



Issue: May 2023

The aim of the Snapshot is to provide a monthly Sector-Led Improvement (SLI) update to DsPH and their public health teams. The Snapshot is produced and managed by Jodie Horton (SW SLI co-ordinator) and Kate Blackburn (SW SLI lead). If you have something that you would like included for the next issue, please get in touch (Jodie.Horton@southglos.gov.uk).

1. South West Behavioural & Social Science (BSS) Learning Needs Assessment

A needs assessment survey was developed to discover current levels of knowledge, expertise and to understand potential priority areas of work for the SW Behavioural Science Hub. The target was to welcome everyone whose job relates to improving public health outcomes in the South West to participate. The aim of this survey is to understand the current level of behavioural and social science activity and identify key areas for learning within the South West. The survey will help the SW Behavioural Science Steering Group formulate a strategy and objectives for the coming year.

In total there were 86 responses (45 LA), 47 from roles formally dedicated to applying behavioural science and 39 from roles not formally dedicated to applying behavioural science.

Key Findings from the BSS Needs Assessment:

BSS is widely used in service delivery (incl. commissioned services). For example:

- Healthy lifestyles/Weight management
- Smoking cessation (incl. vaping)
- Sexual health incl. uptake of PrEP
- Uptake of vaccines
- Infection prevention & outbreak management
- Violence reduction (incl. DV)
- Clean air, active travel & sustainability

BSS is widely used in programmes of work (incl. research and evaluation). For example:

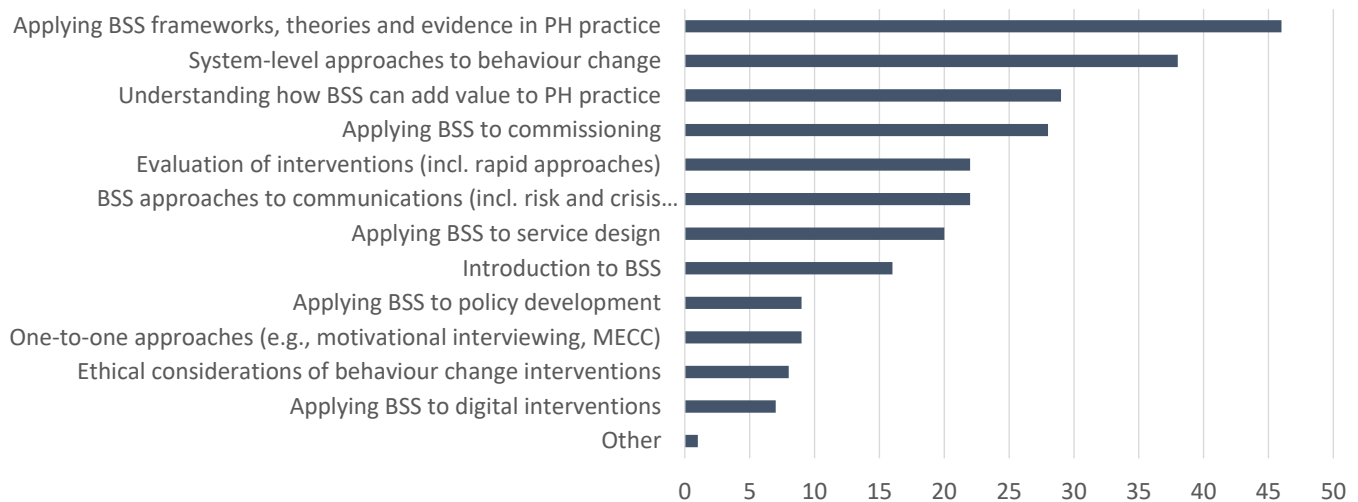
- Health inequalities and wider determinants of health
- Smoking cessation
- Alcohol consumption
- Physical activity
- Oral health
- Health protection processes
- EPRR

Also a few other areas BSS of practice. For example:

- Working with partners across the system (behaviour change of system colleagues)
- Community outreach
- Staff wellbeing
- Increasing BSS capacity in the system

Key Themes from the BSS Needs Assessment:

- 73% knew why BSS is important for effective behaviour change
- 50% felt they didn't have sufficient training in behavioural science
- 50% felt they didn't have access to materials to apply behavioural science (guidance, templates, case studies)
- 66% felt they needed need more help planning how to integrate behavioural science approaches into their work



- The Hub is viewed as a place to cross-pollinate with a wide range of colleagues
- Respondents were positive about the benefits of collaboration and mutual support that the Hub could offer
- Learning & professional development
- Embed BSS in practice in the system
- Regional development

Next steps to follow the needs assessment include:

Seek to increase BSS capability, opportunity and motivation

- Deliver an initial series of 3 webinars to support the learning needs identified
- Further develop a Community of Practice in BSS
- Start to build a repository of resources to support BSS within the region - Case Studies, templates etc.

Many thanks to Russ Moody, Deb Lear, Riinu Pae and Matt Lenny for their hard work on the needs assessment.

2. ADPH SLI Impact Report 2023

ADPH commissioned Shared Intelligence to review the delivery and impact of SLI. The Impact Report aimed to capture a picture of the delivery of SLI in the public health sector, the level of participation in SLI and its impact between 2019-20 and 2021-22. The report provides a brief outline of progress as well as a steer for the future of the programme to increase impact. The following list summarises the impact report recommendations:

- Create a model of public health improvement that builds on the deeply embedded concept of Quality Improvement
- Establish a simple framework for monitoring impact across the spectrum of improvement activity
- Strengthen national & regional co-ordination
- Establish a balanced portfolio of improvement activities
- Consider greater cross sector working

[Source: SLI Impact Report – Action Plan, May, 2023]

The SW SLI team will aim to address and implement these recommendations throughout our own SLI action plan, which will be refreshed soon.