



Our Vision for London

This briefing alerts members to the shared priorities of key health and care partners in the capital as set out in the recently agreed strategic document: *Our Vision for London*.

Overview

At the recent London Health Board Conference, the Greater London Authority (GLA), London Councils, Public Health England (PHE) and the National Health Service (NHS) in London launched *Our Vision for London*, a strategic document setting out a series of shared priorities for the partnership in order to make London the healthiest global city.

The document focuses on the aspects of partnership working, such as workforce, digital, and estates, that can be developed to deliver better health and care services. It also identifies 10 priorities that, through collaborative and innovative working, will address the capital's key health issues.

Background

Over recent years the London health and care system has been developing the way it works with partners to ensure that Londoners receive services that are focused on their needs, provided locally and conveniently to them and where cross-organisational delivery is seamless at point of use.

Following the London Health Commission, and the resulting publication of Lord Ara Darzi's report *Better Health for London* in 2014, the GLA, London Councils, PHE and the NHS in London set out a *Next Steps Plan* to implement the recommendations of the *Better Health for London* report.

In developing a response to the *Better Health for London* report, the health and care partnership in London has recognised that specific actions can be taken by local, and regional partners to further the delivery of the document's ambitions. London Councils, the GLA, the NHS in London, and public health leaders have therefore worked with central government through the London Health and Care Devolution programme to explore how moving resources and decision-making more locally can accelerate improvements in delivering better health outcomes for Londoners. This programme culminated in the London Health and Care Devolution Memorandum in 2017, which has provided a strong joint framework and shared objectives for delivering health and care improvements in London.

Both building on the achievements and addressing the gaps in this programme of work - and

in light of the NHS Long Term Plan, the Prevention Green Paper, London Councils' *Pledges to Londoners* and the Mayor's *Health Inequalities Strategy - Our Vision for London* was developed to refresh the collective plans of partners in London to improve the health of Londoners.

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Our Vision for London notes the significant challenges of improving population health within the complex system of a global city, and the importance of addressing the stark health inequalities evident in London. The document highlights the need for a partnership approach to make the most of London's array of assets and tackle inequalities.

Recognising that the diversity of London's residents requires a personalised and proactive approach to improving health and wellbeing, the *Vision* advocates community involvement and integration across the health and social care system to provide joined-up services.

Joint working and integration

Within the context of the Long Term Plan's models of place-based care, the document promotes integration at the neighbourhood, borough, sub-regional and regional levels. However, the *Vision* recognises the need for local approaches to integration, and highlights the successes of different borough-level integration models; for example the 'One Croydon' alliance which brings together NHS, voluntary sector and local authority partners to integrate planning and delivery of care for over 65s, or the 'Tower Hamlets Together' model where the council and Clinical Commissioning Group have established a Joint Commissioning Executive with a pooled budget, and providers have established an alliance to integrate delivery of community services.

At a sub-regional or regional level, the *Vision* particularly notes the potential to better organise specialist services and population health management systems on a bigger scale, to streamline processes and free up resources for reinvestment in frontline care.

Strong collaboration will be needed to create the right conditions for local joint working, for example by establishing effective and shared mechanisms for oversight and support. Collective work will also be needed to create the right conditions for collaboration and integration, through building an appropriately skilled and resourced workforce, reimagining the health and care estate and rethinking how we develop them together, and making the most of opportunities created by digital transformation.

Addressing priority issues

The document identifies 10 priorities where partnership action is needed at a pan-London level to improve outcomes; either because they cut across neighbourhood and borough boundaries or because there are significant scale benefits that emerge from acting collectively. These areas, and the associated commitment for each area, are:

- **Reduce childhood obesity**

We will achieve a 10 per cent reduction in the proportion of children in reception who are overweight by 2023/24, delivered through bold citywide actions and targeted support for those most at risk.

- **Improve the emotional wellbeing of children and young Londoners**

We will ensure access to high quality mental health support for all children in the places they need it, starting with 41 Mental Health Support Teams in schools, maximising the contribution of the Health Schools London Programme and extending the use of digital support technologies.

- **Improve mental health and progress towards zero suicides**

We will ensure that all Londoners have access to mental health care, support and treatment, especially those experiencing health inequalities.

- **Improve air quality**

We will work together to reach legal concentration limits of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and working towards WHO limits for particulate matter_{2.5} concentrations by 2030.

- **Improve tobacco control and reduce smoking**

We will speed up a reduction in smoking prevalence in London, especially among groups with the greatest health inequalities.

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- **Reduce the prevalence and impact of violence**
We will work collaboratively with the London Violence Reduction Unit to develop and implement effective ways of reducing violence, including addressing its root causes.
- **Improve the health of homeless people**
We will drive action to improve, grow and innovate services that improve the health of rough sleepers, including expanding the pan-London rough sleeping services funded by the Mayor, building on existing good practice, piloting new models of care and data collection, and developing plans to build more integrated services in London.
- **Improve services and prevention for HIV and other STIs**
We will broaden partnership working to focus further on tackling health inequality and a wider range of sexually transmitted diseases.
- **Support Londoners with dementia to live well**
We will ensure that Londoners receive a timely diagnosis, ongoing support and are able to live well in their community.
- **Improve care and support at the end of life**
We will ensure that all Londoners in their last years of life have access to personalised care planning and support that enables them to die in their preferred place.

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Next Steps

A wider engagement process will be undertaken to gain the views of Londoners, and system partners not involved in the drafting of the document. The engagement process will focus on refining and developing the proposals as well as how partners collectively take forward its ambitions and objectives. Reflections and comments are being accepted at the following email address: england.healthylondon@nhs.net

Commentary

London Councils welcomes the publication of *Our Vision for London* and the recognition of the critical role of local government in shaping health and care services. Given the strong emphasis on prevention and co-ordinated community services throughout the *Vision*, London boroughs have, and will continue to have, a significant role in delivering the aspirations of this document. London Councils will therefore be working with boroughs through existing networks to develop the document further and in shaping the way towards delivering its key ambitions.

This document is intended to be a timely series of proposals to provide greater momentum to ongoing integration and health improvement activities in London. However, it is recognised by health and care partners that further work is needed to effectively situate *Our Vision for London* alongside other health and care strategies at a pan-London or borough level, including sub-regional Long Term Plan submissions, and local health and wellbeing plans.

Ongoing engagement activities with boroughs will focus on how London local government can ensure that boroughs' contributions to this programme of work are appropriate, effective, and targeted towards the areas where we can successfully enact change to improve the health and wellbeing of Londoners.

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Links:

[Our Vision for London \(pdf\)](#)

[Better Health for London Plan 2014 \(pdf\)](#)

This member briefing has been circulated to:

Portfolio holders and those members who requested policy briefings in the following categories: Health and Care