



Bath and North East Somerset,
Swindon and Wiltshire Together

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care System (BSW Together)

Our Integrated Care Strategy Easy Read Version

March 2023

Who we are and what our strategy is for

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) is an **Integrated Care System**.

An **Integrated Care System** is a group of local organisations who work together to help improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of our population.

This includes councils, NHS organisations, voluntary organisations and others across the public and private sectors.

Our strategy explains what we want to achieve over the next five years by **working better together**.

This document is an Easy Read version of our strategy. It explains why we made a strategy, how we made it and what we want to achieve.

If you would like to read the full version of our strategy then you can find it online at www.bswtogether.org.uk/ourstrategy

Why we produced this strategy

From listening to people across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon & Wiltshire, we know that individuals are not always supported as well as they should be to stay healthy and happy.

We know, for example, that:

- Some people live in poor quality housing and/or do not live in environments that promote health and wellbeing
- The increased cost of living in recent years has meant many have found it hard to afford things like food and heating
- It has been difficult for some people to access the health and care services needed for themselves or their loved ones

We made this strategy to address these concerns and others we have heard, and to improve the way we support our population's health and care needs.

How we made this strategy

We based this strategy on what we have heard from members of the public but also worked with **health and care organisations, community and voluntary organisations** to write it.

What we hope to achieve

Our strategy sets the vision that we want to achieve by working together and with residents. This vision is:

To listen and work effectively together to improve health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities.

To achieve this vision, we will prioritise three goals. These are:

1. To help people to stay in good health for longer. We will try to ensure that everyone in our population lives in a place that helps them to stay healthy, for example with clean air and green spaces.

2. Fairer health and wellbeing outcomes. We will put inequality at the heart of everything we do to ensure that everyone is able to lead a healthy, happy life.

3. Excellent health and care services. Though we want to help as many people as possible from becoming ill, we will ensure that when residents do need health and care services they receive excellent quality care.

What happens next?

We plan to update the strategy every year, meaning it will change over time. So that we know what to change, we will work with organisations and members of the public to understand what is good about the strategy and what could be improved in future.

The key question for you as you read the strategy is therefore **‘Have we got it right?’**

Please get in touch to tell us what you think. You can do so through our website at www.bswtogether.org.uk/about-us/our-integrated-care-strategy