approach, will improve health outcomes for all and address these unfair disparities.⁴ We must work together to

strengthen community engagement in tackling health poverty and inequity and 'Living Well in Warrington', drawing on the assets in our communities.

As Deputy Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and a member of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Steering Committee, I fully support 'Living Well in Warrington' - the 2024-2028 Warrington Health and Wellbeing Strategy. We thank all organisations and individuals who have played a part in the development of 'Living Well in Warrington'. Thank you for your commitment to addressing health inequalities and improving community health - your partnership in this work makes a huge difference.



**Councillor Maureen McLaughlin,
Deputy Chair of Health and
Wellbeing Board**



CONTENTS

Living Well in Warrington	5
Twelve Ambitions	6
Introduction	7
Challenges and opportunities	12
Joint framework for action	14
Eight priorities to achieve our outcomes	14
1. Give every child the best start in life	14
2. Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capacity	15
3. Create fair employment and good work for all	16
4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all	18
5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities	19
6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention	20
7. Tackle racism, discrimination, and their outcomes	24
8. Pursue environmental quality, sustainability and health equity together	25
Delivering our strategy	28
Living Well Warrington	31
Acknowledgements	32
Glossary	33
Appendices	34
End notes	37
References	40

Living Well in Warrington

One Vision

Warrington is a place where we work together to create stronger neighbourhoods, healthier people, and greater equality across our communities.

Three Core Outcomes

Warrington will be a place where:

1. Children are given the best start in life and can fulfil their potential.
2. Adults can work and live fulfilling lives, in a vibrant and healthy borough.
3. Older people enjoy a healthy, independent, and fulfilling old age, feeling safe and connected within their communities.

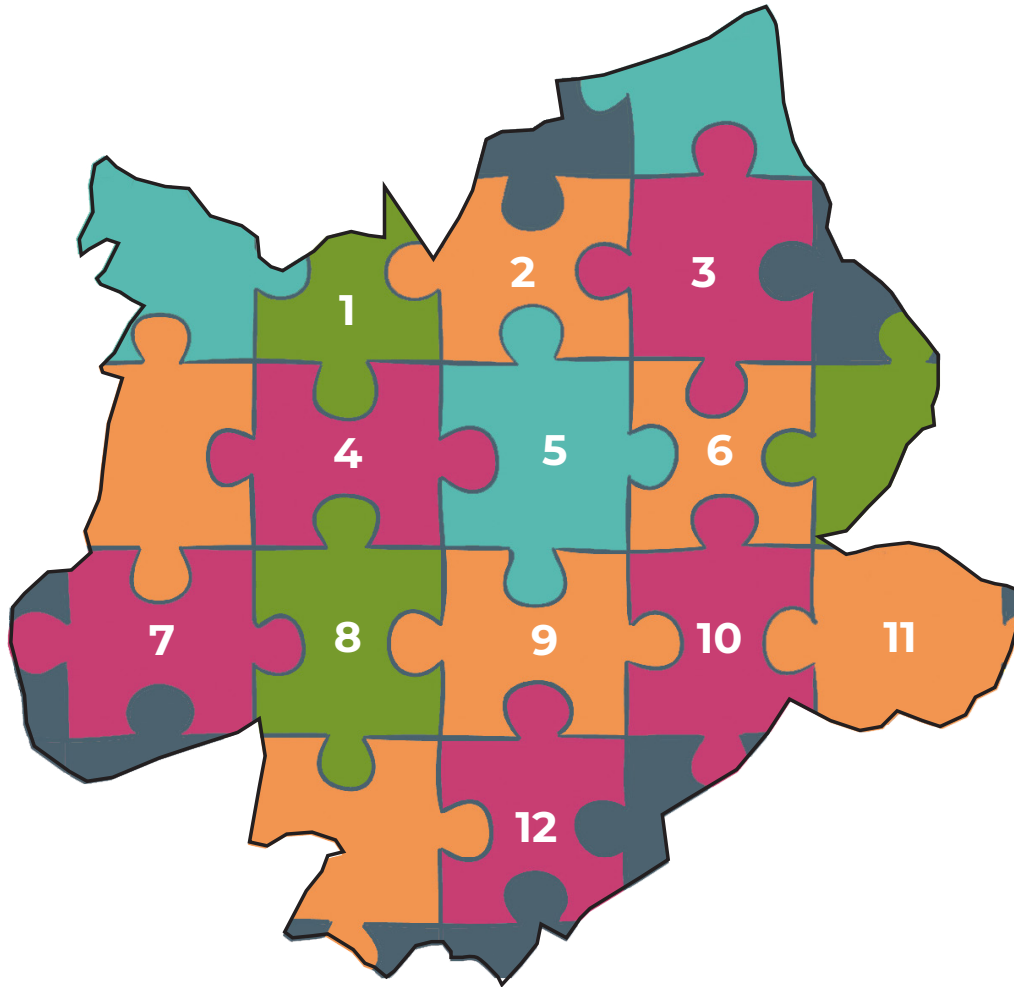
Eight Priorities

Warrington strives to:

1. Give every child the best start in life.
2. Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capacity.
3. Create fair employment and good work for all.
4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all.
5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities.
6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.
7. Tackle racism, discrimination, and their outcomes.
8. Pursue environmental quality, sustainability and health equity together.



Twelve Ambitions



Warrington will be a place where:

1. Children and young people get the best start in life in a child-friendly environment.
2. People age well and live independent, healthy, and fulfilling lives, into old age.
3. There are high levels of social mobility and access to training and skills, and all local people can benefit from a strong economy with quality local jobs.
4. Housing and the wider built and natural environment promote health, independence and environmental sustainability, with accessible and affordable homes for all.
5. Communities are strong, well connected, and able to influence the decisions that affect them.
6. We work together to safeguard and support the most vulnerable.
7. There is a strong, system-wide focus on protecting health, promoting wellbeing and preventing ill-health.
8. People feel supported to positively affect their health through personal actions to stay healthy and independent, and both mental and physical health are promoted and equally valued.
9. There is a sustained focus on addressing the leading risk factors for ill health.
10. Good care is provided, in the right place, at the right time.
11. People are treated fairly, and all forms of discrimination are actively challenged.
12. There are lower levels of crime, people feel safe and are not subjected to hate crime because of their ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation or gender expression.

Introduction

'Living Well in Warrington' is our refreshed strategy that sets out the vision for improving health and wellbeing across the borough. It confirms our commitment to giving every child the best start in life so they can fulfil their potential, supporting adults to work and live fulfilling lives and ensuring older people enjoy a healthy, independent, and fulfilling old age, feeling safe and connected within their communities.

Our aims for health and wellbeing apply to everyone in our town. A whole system shift towards prevention, coupled with a focus on tackling the key risks associated with ill health is central to 'Living Well in Warrington'.

Smoking, an unhealthy diet, lack of exercise and harmful drinking are known to increase the risk of heart disease, lung disease, cancer, type 2 diabetes, and of dying prematurely. However, reaching and sustaining high levels of health and wellbeing is a bigger challenge for some. We know, for example, that poverty is not only associated with worse long term physical and mental health but that living in poverty or other challenging circumstances makes it much harder for people to adopt and maintain healthy behaviours. Supporting people to take personal actions to improve and sustain their own health and wellbeing is central to our approach. Excellent work is already underway to plan healthy approaches and solutions with people and communities, but we need to go further to ensure we tailor support to the needs and circumstances of individuals and communities facing stark inequalities and disadvantage.

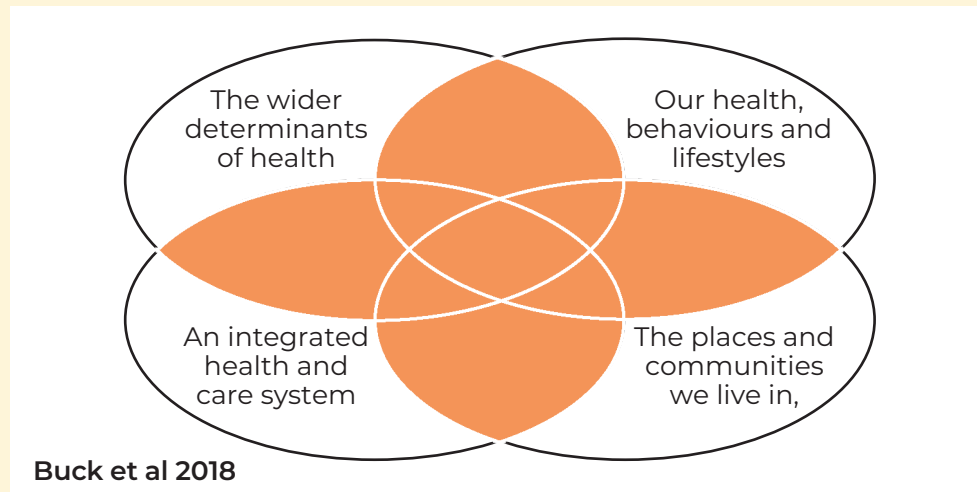
Some of our residents experience challenges in accessing appropriate health care, particularly socially excluded or vulnerable groups, the homeless, or people living with drug and

alcohol dependencies. Warrington is making progress in all services to address health care inequalities and implementing the NHS Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme (HIIP) and Core20PLUS5 (20% most deprived population plus population groups and 5 clinical areas). We need to pay particular attention to people and groups that are marginalised or whose voices are seldom heard. Ensuring everyone can access services on an equal footing is a key priority and our strategy will support Warrington's healthcare system to embed this inclusive approach.⁵

As demand for health and care services increases, strengthening Primary Care services is central to achieving the aims of 'Living Well in Warrington'. Our Primary Care Networks (PCN) have put transformational plans in place, planning and delivering care together in partnership with other health and care services to support their populations. General Practice continues to make a huge contribution to the COVID-19 vaccination programme, as well as advancing innovative approaches including a remote care team, digital triage, cloud-based telephony and joined up systems across PCN footprints. It is expected that by practices working together with a range of local providers, including community services, social care and the voluntary sector, they will be able to make resources go further.



Warrington is committed to taking a 'Population Health Management' (PHM) approach to identify and meet health and care needs and improve healthcare and health outcomes for all our residents. Successful pilot schemes have been held, using innovative techniques to identify residents with specific needs and issues at district level. A recent PHM pilot involved the remote monitoring of a thousand Warrington patients to reduce the incidence of heart attacks. This is now being evaluated with a view to upscaling these types of interventions across a wider Warrington footprint.⁶



Equal attention must be given to tackling health inequalities. Warrington is a place with many opportunities and strengths and the health of the population across the borough is generally better than, or similar to, the regional and national average. However, this can mask differences between individuals and groups - inequities, which are often the result of the different social, economic, and environmental conditions in which they live. This refreshed strategy aims to identify what more can be done in Warrington to improve some of the social and economic

determinants of health and improve the health and wellbeing of our residents. Partners have agreed to align the refreshed strategy with the Marmot priorities in order to shine a light on and effectively tackle the underlying causes of health inequalities.

Life expectancy in Warrington has increased substantially over recent decades, by 6.5 years for men and 4.4 years for women, since 1991. However, male and female life expectancies are significantly lower than the England average.⁷ People living in deprived areas usually have worse life chances, poorer health, and lower life expectancy than those in affluent places and Warrington is no exception. Almost a fifth of our residents (19%) live in the most deprived areas in England. 17% (13,700) are classed as experiencing deprivation due to low income and almost a third of residents are experiencing health and disability deprivation.

The impact of deprivation and low income on health is well-evidenced and of particular concern is data indicating that 59,800 of our residents live in areas classed as among the most deprived areas of England, in relation to the measure of health and disability deprivation – a marker which highlights a greater risk of premature death or reduced quality of life through poor physical or mental health. Inequalities are starkly demonstrated by the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas of the borough. Latest data for 2018-2020 show that males and females living in the most deprived areas, are expected to die, on average ten and eight years younger respectively than those who live in the least deprived areas of our borough.⁸



Overview of challenges to Living Well

Living Well in Warrington takes account of a number of new challenges that we have faced since the last health and wellbeing strategy was published in 2019. Since then, we have experienced, and are on the road to recovery from a pandemic, which claimed lives in the town, affected livelihoods and communities, and triggered a recession with far-reaching impacts. The pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis have negatively affected us all but those who were hit the hardest were disadvantaged groups and those already living with hardship. Our strategy aims to reduce the inequalities which drove the disproportionate impact of the pandemic or were created by it.

In 2022/23, there were 12,898 reported COVID-19 cases in Warrington, 5,163 associated hospital admissions and sadly 754 deaths. The latest data only incorporates the first 9 months of the year, therefore the full picture of how the pandemic has affected life expectancy and inequalities within the borough remains to be seen.⁹

The long-standing impacts of structural inequalities and discrimination were compounded by the pandemic, which exposed the added barriers to good health which particular groups and communities face. People from most minority ethnic groups experienced higher rates of severe illness and death during the pandemic, as compared with people of white British background. High illness and death rates were also experienced by disabled people. Six in ten people who died during the pandemic were disabled and the number of deaths per hundred thousand people was around 1,700 for disabled people, compared to 320 per hundred thousand for non-disabled people.¹⁰

The pandemic was closely followed by the cost-of-living crisis. Increased prices have had widespread impact, and many residents are facing ongoing challenges in accessing affordable housing, fuel, energy and food. Almost 2,000 Warrington households receive food parcels each month and over 2,500 are shopping at affordable food outlets, such as community shops and pantries.

ⁱⁱ The 'Living on Empty' report draws upon evidence presented by Citizen Advice to the House of Commons Committee on Energy Security, charting rising debt experienced by their clients, from at least 2019 to 2023. Essential costs have overtaken the incomes of people receiving debt advice, with Asians, British Asians and people with disabilities being even worse off than others.¹¹

The fuel and energy crisis is also having a direct and severe effect on the health and the day-to-day lives of many disabled people in Warrington and cold homes are linked with a range of risks (including preventable deaths) and health conditions for adults and children.^{12,13} In 2021, around 9,800 Warrington households were classed as experiencing fuel poverty.ⁱⁱⁱ It is no surprise that some of our most disadvantaged wards have ten times the number of households experiencing fuel poverty than our most affluent wards. Health experts define fuel poverty as a 'humanitarian crisis' which has particularly negative impacts on families with dependent children, people with long term health conditions and disabilities, and ethnic minorities.¹⁴

Working with partners across the town, Warrington Borough Council has developed a robust and coordinated response to the deepening poverty within our communities. Voluntary and statutory sector support has been established to make it easier for people who are facing difficulties due to the rising cost of living to get the right help. Warrington's directory of support covers key areas such as fuel, energy, food, housing, health and income poverty and the associated impact on health inequalities and

outcomes for our children and their families.¹⁵ Despite these collaborative local efforts, there is growing consensus that national policy reforms are needed to enable us to lift our families out of the current cost of living crisis; a crisis which is having a disastrous and long-term impact on their health, wellbeing and quality of life.^{iv} For people to live well in Warrington with a decent quality of life, and good health and wellbeing, we need policy which will ‘design out’ the day-to-day experience of many residents who are going without the essentials and making impossible choices between ‘heating, eating or meeting bills.’¹⁶

The Living on Empty policy report details that many residents who are on Universal Credit are being pushed into deeper debt by the five weeks wait for payments built into the system, in addition to increasingly severe benefit deductions. The removal of the emergency uplift to Universal Credit has set our anti-poverty efforts back and led to a sharp increase in the number of families struggling on low incomes in Warrington, as elsewhere, leaving households unable to meet basic living costs, pushing many into debt, and others into homelessness and destitution. Chances of home ownership and earning mobility have also been undermined.¹⁷ Decades of national social housing decline means that demand for affordable social housing in Warrington massively exceeds supply. The difference between the Local Housing Allowance and private sector rents makes private sector accommodation unreachable for many low-income families.^v There are currently more than 10,000 children and adults in Warrington on the ‘Under One Roof’ housing waiting list.^{vi}

The average wait to be housed is ten months, with additional wait time for larger family accommodation or properties with disability adaptations. The boroughs’ stock of temporary houses is full and hotel accommodation is being used to supplement it, in order to

meet our statutory duties under the Homelessness Act 2002. In Warrington, between April and June 2023 alone, there were 4,823 nights spent in temporary accommodation by a combination of singles, couples and family groups.^{vii} This means that finding a place that people can call home, which is safe and healthy, in a sustainable community, with good access to jobs and facilities, is out of reach for many of our residents.

Our strategy reflects the depth of commitment of Warrington’s partners to ensure that everyone who lives, plays, works, and learns in the borough feels welcome and safe. There is additional focus placed in the refreshed strategy on challenging the health impacts of systemic and institutional racism, alongside discrimination and hate crime that people may be subjected to, on account of their ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender expression. This focus is mirrored across the policies of partner organisations and is reflected in new Equality Objectives set for the NHS in England which are the responsibility of Warrington Together to monitor and oversee.¹⁸

Our gap analysis of the current strategy identified that climate change impacts are also predicted to rise over the period of this strategy, affecting residents’ health and putting additional pressure on the health and care system. Climate change-related health risks, such as poor air quality and extreme weather, have most impact on disadvantaged communities, worsening their vulnerabilities. Our refreshed strategy has embedded the Marmot priority of tackling environmental quality, sustainability and health equity together.¹⁹

Shaping this Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Our health and care system is made up of many organisations who all play a part in helping people to be as healthy as possible, for as much of their lives as possible. 'Living Well in Warrington' will keep us focused on the things we can only achieve by working together. Given the breadth of this strategy, we have shone a light on key ambitions and priorities rather than tried to describe everything we plan to do to improve health and wellbeing across the borough.

Local people and partner organisations have shared their views on our refreshed priorities, and we have used their feedback to shape this strategy.²⁰ We need to work more closely with our communities, listening to what they tell us and using their experience to guide our actions. This conversation will continue in earnest as our delivery plans develop.

We know that, despite the challenges faced, our strong partnerships and commitment to whole-place working is firm, and these partnerships are crucial to creating communities and environments that help people to live healthier for longer. Together we are confident that, with the focus and direction set by this strategy, we can make a real difference to health and wellbeing in Warrington.

Reviewing and refreshing our strategy has helped ensure we are on the right track. The priorities we have identified in this strategy describe where we want to focus over the next five years. Whilst this is a refreshed strategy, we are not starting afresh. There are strategies already in place to address many of the challenges we



face which this strategy has been fully aligned with. There is already an enormous amount of work going on.

We have a strong economy, strong and resilient people and a strong commitment to partnership working across the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE), business and statutory sectors. Our collective efforts and energies must use the multitude of opportunities to improve health and address inequalities across Warrington and ensure all of our residents are able to make the most of the assets and opportunities within the borough. In this way we will all work together to achieve our vision of long, happy, healthy and prosperous lives for all.

Challenges and opportunities explored:

The wider determinants of health

Addressing the inequalities in our borough, improving outcomes for all

One of the biggest challenges facing Warrington is the inequalities caused by socio-economic deprivation and the impact this has on the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities. These inequalities are starkly demonstrated by the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas of the borough. Inequalities are also evident across a range of other areas such as educational attainment, income, employment, the experience and fear of crime, poor lifestyle, general health and mental wellbeing. The impacts of these inequalities also put significant pressure on services right across the system.

The health and wellbeing strategy will inform delivery of services across Warrington, looking at the needs of residents who live in wards with the greatest levels of deprivation (Central 6) as well as drilling down into more affluent areas which contain pockets of deprivation.^{viii,ix}

An integrated health and care system^x

The impacts of inequalities put significant pressure on services right across the system. As the population increases, health and care services are dealing with a growing number of people with increasingly complex health and care needs. Currently, many

people are treated in hospital when it may be better for them to be treated in their own homes or communities, as well as supported to remain in their own homes wherever possible. Organisations in Warrington work together and strive to ensure health and care services are person-centred and better integrated, with a focus on prevention. Working with a Population Health Management Approach also means making the best collective use of shared resources across organisations and focussing on good outcomes for citizens will help sustain and improve Warrington's health and care system.

Our health behaviours and lifestyles

A lot of people in Warrington experience good health and wellbeing. Many follow healthy lifestyles, feel fit and healthy and enjoy the benefits of being part of an ambitious and prosperous borough. However, this is not the case for all. This strategy aims to identify and address the inequalities which work against wellbeing within our communities. Health and care organisations also have a significant role to play in supporting us to take actions to maintain and improve our health and wellbeing, in caring for us when we are unwell or need additional support, and services need to be fit for purpose. Empowering communities to engage in individual and community actions to improve their health and wellbeing is fundamental to ensuring that our population remains well. In the longer term, it should reduce the pressures on health and social care services.

The places and communities we live in

Warrington is an economically thriving borough which offers a wealth of opportunities; however, we need to ensure that everyone can enjoy the benefits these opportunities bring. Economic growth that is distributed fairly across society and creates opportunities for all is vital to tackle the deep-seated inequalities in health and wellbeing which exist in the borough. Ensuring that the built and natural environment enables people to live healthy and active lives, including by the provision of housing that is both accessible and affordable and ideally built to the Lifetime Homes standard. ^{xi}

Reviewing and refreshing our strategy has helped ensure we are on the right track. The priorities we have identified describe where we want to focus over the next five years. This strategy builds on work already in place. By working together across services and organisations we can ensure an equal chance of good health and opportunity for everyone.



Joint framework for action

Eight priorities to achieve our outcomes

Our priorities are for Warrington to be a place to:



1. Give every child the best start in life

Where children and young people get the best start in life in a child friendly environment.

Our priority is for Warrington to be a place where children and young people thrive, where they are happy, healthy and have opportunity to reach their full potential. Warrington has good quality universal services in place creating a solid foundation for all children to have the best start in life, and for those families who require extra help, their needs are identified early, and targeted support put in place.

The first 1001 days from pregnancy up to the age of two are particularly critical for a child's development. Of particular importance is maternal and paternal mental health in supporting babies and young children to feel safe and secure.²¹

We will develop strategies and services alongside children, young people, families and carers to improve health outcomes; A key priority is mental health including maternal and paternal emotional wellbeing, as is timely access to appropriate support services when required. This includes dedicated support for vulnerable groups such as refugees and asylum seekers who may experience poorer levels of mental health.

We will continue to address the challenges that children and young people face, which impact on their health and wellbeing and future aspirations. We will work alongside children and young people, families and partners, to understand their experiences and explore new ways of doing things.

Our priorities include;

- ✓ Good mental health and resilience, and timely access to appropriate services when required;
- ✓ Healthy weight - access to good quality food, opportunities to be physically active, and access to behavioural support when needed;
- ✓ Strategies to reduce risky behaviours (substance use, sexual health, gangs, social media);
- ✓ Reduced exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) such as neglect, domestic violence and bullying and paramount focus on safety, as well as support for those who have experienced ACEs to improve life chances;
- ✓ Ease of access to services that are designed to meet the needs of children and young people;
- ✓ Increased uptake of vaccinations;
- ✓ Support for new parents to develop parenting skills and adjust to their caring role;
- ✓ Early help approach to supporting families and improving outcomes for children and young people with learning disabilities and/or autism with our Special Educational Needs (SEND) strategy;²²
- ✓ Improved levels of school readiness;
- ✓ Support for young carers to reduce isolation and stress and mitigate the negative impact that their caring responsibilities may have on their educational experience and life chances.^{xii}

We will ensure that the delivery plan addresses these priorities, reflects a preventative approach, identifies actions to tackle the significant health inequalities for children and young people, and focusses on helping young people make a positive transition to adult life and independence, including through finding work.



2. Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capacity

'Living Well in Warrington' highlights partner endeavours to address the wider determinants of health which can have a detrimental impact on

children, young people and adults ability to address harmful behaviours and health risks such as physical inactivity, excess weight, smoking and harmful drinking.

The women's health hub model centres on meeting women's needs with the overarching aim of improving access to and experiences of care, improving health outcomes, and reducing health inequalities. It will provide further support to ensure that women in Warrington benefit from better access to essential services for menstrual problems, contraception, pelvic pain and menopause care.^{23, 24}

Our delivery plan will focus on improving health outcomes and enabling children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have greater control over their lives and their wellbeing. We will provide good education, training and recruitment opportunities and career guidance through schools, colleges and youth services to support skill development and employment. We will also continue to support childrens', young peoples' and adult mental health in education, community and workplace settings to optimise their levels of wellbeing and ability to learn, work and progress.

We want to meet the needs of a growing, ageing and changing population within Warrington. Currently, almost 1 in 5 people in Warrington are aged 65 and over and the older population is set to increase faster than the average for the North West and England as a whole. Projections suggest that the Warrington

population aged 85 years and older could more than double over the next 25 years. This presents opportunities for the borough but also challenges for our health and social care system. Services such as the NHS, social care and housing providers will have to adapt and grow to meet the needs of the increasing ageing population and to deal with more people who are living with sometimes multiple and complex long-term chronic conditions.

Where people age well and live independent, healthy, and fulfilling lives, into old age.

Our aim is for a Warrington that promotes healthy ageing and maximises the opportunity for older people to contribute to their community. We need to recognise and harness the strengths of older people, increasing the part they play in the borough as consumers, investors, volunteers and employees. We need to ensure that our built environment, transport, housing and other services facilitate and enable independence and social inclusion.

The long-term, life-course approach to our strategy will help ensure that future generations of older people have the benefits of living in a healthy, prosperous and socially inclusive borough. In the shorter term, we need to focus on improving the health of our older population. There are areas where we know we can improve outcomes and experiences for older people. We will ensure that health and care services are focussed on reducing unnecessary and lengthy stays in hospital, supporting independent living and the proactive management of health and long-term conditions.

Staying independent is the best way to stay healthy whether you have care needs, a disability or need support into older age. It is important that Warrington residents can continue to lead active and fulfilling lifestyles, while remaining safe and secure in their own home, whatever their care needs are. Having access to the

right local services, support, equipment and technology when you need them can help you to achieve this.

Unpaid carers are vital to supporting those with additional needs to remain in their own homes and independent. The latest data indicates that 9.4% of Warrington residents currently provide some type of unpaid care. Feedback indicates that, of those people identifying as being unpaid carers, around a third access support from family and friends and a further third identified that they have no help or support. Support and training for unpaid carers will be a priority that is addressed in the strategy's Delivery Plan.¹

We will promote and develop dementia friendly environments and services. We will support individuals and communities to address the issue of loneliness and isolation by promoting our community venues, by establishing additional Talking Points and through the further development of our warm centres. Through our system-wide approach to prevention, we will advise people on the preventative actions they can take to stay healthy, which will help reduce the number and impact of falls and minimise the excess death and ill-health during the winter.

Improving people's experience of care, irrespective of the place that they are in, during their final weeks and days is a priority of the Warrington health and care system. 'Ageing well' must involve planning for a 'good death' which reflects the needs and preferences of the dying person and those who are important to them. This will ensure that positive, early conversations are facilitated regarding people's preferred place to die, so that residents can make informed choices.



3. Create fair employment and good work for all

Where all local people can access and benefit from, a strong economy with quality local jobs.

Warrington is ranked 8th in the top 10 UK towns and cities with the highest number of businesses and 3rd for the highest proportion of private sector jobs with around 8,680 business enterprises in the borough employing 143,000 people.²⁵ The town has a strong economy with a year-on-year growth higher than many other UK towns and cities. In the last 25 years, the economic value of the town, as measured by the Gross Value Added (GVA) metric, has increased by two thirds. With a high number of residents who are economically active, the unemployment rate in Warrington is low at 2.8%, compared to that of North West (3.9%) and the UK (3.6%). Significant developments are planned, including an ambitious project to create a spatial blueprint for the central area of Warrington and achieve our long-term ambition for sustainable physical and social regenerative change in this area of our borough.²⁶

For residents that live and work within Warrington, those in employment have a median gross annual salary of approximately £33k, making Warrington, on average, the 4th highest paying locality in the region, with 79.6% of those aged 16 to 64 years old in employment.^{xiii} These figures are higher than the same metrics for the North West (£31k, 73.6%) and compare favourably to England, (£33k, 75.5%).²⁷ There is a broad and diverse range of employment opportunities available, including professional occupations (24.0%) and associate professional & technical occupations (15.2%), with 13,610 workers across the borough having jobs in the category of managers, directors and senior officials.

It is important to note, however, that not all employment is high skilled and well paid. According to the 2021 census, 12,005 of our residents were working in 'elementary' occupations, defined as requiring the least amount of education or training – this means 9.4 per cent of Warrington's working age population were in low-skilled jobs which will, in turn, place them in lower pay brackets. Similarly, the average salary can mask the reality that significant numbers of our residents receive low wages, are in part time or temporary employment, and/ or have temporary or zero hours contracts. A fifth (21%) of the population of Warrington are experiencing employment deprivation and are involuntarily excluded from the labour market due to factors such as long-term sickness, carer responsibilities or disability.²⁸

There is a significantly higher concentration of unemployed residents in Warrington's most deprived areas and higher levels of health-related worklessness. Warrington partners are committed to enhancing levels of social mobility - reported to be at its worst in over 50 years - taking steps to reverse the predicted fall in social mobility for poorer younger residents; a UK-wide trend driven by the impact of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis.²⁹

Access to a fulfilling, fairly paid job can play a significant role in the health and wellbeing of people of working age. To reduce inequalities, residents in our most deprived communities need to benefit more from the local jobs that economic growth and regeneration in the town brings. This includes creating more jobs and better jobs, creating training and inclusive employment opportunities for people right across the town, embedding opportunities for social mobility, tackling debt, and addressing health-related worklessness. We need to take a joint approach across the town to provide opportunities for lifelong learning, on the job training, career progression and skill development to meet the needs of employers. The 2021 census recorded that 16% of Warrington residents, aged 16 years or older, have no

qualifications. This is higher than those that are educated to at least level 1 (10%), Level 2 (15%) or on an apprenticeship (6%). The Warrington Skills Commission is currently reviewing skills needs and opportunities required for the borough's current and future workforce and economy. The Commission and its recent report aspire to "help set the framework for our people to get future-fit employment skills and training."³⁰

The links between health and the economy are many and various - strengthening the resilience of health in Warrington and our healthcare systems is an immediate priority. Ill health often results in people not participating in the workforce, meaning people cannot fully contribute to and benefit from our towns economic potential. Research suggests that even if people with health issues remain in the workforce, the probability of experiencing reduced productivity at work doubles for those with physical health and triples for those with mental health conditions.³¹

We need to support local employers in their efforts to create healthier environments for their employees to succeed. Carer support organisations in Warrington have identified examples of good practice amongst employers who make reasonable adjustments such as flexible working provision and emergency contact arrangements for employees who are unpaid carers. This year, Warrington Borough Council's Business Engagement and Public Health Teams are sponsoring a new "Business Health & Wellbeing" Award category in the High Sheriff of Cheshire Awards for Enterprise. Local businesses that have demonstrated their commitment to the health and wellbeing of their workforce and have implemented measures that have had a proven and significant positive impact on workforce wellbeing, employee satisfaction and retention can be nominated.³² An example of such measures is employers who embed health and wellbeing as an organisation priority through relevant policies/strategies and who promote and support both physical health and mental health to their staff and customers.



4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all

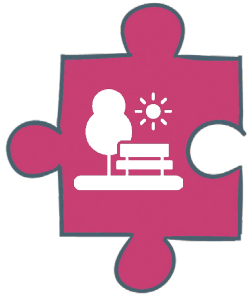
Where housing and the wider built and natural environment promote health, independence and environmental quality and sustainability.

The new Local Plan confirms that 15,000 new homes are scheduled to be built in Warrington in the period 2012 to 2039. The Plan requires 20% of new housing developments in inner Warrington to be affordable, rising to 30% in the rest of the borough. Given the relatively high cost of housing in Warrington, the Local Plan has additional safeguards to ensure that the affordable homes delivered are affordable for borough residents. Affordable rented homes must not exceed Local Housing Allowance rates. Discounted homes for first time buyers must be reduced by at least 40%, in the higher value area of the borough, south of the ship canal – an additional discount compared to the 30% that applies across the rest of the borough.

The relative affluence of the town can bring its own challenges for residents aspiring to get on the first rung of the property ladder. In 2022, the average cost of a new build house in Warrington was £418,000 and an existing built property was approximately £275,000. To access a mortgage on a newly built property, a resident would need a mortgage 13 times the average salary of £33,000, whilst a mortgage for an existing build would be eight times the average salary for the area. Access to privately rented accommodation as an alternative to house ownership is out of reach for many and the quality of housing is variable. The average monthly rent for a two-bedroom property is £888 per calendar month, whilst a three-bedroom property would cost an average of £1,200 per month.³³ This far outstrips the level of support available via the Local Housing Allowance.³⁴

Where we live, and the quality of the homes we live in, have a big impact on our health and wellbeing. People need to have a place they can call home, which is safe and healthy, in a sustainable community, with good access to jobs, facilities and the skills to live independently. Adopting healthy urban planning principles will help us shape existing homes and places, build new homes and improve the built environment.^{xiv,35} Green spaces, clean streets, leisure, culture and community provision, alongside walking and cycling opportunities all play a key role in promoting health and happiness. Considerations about future growth must ensure adequate provision of quality and accessible open spaces.

To be a healthy town, our environment and infrastructure must promote positive wellbeing and give our residents the opportunity to live independently. Shortages of social housing is a challenge in terms of the ambition to have sufficient, stable, and appropriate accommodation that meets the needs of our residents. Rates of homelessness and rough sleeping are rising, less than 5% of private rented accommodation is available at the Local Housing Allowance rates, and there are around 12 applications for every privately rented house on the market. Financial barriers (advanced rent, home-owner guarantors and retainers) are placed in the way of those on low incomes or dependent on benefits. Warrington residents are under ever increasing pressures with regard to finding stable, good quality and affordable rented accommodation.³⁶



5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities

Where communities are strong, well connected, and able to influence decisions that affect them.

The relationships and resources in communities are the foundations for good health. Warrington has a strong VCFSE sector and great neighbourhoods, each with their own character and well-established neighbourhood networks. We want to nurture what works well and provide affordable options to help areas that would benefit from further improvement in a way that maintains our unique and proud neighbourhood identities. Warrington's VCFSE sector delivers a diverse range of services which support the health and wellbeing of residents across the borough. There are over 1,000 VCFSE organisations in Warrington, servicing a high proportion of the local population and providing volunteering opportunities for residents to improve levels of health and wellbeing for themselves and others. Citizens Advice alone supported over 15,000 residents last year. The Gateway Community Resource Centre hub is home to 20 voluntary and statutory organisations, delivering a wide range of holistic services. These include housing, some health services, Citizens Advice services, advocacy and mental health support. Warrington Disability Partnership has a disability access point in close proximity and their Centre for Independent Living (CIL) is located on Beaufort Street. The CIL offers help and support to disabled people, their families and carers.

There are vulnerable groups and areas of the town which experience poorer health. The biggest influencing factor in this is poverty with some groups and communities more likely than others to suffer its effects. This includes people with disabilities

and long-term conditions, people who are out of work or in low-paid or unsecure jobs, and people in extreme poverty, such as those who are homeless, being particularly vulnerable to poor health outcomes.

In the central area of our borough, we have communities experiencing higher levels of deprivation. It is therefore important that we give more focus to these areas whilst not forgetting those people vulnerable to poor health and social exclusion in our outer wards. People's health outcomes can also depend on specific characteristics such as ethnicity, gender and sexuality. For some groups, tailored work which is sensitive to specific needs can help close the gap in health outcomes. This also applies for those with learning and/or physical disabilities who need specific support in order to thrive in the town. We want to ensure fair access to person-centred services, which build on individual and community strengths, as this will help reduce health inequalities in Warrington.

Social isolation doesn't just affect older people, it can be an issue for many. Having strong personal networks and being part of a thriving community are important for wellbeing and also for personal and community resilience. We want a town with diverse opportunities for people to live healthy, active and fulfilling lives.

Where we work together to safeguard the most vulnerable.

We all have a responsibility to recognise and help safeguard the most vulnerable members of our community and to ensure the effectiveness of those services that are working together to help protect children and adults with care and support needs.

Every child and young person in Warrington should be able to grow up safe from abuse, neglect, bullying, discrimination, exploitation, and crime. They should receive timely and effective help when they need it so they can thrive and achieve maximum wellbeing.

We need to ensure that we are protecting both children and adults with care and support needs from domestic abuse. We know that the vulnerable adults within our community are more at risk of exploitation, neglect and abuse. We need to make sure that we are doing all we can to tackle these dangers, including addressing forms of exploitation such as modern slavery. Our vulnerable residents should also receive good quality care and support to help them live their lives as fully, safely and independently as possible, building on their strengths. Adults who are at risk of abuse should be supported to make their own choices, be free from coercion, and be able to make decisions about their own lives. As a system of partners across Warrington, we need to keep improving the quality and consistency of safeguarding practice, learning from reviews and assuring the quality of local health and care services.



6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention

Where there is a strong, system-wide, focus on protecting health, promoting wellbeing and preventing ill-health.

A key underpinning priority for 'Living Well in Warrington' is understanding the value and benefit of the prevention agenda with partner commitments and clarity regarding the role we can all play.

This will ensure we are all working towards improving health and wellbeing for individuals and communities across the borough. This isn't confined to the health and care sectors; wellbeing needs to be a priority in our schools and all our settings, and we need to ensure that local businesses get the support they need to embed wellbeing in the workplace.³⁷

We need to intervene at an early age with evidence-based interventions and ensure that across all pathways there is a focus on promoting health and wellbeing. We must develop our collective workforce so that preventing ill-health is everyone's business, working consistently to support shared decision making and empowering people to take responsibility for keeping themselves healthy both physically and emotionally. Working collaboratively with a common aim and 'Making Every Contact Count' will help to deliver systematic, sustainable change.

As a whole system, we need to recognise the broad range of wider factors that influence health. We need to commit to supporting long-term interventions to address root causes of poor health and wellbeing. Education, employment, housing, income and local environment are all important factors affecting health.



Ensuring that health and wellbeing is in all policies and maximising the opportunity for social value across all organisations in the borough, are key to tackling the root causes of poor health and wellbeing and addressing inequalities.

Where people feel supported to positively affect their health through personal action to stay healthy and independent. Both mental and physical health are promoted and equally valued.

Linked to our stronger focus on a preventative approach, we need to empower people and ensure residents have the opportunity, and are able to be actively involved in managing their own health conditions.

Long-term conditions are the leading causes of death and disability in Warrington and account for most of our health and care spending. Cases of type 2 diabetes, respiratory disease, dementia and cardiovascular disease will continue to increase as the population of Warrington grows and ages. There will be a rise in the number of people living with at least two health conditions and this is most common in our more deprived areas. We must see a shift in the way care is provided to enable people to take greater control of their own health and wellbeing.

We need to ensure that support and interventions are available and promoted for people diagnosed with long-term conditions including Long Covid.^{xv} The health inequalities and social gradient linked to Long Covid is a subject of recent research studies.^{38,39} Evidence shows lifestyle changes such as quitting smoking, drinking within safe limits or being physically active can significantly improve outcomes in a number of long-term conditions. People need the right information and resources in order to better manage their own health and access services appropriately. We need to make sure that there is accessible, co-ordinated information available to make it easier for people to understand what they can do for themselves and how they can access further support.

Our commitment to support people living with mental health conditions to 'live well' is fundamental to current and future generations of residents in the town.

Poor physical health can lead to an increased risk of developing mental health conditions, including anxiety and depression. Similarly, poor mental health can negatively impact on physical health, leading to an increased risk of long-term conditions. Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing starts with addressing some of the wider determinants of health, such as poverty, debt and low levels of social support. Opportunities to learn and connect with others, access to employment, decent warm homes, basic needs such as safe drinking water and nutritious food, along with support when needed are all essential to good mental and physical health.

We need to ensure that our services, including the VCFSE sector address the holistic needs of the individual. The transformation of community mental health services and improved integration of mental and physical health delivery will help ensure that the physical health needs of those living with mental health conditions and the mental wellbeing of those living with physical illnesses are addressed. We will provide opportunities for the workforce including volunteers to access training and skill development to support effective delivery.

We need to improve young people's and adult's mental health and resilience through earlier interventions. Promotion of supportive mental health messages in a variety of accessible ways is key to ensuring that residents have opportunities to self-manage their own mental health – examples such as the 5 Ways to Wellbeing and the Happy OK Sad website are helpful tools in enabling people to have access to a range of information to support themselves.

A focus on self harm and suicide reduction will also feature as a priority. Information in the recent Joint Strategic Needs

Assessment 2022 highlights these two key elements of mental health. We are committed to deliver a robust suicide prevention plan for Warrington to assist a reduction in suicides, as well as ensuring support is available for those individuals who present with more critical mental health problems.

Support for young people and their mental health remains a priority. It is clear, post COVID-19 that the mental health of many young people has been affected. The impact of social media on young people is also at an all time high. Better support in schools through dedicated mental health support teams and other settings for young people will be the focus over the forthcoming years.

There is a sustained focus on addressing the leading risk factors for ill health.

We need a continued focus on addressing risk-factors such as smoking, unsafe drinking, low levels of physical activity and obesity to ensure that the gains that have been made in key areas of health improvement are not lost amongst other priorities. A significant proportion of chronic conditions such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke could be prevented with changes in behaviour. Making even small changes can have a big impact on health. However, the system needs to support people by addressing environmental, social and political contributing factors impacting individuals' behaviour change.

There is a wealth of evidence that shows that increasing physical activity has the potential to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. By achieving our vision of a Warrington where more people move more, more often, we can reduce obesity, improve our wellbeing and become a more socially connected town. We need to ensure provision of affordable activities and that our policies and infrastructure make active travel the easiest option wherever possible.

Reducing the harm caused by alcohol and substance misuse will bring significant benefits to individuals, communities and across public sector organisations. Estimates suggest that alcohol-related harm costs society £21 billion each year, £11 billion for alcohol-related crime, £7 billion from lost productivity through unemployment and sickness; and £3.5 billion to the NHS.⁴⁰ We need to work together to improve awareness of alcohol harm and promote more responsible attitudes and safer levels of drinking. We need to also ensure that appropriate measures are in place to promote the responsible supply and availability of alcohol. The National Drug Strategy "From Harm to Hope" (December 2021) explains that the financial cost to society of drug misuse is around £20 billion per year, around £350 for every person in the UK with around 3000 people nationally losing their lives to drug addiction. A focus on working with key health and criminal justice partners to ensure those who need support will be given the chance to engage will continue to be a priority for Warrington.

We have achieved real success in reducing smoking prevalence, due to the range of public health measures implemented over the years and, that should be celebrated. However, around 10% of adults in Warrington still smoke costing our borough £47 million annually.^{41,42} Therefore, more work needs to be done to further reduce the smoking rates in Warrington as smoking is the biggest cause of preventable death and illness in the UK. We are also facing a new challenge with the rise of vaping among young people; despite age restriction, national and local survey results indicate that vaping has risen in popularity among young people.

We will direct our Smokefree Service to offer intensive, evidence-based targeted support where it is most needed. We also need to ensure additional restrictions and rules around advertising and marketing of e-cigarettes to children and young people are in place to re-focus e-cigarette use on supporting smoking cessation among adults. We want to strengthen enforcement to prevent underage purchasing of e-cigarette and tobacco products through retail businesses.

We need to prevent a new generation of smokers; evidence shows the most effective way to do this is by de-normalising smoking across the adult population, limiting access to e-cigarettes among children and young people as well as creating and maintaining public spaces as smokefree including vape-free environments.

This preventative approach is also key to protecting the health of our local population. Delivering on our key health and wellbeing priorities together will achieve multiple benefits and help to protect health by reducing risk factors. Promoting sustainable travel will get more people more active and will also help improve local air quality. Encouraging take up of invitations to NHS screening and immunisation programmes and the NHS health checks will help prevent disease and enable early diagnosis and successful treatment, thereby making best use of public money and reducing inequalities.

Where good care is provided, in the right place, at the right time.

We need to ensure that the health and care services that are delivered in our borough are as effective and efficient as possible. We need to work differently by providing more care in people's homes and in the community. We need to integrate care to ensure we have a single approach to using resources and to improving health outcomes for local people.

We need to break down barriers and better coordinate the work that GPs, community services and the hospital do to better meet the needs of our population. We have a growing number of people who have multiple conditions who receive care and support from a variety of health and social care staff. We need to ensure that our services are configured to best meet their needs; this includes ensuring there is better integration between physical and mental health care.

Working through Warrington Together, our health and social

care commissioners and provider organisations will lead the coordination of these system changes. We will strengthen community engagement in shaping population-based, integrated models of care which meet the needs of local communities and provide services closer to home delivered by multidisciplinary teams. Effective integrated working will help to reduce the need for urgent care and avoidable hospital admissions.





7. Tackle racism, discrimination, and their outcomes

Where people are treated fairly, and all forms of discrimination are actively challenged.

We want to ensure all people feel welcome and safe in Warrington, including individuals who have characteristics protected under the Equality Act 2010. We will work collectively to address systemic and structural racism and to challenge all forms of discrimination, ensuring diversification of voices within leadership roles and the workforce.

Discrimination is increasingly acknowledged as a driver of health inequalities and a risk factor for disease and poor utilisation of services. Particular attention is given to the impact upon health of discriminatory violence and hate, as well as to barriers to care and services and their consequent psychological and physical impacts. We aim to ensure equitable and inclusive initiatives are in place to prevent adverse health outcomes from racism and discrimination through the life-course. Using a human-rights based approach, we will continue to work to increase empathy and reduce prejudice toward discriminated groups. We will expand outreach and develop services that are equitable for discriminated communities and improve cultural sensitivity among health and care providers.

The launch of an NHS England Health Inclusion toolkit this year also acknowledges the need for healthcare organisations to ensure that structural and systemic barriers are broken down that prevent access to healthcare for people from excluded and marginalised groups, such as the Gypsy, Traveller and Roma

communities, vulnerable migrants, and homeless people, in order to tackle the stark health inequalities that they experience.⁴³ The NHS published its first equality, diversity and inclusion plan in June 2023, setting out targeted actions to address prejudice and discrimination – both direct and indirect - that exists through behaviours, practices, policies and cultures against certain groups and individuals across the NHS workforce.⁴⁴ This galvanises the longer standing work to implement the Workforce race equality and disability (WRES and WDES) standards and ensures that staff with the protected characteristics receive equal access to career opportunities and fair treatment in the workplace.

In July 2023, C&M ICB, in recognition of the scale and impact of racist discrimination, have made a system-wide commitment to implement the North West BAME (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic) Assembly Anti-racism Framework. Warrington Together will lead a self-assessment across partner organisations and support the establishment of anti-racism steering groups with key stakeholders to develop and drive the programme of work required. This programme of action is designed to have a direct impact on improving the health outcomes of the workforce with indirect impacts upon ethnic minority patients within wider communities.

Where there are lower levels of crime, people feel safe and are not subjected to hate crime because of their ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation or gender expression.

We have a strong, multi-agency Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in Warrington which remains committed to keeping Warrington a safe place to live, work and visit, ensuring that the most vulnerable are safe. Although much has been achieved through the partnership in recent years, including a substantial reduction in anti-social behaviour, some issues remain. Individual perception of crime and the potential risk of becoming a victim can affect the way our communities go about their daily

lives, preventing the use of public facilities such as parks and open spaces. Warrington CSP has experienced a decrease in the volume of recorded hate crimes in 2022 compared to 2021 (-12%, 67 fewer offences).⁴⁵ This has resulted in a small reduction in the number of offences from 2.6 per 1,000 population to 2.3 per 1,000 population, although this is still slightly higher than the Force crime rate (2.0 per 1,000 population).^{xvi} Racial Hate Crimes are the most frequent issue in each of the areas and there has been a recent review and refresh of the Hate Crime Partnership. We aim to ensure our communities are encouraged to report hate crime, are reassured that Community Safety Partners are committed to listening to their concerns and are taking effective action where issues are identified. Through the partnership we will look to identify the specific issues concerning residents and to identify solutions through the CSP Task Group.

We will continue to co-ordinate and prioritise a partnership response to protect our communities from harm. We will maintain our collective focus on reducing anti-social behaviour, focusing on known hotspots in the borough. We will work collaboratively to tackle domestic abuse, stalking and sexual offences, ensuring there are sustainable support services, encouraging victims to report incidents, and improving perpetrator management. We will also continue to prioritise our work to prevent and respond to crime and ensure people feel safe. We will continue to work with partners to take a preventative approach and intervene early to address underlying themes and risk factors such as substance misuse, homelessness, mental health, and deprivation.



8. Pursue environmental quality, sustainability and health equity together

Where housing and the wider built and natural environment promote health, independence and environmental sustainability.

In refreshing this strategy, we must take account of the climate emergency; a crisis which could increase existing inequalities and unequally affect our most disadvantaged residents. Climate change presents many risks for health and wellbeing, including increasing levels of pollen, air pollution and ultraviolet radiation, changing exposure to heat and cold and extreme weather events. The consequences of these impacts will affect all, particularly the most vulnerable, including our youngest and oldest residents, who are especially susceptible to the health risks of cold spells and heatwaves.

Climate change has been identified as both the biggest global health threat of the 21st century, and a tremendous opportunity to tackle the social and environmental determinants of health. In 2022, the UK Committee on Climate Change commissioned a report from Professor Sir Michael Marmot and the Institute of Health Equity to develop proposals which could simultaneously improve the nation's health, reduce health inequalities and achieve Net-Zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The report's recommendations highlighted four key areas for action which Warrington is already undertaking; action to minimise air pollution and improve air quality, enhance energy efficiency in homes, promote sustainable and healthy food and prioritise active and safe transport.

Such a response to the climate emergency strives to address the needs of the most vulnerable and ensure that the benefits to health, such as cleaner air, healthier diets and lower home energy bills, will be distributed fairly across society.

Growing pressures are anticipated over time from the indirect impact of climate change on supply chain security, food, water and energy costs, all of which have the capacity to place additional strain on health and care organisations, public services and the VCFSE sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed health systems across the world to unprecedented pressures and demands. Recent global tensions and their impact on fuel security has provided an additional impetus for health and care organisations to invest in decarbonisation and adapt to accommodate current and future impacts of climate change on health and communities.

In 2020, the NHS became the first national health system in the world to commit to become carbon net zero backed by a multiyear plan with clear deliverables and milestones. Healthcare organisations in Warrington and beyond, determined to be part of the solution to climate change, are making progress in producing Adaptation Plans. These aim to take steps to de-carbonise care, address climate change-associated health risks and strengthen the resilience of the health system and the community.

Warrington's Climate Emergency Commission was set up by the Council after it declared a climate emergency in 2019, with the goal of becoming a net zero carbon organisation by 2030. The council has made some progress, including the successful completion of the three UK-leading hybrid solar and battery storage farms in York, Hull and Cirencester. This is testament to how we can form innovative partnerships to deliver vital projects which cut carbon, supply clean electricity, address fuel poverty and help fund essential services, including power for Warrington's

fleet of all-electric buses. Warrington Borough Council is the first local authority in the UK to produce its own electricity with the Hull solar farm supplying all our needs.^{xvii}

We want to promote sustainable and healthy food for all communities.

A nutritious diet is one of the fundamental building blocks of health and wellbeing. Government guidance on what constitutes a 'healthy plate' is available to support people in the form of the Eat Well Guide.^{46,47} Research which annually re-calculates the cost of the Eat Well Plate indicates that following such dietary recommendations is out of reach for many of our residents, in particular those currently reliant upon food banks and Warrington's Local Pantry.⁴⁸

We want to promote access to sustainable and healthy food for all communities. Warrington has an effective multi-agency partnership approach to reduce poverty and tackle food insecurity. Under the Poverty Action Group, we are working to

- Ensure communities are able to access affordable, quality and nutritious foods.
- Support and empower people to address the causes of food insecurity.
- Develop pathways to support communities to be food secure, promoting community-led affordable food projects and supporting the maximisation of household incomes.

Public Health is working with partners to expand the Healthy Weight Declaration initiative launched in March 2023, exploring practical approaches to nutrition security such as increasing people's access to a wide variety of fresh, healthy, nutritious foods, and improved nutrition education. This will help ensure our communities who are disproportionately impacted, are equipped with the knowledge and tools to be food secure and lead healthy lives.^{xviii, 49}

We want to minimise air pollution and improve air quality for all.

Across the UK it is predicted that poor air quality leads to between 28,000 and 36,000 premature deaths every year from exposure to particulate pollution.⁵⁰ The Council and community partners have agreed targeted actions to manage air quality in Warrington's Air Quality Action Plan. This sets out our approach around policy, infrastructure and additional measures to support improvements in local air quality and regular reviews of pollution levels, using a network of monitoring sites across the borough. Whilst air quality has improved, we know that further reductions in pollution can help to promote improvements in health and wellbeing, to address wider inequalities.

Work will continue within parks and green spaces to improve air quality, increase biodiversity and reduce the effects of climate change through partnership initiatives such as The Carbon Landscape Project. Air quality will be managed through an Air Quality Action Plan and by our submitting annual progress reports to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

We want to make better use of our natural space to tackle climate change and provide more sustainable green travel in Warrington.

Our Local Transport Plan (LTP4) and climate change action plan details a range of measures which will promote active travel, including walking, cycling and greener public transport for work and leisure purposes.^{xix, 51} The replacement of Warrington's entire fleet of diesel buses with 105 new electric buses by the end of 2023 will give Warrington one of the biggest all electric bus fleets in the Country, funded from a successful bid for Zero Emission Regional Areas (ZEBRA) funding.^{xx}

Ongoing work is being undertaken to make best use of green spaces and natural resources to tackle climate change and green travel and will be progressed as part of the Active Warrington Strategy.



Delivering our strategy

Warrington Together Partnership holds the responsibility for the health and wellbeing delivery plan. It brings together the Warrington Together umbrella, NHS commissioner and provider organisations, [including primary care, NHS dentistry, community optometry and community pharmacy] Warrington Borough Council, Healthwatch Warrington and VCFSE sector organisations, which are working together to integrate services and improve how we access health and care in Warrington.^x

The delivery planning phase for ‘Living Well in Warrington’ 2024-8 will align our refreshed priorities with other existing and new programmes of work in the borough. It will prioritise collaborative approaches to addressing health and wellbeing needs in a holistic way, to better address underlying issues that impact on individuals’ capacity to adopt healthier lifestyles or take greater control of their wellbeing.

Taking a system approach: ensuring whole system enablers are in place

Five ‘enabler’ workstreams have been established with expert representation from across the Warrington Together Partnership, to help achieve our aims of this Strategy:

1. Workforce and Organisational Development
2. Digital
3. Estates
4. Communications, Engagement and Coproduction
5. Business Intelligence

These areas of focus will support Warrington to achieve its aims and objective through:

- A cross-sector Workforce Plan to address the workforce recruitment and retention issues being experienced across the borough, supported by robust, collaborative workforce planning.
- A Digital Plan to enable shared care records to be easily accessed between partners (a key finding of our recent SEND inspection), improving the quality of care for our residents, as well as upskilling residents to access digital solutions.
- Business Intelligence to ensure robust evidence and data is available and shared to inform strategic priorities for health and wellbeing.
- Joined up estates strategies to ensure our local estate can support the Health and Social transformation and integration agenda and ensure best collective use of land and property assets.
- A communications, engagement and coproduction approach to ensure partners integrate their plans and take a collective approach to branding, communications and involvement with people of lived experience, ensuring residents are informed, engaged and involved.

Ensuring a workforce that is valued, well-trained and supported

Warrington has a caring and motivated workforce who work hard to deliver high quality care. However, like many other areas we face substantial challenges. We have shortages of nurses, GPs, dentists, therapists, experienced social workers, entry-grade care staff and health care assistants. Both services themselves, and the people in need of care and support, rely heavily on informal carers. To maximise our collective resources, we need to work as one workforce with shared values, principles and common aims. Our new population-based, integrated models of care require multi-disciplinary working across organisational boundaries. We need to ensure that our workforce planning fully harnesses the

potential of the VCFSE sector and provides a workforce of the right scale and skill mix to cope with population growth and demographic change. We need to fully utilise our communities' assets and strengths through activities like volunteering to develop a sustainable system that can meet the challenges of the future. Workforce retention and recruitment across health and care is one of our biggest challenges. Partners have funded and contributed to the development of a Warrington-wide workforce strategy with a focus on understanding the status of our workforce, meeting wellbeing needs, provide flexible career pathways and investing in the future workforce, including through apprenticeships.

Maximising the benefits from information and technology

Technology is now a fundamental part of every aspect of our lives. The way we access and share information, interact with each other and use services all rely on technology working well and in a way that suits our lives. We want to help organisation systems to talk to each other more easily so that people can use technology to find out more about health and social care.

We will continue to implement and develop the Warrington Care Record to ensure professionals involved in health and social care have access to the most up-to-date information. This will support the people of Warrington to have access to, and control over, their personal health and social care records. We want to help people take responsibility to manage their health, and technology has a role to play in offering easy ways to access advice and information.

Technology can be a key asset for communities, helping to support local business opportunities, improving educational experiences across all age groups, providing everyone with better ways of communicating with the outside world, and offering the opportunity to learn from others. We also need to ensure that children are protected from the potential risks of

technology especially where this might compromise the personal safety of young people or increase their likelihood of exploitation. We want to work with partners and the wider community to make sure we are making the best use of the technology that is available to individuals and communities.

We will ensure that digital inclusion is at the centre of our work and provide the right digital skills for our workforce. The digital infrastructure of Warrington is crucial to enabling all our ambitions to be realised.

Implementing the key digital priority programmes will propel Warrington Together on a transformative journey that will significantly improve health and social care across Warrington, by:

- Focusing on areas crucial to delivering excellent, patient-centred care
- Enhanced quality of care and safety
- Improved efficiency and productivity
- Patient empowerment and engagement
- Increased accessibility and equity in care
- Digital skills development and culture shift^{xxi}.

This strategy presents a vision of a future where healthcare in Warrington is safer, more efficient, and more person-centred. By fully embracing digital transformation, Warrington can create a health and social care system that better serves the needs of all residents, improving health outcomes, enhancing user experience, and achieving greater system efficiency.

Where we invest in the right intelligence to understand our local population.

We need to ensure that our strategies and action plans are informed by robust, reliable and up-to-date information about our local population such as our annual Joint Strategic Needs

Assessment. We have completed a health and wellbeing survey to gather information about the people of Warrington, from the people of Warrington, which will inform how we collectively commission and deliver services.

We will embed an evidenced based and population health management approach through increased use of available data and shared intelligence.

Where we utilise our collective estate so that it best supports local health and social care need.

We need to ensure that our collective estate is utilised in the most effective way both in the short and long term. This means making sure that we make best use of our land and property assets; facilitating joint working or alternative uses where appropriate. We will continue to improve the use of our community facilities, such as libraries, community centres, VCFSE community venues, and GP Practices, by ensuring they are multi-purpose and can support health and wellbeing. We will ensure that our estates support the health and social care transformation and integration agenda and can respond to developing service models. Looking forward, we also need to inform long-term regeneration plans for the borough with regard to changing need and demographics to ensure that future estate is planned appropriately, taking into account emerging estates plans.

Where we get best possible value for our ‘Warrington Pound’.

The pressures placed on public sector finances over recent years during the pandemic and cost of living crisis has meant the individual organisations working in health and social care are having to be strategic and transformative to meet the needs of the population in Warrington. The Council continues to face

significant budget challenges due to the cut in government funding. Overall, the revenue budget in 2022/23 was £157.3 million, approximately 37% of which was spent on social care for older people and other vulnerable adults.⁵²

In 2022/23 Warrington’s budget for NHS commissioned services alone was £395 million, of which more than half (£199 million, 50.5%) was spent on acute hospital care and ambulance services. £42 million was committed on core service delivery for the treatment of people with mental health needs, £34 million supporting community-based provision, £27 million supporting clients with continuing healthcare needs. £45 million was spent in Primary Care, above core contracts for the Practices (£36 million), with the vast majority being prescribing-related expenditure (£36 million).⁵³

The continued financial pressures mean that we need a radical change in the way health and care services are delivered if we are to achieve long-term financial sustainability across the health and care system and ensure quality provision into the future. From a prevention perspective, a substantial proportion of illnesses requiring medical treatment, drugs, or admission to hospital are preventable. WTPB is supported by a Finance, Investment and Resource Committee made up of partners who have contributed significantly to work which seeks to mobilise the pooling/alignment of budgets at Place (via the Better Care Fund) to achieve economies of scale and maximise outcomes.

Opportunities must be found and created, across the whole local economy, to ensure that every ‘Warrington pound’ delivers maximum gain in improving health and wellbeing across the whole population and in reducing inequalities between the most and least deprived.

Living Well Warrington

We can all take steps to improve our own health and wellbeing.
What are you going to do?

I will:

- ✓ Use 'My Life Warrington' to find local services, events, advice and support in Warrington: mylifewarrington.co.uk
- ✓ Drink less alcohol and download the Drink Free Days app to help me: nhs.uk/better-health/drink-less
- ✓ Keep learning and/or sign up for useful courses where possible. For example using the NHS Better Health website for information and apps to improve health and wellbeing - nhs.uk/better-health - or visit the [Warrington Training Hub](#) for instant access to over 500 training courses
- ✓ Use the Active 10 app to incorporate bursts of brisk walking into my daily life: nhs.uk/better-health/get-active
- ✓ Do the couch to 5k and download the app to help me: nhs.uk/better-health/get-active
- ✓ Do strength and balance exercises weekly to help lower my risk of falls in later life using the information and advice from the NHS website: nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/strength-and-flexibility-exercises
- ✓ Know My Numbers and get my blood pressure checked: bloodpressureuk.org/know-your-numbers
- ✓ Go for my flu and COVID-19 jab when called to protect myself and my family: nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination/
- ✓ Quit smoking using the NHS Quit Smoking app for 4 weeks - nhs.uk/better-health - or by accessing support of the local stop smoking service, livewirewarrington.co.uk/lifestyles/stop-smoking, meaning I am three times more likely to quit for good
- ✓ Go for my cancer screening appointment when I'm invited so that I am Clear on Cancer nhs.uk/be-clear-on-cancer
- ✓ Make healthy home cooked meals for less using the healthy recipe collections: nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes
- ✓ Help manage my stress and anxiety using simple techniques using the Thrive app, thrive.uk.com, and visit the local Happy? OK? Sad? website for further information and support for your mental health and wellbeing: warrington.gov.uk/happy-ok-sad
- ✓ Take up the free invite to have an NHS Health Check so that any early signs of developing conditions like high blood pressure, heart disease or type 2 diabetes can be spotted and help prevent these happening to me healthcheck.nhs.uk

Acknowledgements

The below organisations offered support, answered our questions, hosted or supported listening sessions, participated in stakeholder focus groups, and/or provided feedback in many iterations of this strategy. They will continue to receive updates on the HtWB Strategy progress and will be invited to provide feedback and contributions within the delivery plan process. We are grateful for their input, expertise, time and contributions to this work, which is always ongoing.

Partnership Engaged

Alzheimer's Society
Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Cheshire Halton Warrington Race & Equality Centre
Co op
Exercise for Older Guys
Friends of St Elphin's Park
Heritage Family Support
Holy Trinity Coffee Bar
Home-Start Warrington & Cheshire
Warrington Carers Hub
Warrington Housing Association
LiveWire Warrington
Macmillan Delamere Information & Support Centre
Making Space
Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust
NHS Cheshire and Mersey Integrated Care Board-Warrington Place

The Gateway Warrington
Torus Foundation
Treasure Your Wellbeing
Warrington Healthwatch
Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Warrington Business Improvement District (BID)
Warrington Disability Partnership
Warrington Citizen's Advice Bureau
Warrington Visually Impaired People (VIP)
Warrington Voluntary Action
Warrington Wolves Charitable Foundation

JSNA Steering Group

The below organisations are members of the Joint Needs Assessment Steering Committee Group, governing committee that reviewed, informed, and improved the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The committee includes local government, VCFSE sector, integrated care board, health and social care services.

Citizen Advice Warrington
Warrington-HealthWatch
Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Warrington Borough Council
Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Warrington Together
NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board – Warrington Place
Warrington Voluntary Action
Comments from Primary Care and PCCC Board members, including Clinical Director, Central and West Primary Network

Glossary

Clinical Commissioning Group: Established as part of the Health and Social Care Act in 2012, they were responsible for planning and implementing commissioning of health care services for their local areas until dissolved and duties were allocated to new integrated care systems.

Fuel Poverty: The condition by which a household is unable to heat or cool their home to an adequate temperature. It is caused by low income, high fuel prices, poor energy efficiency, unaffordable housing prices and poor quality private rental housing.

Gross Value Added (GVA): The value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services.

Inequities: Unequal allocation of resources within a population, creating inequity and negative health impacts for certain individuals and groups.

Integrated Care Board: Legally established on 1 July 2022, replacing clinical commissioning groups, a statutory NHS organisation which is responsible for developing a plan for meeting the health needs of the population, managing the NHS budget and arranging for the provision of health services in a geographic area.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA): JSNA provides a high-level overview on a wide range of factors that affects the health and wellbeing of the people Warrington

Life Course Approach: A person's physical and mental health and wellbeing are influenced throughout life by the wider determinants of health. These are a diverse range of economic,

social and environmental factors, alongside behavioural risk factors which often cluster in the population, reflecting real lives. These factors can be classified as protector factors or risk factors.

VCFSE: Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise organisations in Warrington and surrounding areas supporting the community. Warrington Voluntary Action supports the development of a third sector to meet the diverse needs of the local community.

Wider determinants of health: Wider determinants of health, also known as social determinants of health, are multiple areas of social, economic and environmental factors which impact on people's health. Such factors are influenced by the local, national and international distribution of power and resources which shape the conditions of daily life.



Appendices

The following tables show the indicators for the Health & Wellbeing Strategy. Three sources were used to identify the list of indicators - indicators from the existing Health & Wellbeing Strategy (less 2 indicators no longer collected), Marmot beacon indicators, and changes and constraints identified by the JSNA steering group. All indicators were reviewed, and the following information captured against each: definition, data source, latest data available and caveats. A matrix was developed to merge the indicators, identify overlaps, and assign them to Marmot domains. Three criteria were developed, and each indicator assessed against the criteria to ensure they were robust to include in the strategy.

Life Expectancy			
Marmot domain	Population	Data frequency	Indicator
Life Expectancy	All ages	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Life expectancy at birth (males) years
	All ages	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Life expectancy at birth (females) years
	All ages	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Healthy life expectancy at birth (males) years
	All ages	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Healthy life expectancy at birth (females) years
	All ages	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Inequality in life expectancy at birth (males) years
	All ages	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Inequality in life expectancy at birth (females) years

Strong and Resilient Communities			
Marmot domain	Population	Data frequency	Indicator
Ensure a healthy standard of living for all	Children	Annual	Proportion of children in workless households: - Dependent children - Children <16
	Households	Annual	Households in fuel poverty (low income, low energy efficiency methodology) %
	Adults 30+	Annual	Deaths attributable to air pollution, %
	Individuals	Annual	Individuals in absolute poverty, after housing costs %*
Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities	Households	Annual	Households in temporary accommodation, crude rate per 1,000 households
	Households	Annual	Housing affordability: Ratio of house price to residence-based earnings
Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes	Working age	Annual	Proportion of employees who are from ethnic minority background and band/level %*
Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together	Adults 16+	Annual	Adults cycling for travel at least three days per week, %
	Adults 16+	Annual	Adults walking for travel at least three days per week, %
	Place organisations	Annual	(£) spent in local supply chain through contracts, %*

* In development

Starting Well			
Marmot domain	Population	Data frequency	Indicator
Give every child the best start in life	Neonatal	Annual	Low birth weight of term babies, %
	Pre-school	Annual	Children achieving a good level of development at 2-2.5 years, %
	Children	Annual	School ready at age 5, %
	Children	Annual	Excess weight in children (Year 6), %
	Children / Adolescence	Annual	Looked after children whose emotional wellbeing is a cause for concern (ages 5-16), %
Enable all CYP & adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives	Adolescence	Annual	Average Progress 8 score (all)
	Adolescence	Annual	Average Attainment 8 score (all)
	Adolescence	Annual	Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm age 15-19 years, crude rate per 100,000 (persons)
	Adolescence	Annual	16-17-year-olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) or whose activity is not known (persons), %
	Adolescence	Annual	Pupils who go on to achieve a level 2 qualification at 19 (all), %

Staying Well			
Marmot domain	Population	Data frequency	Indicator
Create fair employment and good work for all	Working age	Annual	Persons in employment, aged 16 to 64, %
	Working age	Annual	Persons unemployed aged 16 to 64, %
	Working age	Annual	Employment Status: - Population who are employees, % - Population who are non-permanent, % - Population who are self-employed, %
	Working age	Annual	Employees earning below real living wage, %
	Working age	Annual	Employees who are local (FTE) employed on contract for one year or the whole duration of the contract, whichever is shorter, % *
	Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention	19+ adults	Annual
19+ adults		Annual	Physically inactive adults (19+), %
18+ adults		Annual	Excess weight in adults (18+), %
Adults all ages		Annual	Alcohol related hospital admissions, DSR per 100,000
Adults		Annual	Preventable hospital admissions, ISR per 100,000
Adults		Annual	People feeling supported to manage their long-term condition, %
Adults <75		Annual	Under 75 Preventable deaths, DSR per 100,000
Adults age 18-74		3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Premature mortality in adults with serious mental illness (SMI)

Ageing Well			
Marmot domain	Population	Data frequency	Indicator
Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention	65+ males	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Healthy Life Expectancy at 65 (males), years
	65+ females	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Healthy Life Expectancy at 65 (females), years
	65+ males	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Disability-free Life Expectancy at 65 (males), years
	65+ females	3 yr rolling rate on an annual basis	Disability-free Life Expectancy at 65 (females), years
	16+ adults	Annual	Adults who feel lonely often / always or some of the time, %
	65+ adults	Annual	Social care-related quality of life score, aged 65+
	65+ adults	Annual	Hospital admissions due to falls in those aged 65+, DSR per 100,000
	65+ adults	Annual	Supporting older people (65+) to stay at home for longer after a hospital admission, %

End of Life			
Marmot domain	Population	Data frequency	Indicator
End of life	All ages	Annual	Deaths that occur in hospital (all ages), %
	All ages	Annual	Deaths that occur at home (all ages), %
	All ages	Annual	Deaths that occur in care homes (all ages), %
	All ages	Annual	Deaths that occur in hospice (all ages), %
	All ages	Annual	Deaths that occur in 'other places' (all ages), %

End Notes

- i. In the working age population, those in the poorest 10% of areas in England were almost four times more likely to die from COVID-19 than those in the richest. Similarly, there is a social gradient to Long Covid with the prevalence being higher (2.16% of the total population) in the most deprived areas compared to the least (1.41%).
- ii. **Warrington Foodbank:** August 2023. Currently providing 800 food parcels to households per month which are supporting 1,250 adults & 630 children. **Other Foodbanks:** Supporting approx. 1,000 households per month (range from 1 - 7 days of food provision) **Affordable Food Projects:** TBTT - approx. 1,300 member shops per month (over the 5 hubs) Community Grocery - approx. 800-1000 member shops per month Warrington Food Pantry - 30 active members (approx. 100 member shops per month). Community Shop - 619 active members. Approx. 170-200 transactions across shop and cafe per day
- iii. In England, the 'Low Income, Low Energy Efficiency' indicator is used to determine official fuel poverty. Under this, a household is considered fuel poor if;
 - a. They are living in a property with a fuel poverty energy efficiency rating of band D or below, and
 - b. When they spend the required amount to heat their home, they are left with a residual income below the official poverty line.
- iv. Voluntary, statutory and housing leaders attending Warrington Homelessness Conference discussed this in detail in September 2023.
- v. Under 5% of private sector rented accommodation is capped at the level of the Local Housing Allowance. Number of households facing eviction in private rented sector at highest point in eight years | Crisis | Together we will end homelessness. Section 21 'no fault' evictions are at a six year high.
- vi. In September 2023, the 'Under one roof' waiting list for social housing in Warrington had 6,700 property allocations on their waiting list. This includes 3,951 single people or couples waiting to be housed and 2,963 families. These families are made up of 5,291 adults and children. The average waiting time for band 1 allocations is 10 months.
- vii. Steps are being taken with WBC's Growth Directorate, to identify additional temporary housing and reduce cost and dependence on commercial hotels.
- viii. As of 2019, there are 9 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) with ranks that have worsened by at least 5% since 2015, 4 lie in Birchwood ward, and one each are in the wards of Chapel Ford & Old Hall, Culcheth Glazebury & Croft, Great Sankey North & Whittle Hall, Orford, and Stockton Heath.
- ix. Warrington central 6 inner wards includes: Bewsey & Whitecross, Fairfield and Howley, Latchford East, Latchford West, Orford and Poptars & Hulme.
- x. Following the introduction of the Health and Care Act 2022, Integrated Care Boards (ICB) replaced Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and were tasked with improving health and care by working much closer with partners to make local health systems work for local communities. From an organisational structural point of view, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board replaced the 9 Clinical Commissioning Groups across Cheshire and Merseyside (C&M) with nine 'Places', with each Place having a mechanism to bring health and care closer together., In Warrington we call this Warrington Together.
- xi. The Lifetime Homes Standard is a series of sixteen design criteria intended to make homes more easily adaptable for lifetime use at minimal cost. The requirement to follow the Lifetime Homes standard was replaced, following the Government's Housing Review, by the optional building regulations standard M4 (2) entitled 'accessible and adaptable dwellings.'

- xii. The Warrington Carers Hub offers support to young carers, including peer support, access to breaks from their carer roles and help to access support in school or college. One in three Young Carers say their caring role makes them feel stressed and negatively impacts their experience in education. Over a quarter of Young Carers aged 11 to 15 regularly miss school. This can have a lasting effect on their life chances.
- xiii. As of the last census (2021), 27% of Warrington residents aged 16 and over had a part time job and 73% in Full time employment. The largest employment sectors for Warrington residents were Wholesale and retail trade (17%) and Human health and social work activities (14%).
- xiv. World Health Organisation. Linking Health and Urban Planning. A 'Public health by Design' Approach can inform urban planning decisions to create healthier places. Promoting Environment and Health Policies at Local Level.
- xv. Commissioned by Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the Long COVID self-help group has been set up in partnership with Warrington Disability Partnership to help people whose lives have been – and continue to be – impacted by the virus. The fortnightly support sessions give people a chance to meet with others affected by COVID-19, in an informal, welcoming setting, to share experiences, get advice and access a range of support services. Held at the Centre for Independent Living, the group is open to anyone who is recovering from the illness or suffering the effects of Long COVID, along with those who are providing care for family members and friends.
- xvi. England and Wales Hate crime rate per 1,000 population YE March 2022
- xvii. The solar farms ensure the borough's future energy security and contribute to our ongoing work to tackle the climate emergency, reduce greenhouse emissions, and tackle fuel poverty in our borough and meet the net zero target by 2050.
- xviii. Observational studies which suggest a link between the consumption of food that is high in fat, sugar and salt (HFSS) and obesity / rising levels of type two diabetes. This will help mitigate the ways in which food security interventions may inadvertently contribute to rates of obesity among the food insecure in our communities and amplify existing health vulnerabilities, including coronary heart disease and type two diabetes.
- xix. A comprehensive active travel programme involves putting in place the right infrastructure to encourage more walking and cycling throughout Warrington.
- xx. LINK A Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), to make our buses cheaper, more reliable, easier to use and better integrated (integrated transport involves the combining of different modes to maximise ease and efficiency for the user in terms of time, cost, comfort, safety, convenience), which is funded by £16m secured from the Government's Bus Back Better fund will help support our residents to travel sustainably and help challenge transport poverty.
- xxi. Digital Strategy for Warrington. **Enhanced Quality of Care & Safety:** With digital systems in place, health and care professionals will have access to comprehensive, real-time data, greatly improving decision-making. This instant access to data can dramatically increase safety, reduce diagnostic errors, and enable more personalised care, ultimately improving the standard of care provided across Warrington. **Improved Efficiency & Productivity:** Shared records, Electronic Patient Records (EPRs), and Digital Social Care Records (DSCRs) can optimise workflows, saving time and reducing unnecessary repetition. The efficiency gains realised will free up healthcare professionals to spend more time on patient care, whilst also enabling Warrington to provide more cost-effective services, ensuring better use of public resources. **Patient Empowerment & Engagement:** Through Patient Held Records (PHRs), Patient Engagement Platforms (PEPs),

and the NHS App, patients in Warrington will have improved control over their health and care. This empowerment creates greater engagement, encourages self-management, and can significantly enhance satisfaction. Better informed people are more likely to engage in their care, resulting in improved health outcomes.

Increased Accessibility & Equity in Care: Implementing virtual wards, remote monitoring and digital inclusion initiatives will ensure that healthcare services are more widely accessible, even for individuals in remote locations or those with mobility challenges. This will help to bridge health inequalities, ensuring that everyone in Warrington, irrespective of their circumstances, can access high-quality care.

Digital Skills Development & Culture Shift: By focusing on developing a digitally skilled workforce and fostering a digital-first culture, Warrington is paving the way for the successful implementation of advanced digital health and care technologies. A workforce that is confident and competent in using digital tools will be more capable of delivering modern, effective care, and a digital-first culture will ensure that Warrington remains at the forefront of healthcare innovation.



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⁵²Warrington Borough Council (2022) 'Budget Book 2022-2023' ([Budget book 2022-23 \(warrington.gov.uk\)](#))

⁵³ICB Warrington Finance Dept 2023