

# Towards a new Joint Strategic Needs Assessment



*Next Steps from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Workshop on 30th March 2011*

## Informing the work towards a new JSNA

Over 50 people gathered together on 30th March to look at where Birmingham's JSNA had got to since 2009 and where we needed to go next. Because of the major changes to health and public health, and the new role for the City Council and GPs, we need to think through how we do the JSNA for these audiences. A peer review of our JSNA done for us by LGID (Local Government Improvement & Development, a national agency) will help us do this.

The Health and Social Care Bill, currently going through Parliament, expects a new enhanced JSNA (but doesn't say what that means) to inform Health and Wellbeing Boards, which are the bodies which will together agree local health and social care priorities. A range of presentations and speakers, and some group discussions, shared some next steps and ideas.

This briefing gives you the ideas shared and discussed by stakeholders, and lets you know about what the next steps are for getting involved. You can find all of the presentations from the workshop online at this link:

<http://www.bhwp.nhs.uk/apps/content/HTML/ViewContent.aspx?id=463>

## What is a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, anyway?

A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) looks at the needs of local communities and helps identify priorities for health and social care services and commissioning for the future.

Under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007) Birmingham City Council and the NHS Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) must produce a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) of the health and care needs of local people. The Local Authority has the duty to publish it.

The JSNA links into wider local planning, particularly support for vulnerable groups, across a range of areas, such as housing, community safety and economic wellbeing.

Find out more at [www.bhwp.nhs.uk/jsna](http://www.bhwp.nhs.uk/jsna)

## What you told us during discussions

During the discussion time we shared some achievements of the JSNA and asked for feedback on what we could do next, with an eye to where we need to go in future. You told us:

- Co-ordination of various agencies asking the same sort of questions and co-ordination of messages coming out. Create an effective hub
- Help to avoid relying totally on medical models. Some of the definitions used are medical, and especially for housing organizations we need to look at how we widen this out, for programmes like supporting people
- Make sure JSNA is not a document; it's a programme or process. You can do things at different speeds
- Continue to build the mix of detailed, interim and short and sweet work
- Get key players/decision makers on board.
- Understand new movers and shakers and how to get to them
- Make sure this work, and its challenges, are not seen as an extra layer but is seen as a top strategic priority
- There is still a gap in commissioning; some commissioners haven't used the JSNA. We need to get more commissioners on board
- More communication of what the JSNA is for is needed
- Mind the gap – between strategic objectives and local needs. Do we need more of the local assessments done at ward etc level?
- Some people felt LINK does not speak for them. Healthwatch will need to consider how they feed properly and inclusively into the JSNA processes
- Bottom up data got people talking – working from front line systems upwards, though this is going to be difficult. Getting schools involved in this to help schools commission would be a good step.
- Include provider perspectives more
- Find more ways of enabling people to have a voice in the JSNA, not everyone finds current ways easy to access
- Think through how we make the JSNA more dynamic and real time
- Ensure we have a decision structure which gets clear strategic ownership across the local authority and GP Consortia
- Ensure GP Consortia feed in their needs for what JSNA can do for them, and build JSNA into their commissioning.

## So, what happens next?

There are 6 ways of continuing to be involved in the development of a new JSNA for Birmingham and all you need to do is email [phit@bhwp.nhs.uk](mailto:phit@bhwp.nhs.uk) or telephone **0121 465 2999** and tell us which ways work for you.

1. Join the JSNA Stakeholder Network and encourage others to join.
2. Get involved in the JSNA Peer Review which is about to be done by LGID
3. Do you have a stakeholder circle or user network? Would they like us to share the JSNA process and issues? Do they have experience and intelligence we need to include in the JSNA? Invite us to bring the JSNA road-show to you.
4. We are producing a new Framework for how we do the JSNA. Help comment on it and shape it.
5. We hope to be bringing wiki and twitter to help us do the JSNA. Let us know if you would find this useful.
6. Sign up for future workshops of the Stakeholder Network