

KNP Health & Nature Working Group

Action Plan 2016-2017

This plan has been developed as a draft for discussion and has been based on recommendations identified through:

- The [‘Using the Natural Environment to Deliver Better Health’](#) report published in 2014 by the KNP
- The KCC Sustainability Appraisal of the KCC JSNA and subsequent discussions through the KCC JSNA Sustainability Group
- Activities identified through the Health and Nature Working Group.
- PHOF indicator 1.16 – Utilisation of outdoor spaces for exercise/health reasons
- Stakeholder workshop 9th July (Public Health and Environmental contacts)

As stated in the Terms of Reference, the group’s role is to:

- 1- Advise and make recommendations to the KNP Board in matters relating to the health & wellbeing provided by the natural environment in Kent and Medway
- 2- Facilitate collaboration and join up partners agendas and actions
- 3- Promote and encourage best practice across the county and advocating more vibrant and healthy communities
- 4- Set clear and measurable targets for improvement of the health & wellbeing services provided by the natural environment. Work towards including these targets in relevant policies and strategies
- 5- Provide health & wellbeing advice to all the other KNP subgroups

	Objective	Action	Target Date	Lead & Support	Output/Outcome (to defined by the Lead or T & F Group)	Budget	Strategic Link	RAG	Priority	How this action was identified/ Comment
1 Evidence and Monitoring										
1.1	Identification of opportunities for improving health outcomes through access to, and appropriate use of, quality natural green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a needs analysis for Kent's natural environment and access to green space Use findings to inform the next review of the Sustainability Assessment within the Kent JSNA Use results to inform/influence future work, commissioning and strategy, such as the Kent and Medway Growth Strategy, both Kent County Council and Medway Council's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies and the Kent Environment Strategy. Undertake gap analysis based on the GNA work and engage with partners to develop/ deliver initiatives. 	March 2016	Task & Finish Group (KCC Public Health, KWT, Countryside Management Partnerships (CMPs))	<p>Results integrated into relevant strategies and planning and are informing decision making</p> <p>A clear evidence base is established to underpin project development, communication and commissioning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £30K from Kent Public Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCC Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy KCC Strategic Statement Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Growth and Infrastructure Framework Kent and Medway Growth Strategy Kent Environment Strategy Medway Council's JSNA and H&WB S (need advice to add relevant public health outcome) <p>PHOF indicator 1.16 – Utilisation of outdoor spaces for exercise/health reasons</p>		1	<p>This action is taking forward a recommendation of the Using the Natural Environment report.</p> <p>Needs analysis completed.</p> <p>Next step to define actions</p>
1.2	Improve monitoring and evaluation of health benefits through engaging with the natural environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with public health about monitoring & evaluation methods that can be adopted by service providers. Identify and promote training opportunities. Promote to service providers the annual Health Observatory Public Health briefings. Monitor the integration and uptake of health and natural environment evidence into strategies and decision making 	After the natural ways to wellbeing workshop	KNP Coordinator Public Health	<p>Projects that use the natural environment for health benefits being able to measure their impact on people's health, success of their projects and contribution to Biodiversity targets.</p> <p>Service providers attending PHO briefings and understanding how Public Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KNP Coordinator's time Budget tbc. Business case needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kent Environment Strategy Kent Biodiversity Strategy 		2	<p>This action has been identified through the Sub-Group as a requirement.</p> <p>Health Observatory willing to open up their briefings to health & nature service providers</p> <p>Meeting to discuss monitoring & evaluation to be arranged by Dawn Williams (PH)</p>

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				operates Integration of Health & Nature consideration in key strategies and policies						
2. Communication and engagement										
2.1	Determine the opportunities for the delivery of joint outcomes between health and natural environment professionals	- Hold a networking event to establish what provision already exists, how that information is shared and to investigate the best 'routes to market' for green care and green prescribing – Natural Ways to Wellbeing Workshop 9 th July 2015.	Jul 2015	Task & Finish Group (CMPs, KCC Public Health, Kent Wildlife Trust, TW DC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the commissioning of activity programs of proven efficacy, in locations of greatest need -Directory/database of natural environment health initiatives	£5k from FR&NE team	KCC's JSNA Sustainability Action Plan	DONE 9 th July 2015		This action is taking forward a recommendation of the Using the Natural Environment report.
2.1.2	Establish a register of Nature Based Health and Wellbeing Project Providers across Kent and Medway and detail their service to maximise the opportunities	-From the outcomes of 2.1, collate database of health contacts and nature based H&W providers. -Collate register of nature based health and wellbeing projects which could be used for future referrals. -Investigate the feasibility of a public facing system (Explore Kent) to detail the opportunities and contacts. -Utilising the database to disseminate information (2.2)	April 2016	Task & Finish Group (CMPs, KCC Public Health, Kent Wildlife Trust, TW DC, Explore Kent)	-Preparation for 2.3, 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the commissioning of activity programs of proven efficacy, in locations of greatest need Directory/database of natural environment health initiatives	£5K from FR&NE team	KCC's JSNA Sustainability Action Plan		1	This action is taking forward recommendations outlined at the networking event (see 2.1) and post event discussions. Explore Kent putting together the database
2.2	Establish a network of action leads to assist with 2.3, 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 and promote the benefits of using the natural	- Based on learning from 1.1 and 2.1 and via outcomes from 2.2.1, identify health professionals who will act as champions and advocates in the integration of health and nature.	Following 2.1	Task & Finish Group (CMPs, KCC Public Health, Kent Wildlife Trust, TW	More GPs and other health professionals aware of service providers and health benefits of engaging with the natural env.	Officer Time	(need advice to add relevant public health outcome)		3	This action is taking forward a recommendation of the Using the Natural Environment report. To be done through a new T&F group?

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	environment to support public health	-Widen the networks used for example community hubs, schools, health trainers, healthy living centres		DC)						Sarah Richardson (TW BC) GP has contacts that can be approached to progress this action
2.3	Widely promote the health benefits of a high quality, connected natural environment	-Using evidence gathered widely disseminate learning and opportunities to key stakeholders in coordination with KNP maximising the use of social media. -Build targeted case studies/ marketing/ business models utilising the language/ evidence for the sector	August 2015 March 2016	Task & Finish Group (CMPs, KCC Public Health, Kent Wildlife Trust, TW DC)	-Kent and Medway specific evidence generated -Better integration of health and nature based health projects	Officer's time	(need advice to add relevant public health outcome)		2	This action is taking forward a recommendation of the Using the Natural Environment report. Can be progressed through a new T&F group Promote to Local Health & Wellbeing Boards MVCP working on case studies
2.3.1	Connect with practitioners to develop opportunities for utilising the natural environment.	-Link to the GP Protected Learning Scheme to deliver the natural environment H&W message to local GP's and other practitioners (making links to opportunities such as Explore Kent) piloting in the West Kent CCG. -Investigate the opportunity for inclusion of information on DORIS -Engage with CCG liaison Officers. -Pilot environmental referral system with practitioners and discharge teams in the West Kent CCG area	T&F group	Task & Finish Group (CMPs, KCC Public Health, Kent Wildlife Trust, TW DC) Support from CCG contact	-Objective 2.3 is partially achieved and networks for implementation are established - Area specific evidence generated and monitoring set up - Better integration of health and nature based health projects. Broadening and extending the nature based project option types referred to by Natural England in their Natural Health Service scheme.	Officer's time	(need advice to add relevant public health outcome)		1	This action is taking forward recommendations outlined at the networking event (see 2.1) and post event discussions. Action completed in West Kent. See Sarah Richards' email for details.
2.4	Instigate communication with KCC police and crime departments to	There is evidence which suggests improved health and wellbeing and a reduction in health inequalities plus an	TBC	Task & Finish Group (CMPs, KCC Public	Increased knowledge of and promotion of the added benefits of a	Officer's time	(need advice to add relevant public health outcome)		3	This action is taking forward a recommendation outlined at the networking event (see 2.1)

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	discuss integrated commissioning	increase in quality green space, reduced crime. Using learning from 3.1, instigate communication with KCC police and crime departments to discuss integrated commissioning with health and wellbeing projects		Health, Kent Wildlife Trust, TW DC)	high quality, connected natural environment. New funding opportunities for nature based health and wellbeing initiatives					Caroline Drewett suggestion Not Started
3 Project implementation										
3.1	Achieve integrated spatial planning that secures a high quality natural environment, providing benefits to health and social wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess how the natural environment is currently integrated into Health Impact Assessments for planning Develop and use Health Impact Assessments for planning proposals & environment changes Where gaps and opportunities exist, develop recommendations and guidance and widely communicate, linking to the Health and Sustainability online Planning resource. Using the evidence base establish in 1.1, review major developments as to whether more active involvement and influencing is required (e.g., Ebbsfleet Garden City) 	Ongoing	Medway Public Health Kent Public Health	Contribution towards all the themes in the H&WB strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer's time? (TBC) 	National Planning Policy Framework Medway's H&WB Strategy Theme 3 Medway JSNA KCC Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Growth and Infrastructure Framework KCC's Strategic Statement		3	This was suggested by Medway, can it be extended to Kent. Find out more This tackles the wider determinants of health Link up with Health, Planning & Sustainability online resource WM to bring this issue up at the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas workshops for West and North Kent as part of Outcome 4 of the KNP Planning Protocol
3.2	Identify opportunities to improve resident and patient health through access to green space in public sector estate and assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review where provision of green space in the public sector estate has been effective in improving health and natural environment outcomes Review current accessibility of green space across the public sector 	TBC	Task & Finish Group? (for discussion at WG meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good overview of opportunities - Business cases for delivery of projects 	Budget tbc. Business case needed	Duty to Cooperate, NERC Act Kent Environment Strategy		4	This action is taking forward a recommendation of the Using the Natural Environment report. Review whether this action needs to be taken out as it seems difficult to achieve

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		estate and any gaps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on findings, establish next steps and potential resourcing of projects 								
3.3	Identify multi-sector partnership opportunities to deliver health and wellbeing benefits through the use of the natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess funding / commissioning opportunities in partnership with local authorities, practitioners, third sector and commissioners Bid submission 	TBC	Task and Finish Group	Bid submission through the Partnership utilising the knowledge and evidence of need (e.g. Green Space Needs Assessment)	Dependent on bid	Delivery of JSNA, Kent Environment Strategy		2	This action is taking forward a recommendation outlined at the networking event with funding/ resources a barrier to public health/ natural environment initiatives. Not started