SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD Report						
Meeting Date	**19th November 2026**					
Title of report	**Place Based Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – Action plans update**					
This report is for (You will have been advised which applies)	Discussion and agreement of recommendations	x	Approval of recommendations (With discussion by exception)		Information only (No recommendations)	
Reporting Officer & email	Hannah Thomas hannah.thomas@shropshire.gov.uk					
Which Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities does this report address? Please tick all that apply	Children & Young People	x	Joined up working			x
	Mental Health	x	Improving Population Health			x
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity	x	Working with and building strong and vibrant communities			x
	Workforce		Reduce inequalities (see below)			x
What inequalities does this report address?	The place–based JSNA address unique geographic barriers and optimize local service placement					

1. Executive Summary

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) has never had a more central role in English health and care. The policy changes of 2025 and 2026 have created a formal requirement for JSNA evidence to inform NHS commissioning decisions at the neighbourhood level.

The current place based JSNA's for Shropshire show that the area has strong communities and generally good outcomes, but important and avoidable inequalities remain between towns, villages and neighbourhoods.

We propose to update the action plans for each of the 18 place plan areas with current activity, to provide a more accurate reflection of partnership working throughout Shropshire.

The current Place Based JSNA for Shropshire can be found here, including a map of areas Place-based Joint Strategic Needs Assessment | Shropshire Council

2. Recommendations

The Board is asked:

- To complete a full review of all 18 action plans, to confirm delivery, impact, ownership, outstanding actions and opportunities to sustain or scale good practice
- To receive an update on the actions at a later meeting in Spring 2027.

3. Report

Shropshire is a large and diverse county, which, for the purposes of the JSNA is split into 18 place plan areas. These are mostly focused on market towns and surrounding rural communities. Since COVID-19 we have been working with each community in turn to understand the health and wellbeing needs and the determinants of health in these communities.

Collecting information at a local level lets us know more about the local health and wellbeing of each area. This includes things that are working well, things that need improving and where services and resources should and can be placed, now and in the future.

We aim to support our residents at a local level with local issues that affect and matter most to them. This includes working together with local organisations such as voluntary and community groups, schools and colleges, GP practices, local businesses, and Town and Parish Councils to gain local knowledge, insight, and connections.

This has helped us to connect with communities, especially those who are often unrepresented and with the most areas of unmet need at the highest risk of the worst outcomes. We can then work together to highlight and best use the strengths, capacity, and knowledge of all the partners involved to look at actions and possible solutions. This is referred to as an asset-based approach.

Currently, the data highlights several **key themes** across the County:

- **Access to Health Services** (mentioned in 17 areas): focusing on improving access to NHS dentists, community healthcare, GP services and addressing issues related to hospital and emergency services.
- **Children & Young People** (mentioned in 15 areas): including improving youth services, activities, and future opportunities, also providing support for children and young people to be present and safe in communities.
- **Mental Health** (mentioned in 15 areas)**:** affecting health and wellbeing, identifying the need for better and earlier mental health support and services across all age ranges.
- **Transport & Infrastructure** (mentioned in 12 areas): better transport links and infrastructure are seen as essential for accessing services and overall community wellbeing.
- **Cost of Living** (mentioned in 12 areas): the rising cost of living is a common concern, highlighting the need for information on support available and early intervention to prevent crisis.
- **Crime and Safety** (mentioned in 11 areas): improving community safety, the perception of safety and reducing crime rates which impact community cohesion and wellbeing.
- **Housing** (mentioned in 10 areas): there was a focus is on affordable housing, improving housing suitability and quality and addressing housing-related challenges.

What the 18 JSNA's tell us:

- Overall life expectancy is higher than the England average, but there is significant variation within Shropshire.
- Some communities experience poorer access to services, mental-health concerns, gaps in support for children and young people, poor housing and greater cost-of-living vulnerability.
- These differences affect life expectancy and healthy life expectancy and are unfair and avoidable.
- The action plans capture work already under way, good practice and further action needed.

Next steps

The Public Health Team aims to complete a full review of all 18 action plans in 2027, which will confirm delivery, impact, ownership, outstanding actions and opportunities to sustain or scale good practice. We aspire to:

- Renew commitment to local neighbourhood working, recognise the essential role of communities and continue shifting investment into community and voluntary-sector support.
- Use neighbourhood guidance, community hubs and JSNA intelligence to align future services in distinct local areas and build existing programmes at scale.
- Improve the evidence base for rural outcomes and inequalities. Continue involving communities in developing and delivering action plans with collective ownership.
- Work as one community of partners, asking "How can we help?", and enable communities and the voluntary and community sector to play a more central role in service development.

The current action plans demonstrate progress and good practice. The next phase is to understand delivery consistently across all 18 areas and determine what should be sustained, scaled or refreshed.

Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal	N/A	
Financial implications	N/A	
Climate Change Appraisal as applicable	N/A	
Where else has the paper been presented?	System Partnership Boards	
	Voluntary Sector	
	Other	

List of Background Papers
Public Health Annual Report 2024-25
dph-annual-report-2024-25.pdf

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) or your organisational lead e.g., Exec lead or Non-Exec/Clinical Lead
Cllr Ruth Houghton, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care & Health, Shropshire Council
Rachel Robinson, Corporate Director – Population, Wellbeing and Neighbourhoods (DPH), Shropshire Council

Appendices
Appendix A. Place Based JSNA update – presentation