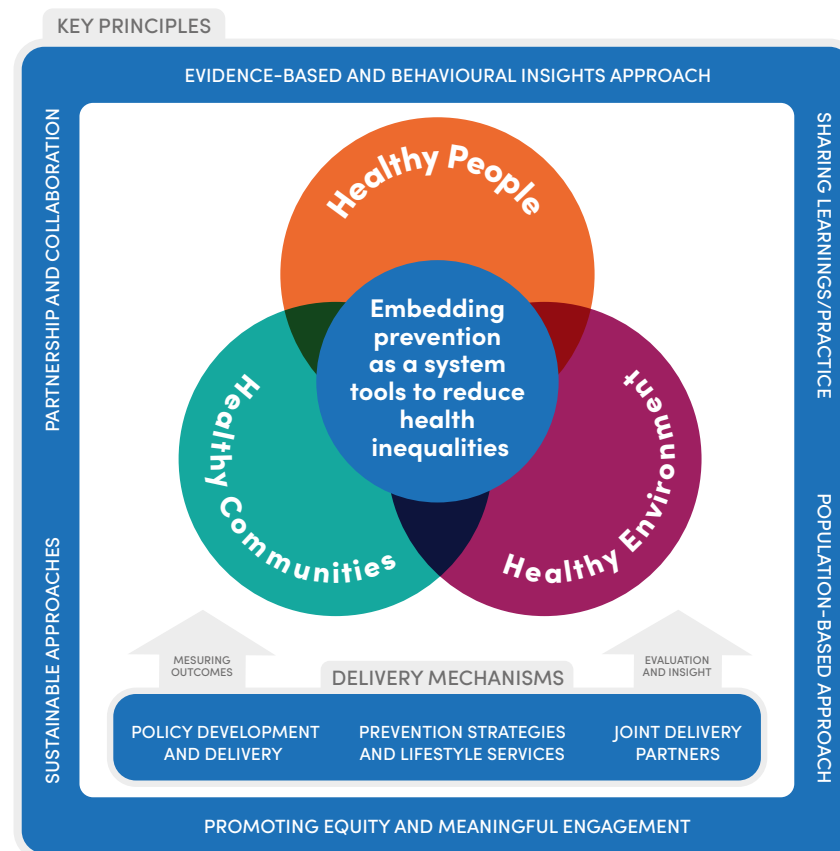


# Prevention Framework Overview and Toolkit

The Prevention Framework is an umbrella framework to apply a Health in All Policies approach across the council and its partners across the system.

The Prevention Framework is used to embed prevention across policies, interventions, and strategies.

Created in March 2022 by the Public Health Division,  
Wandsworth Council  
Reviewed March 2026



## How to use the Toolkit

**Purpose:** The Prevention Framework covers all types of prevention. The toolkit will help set a focus on improving health and reducing inequalities by making prevention at the core of our work to support people, their community and the environment. This toolkit sets out steps you may follow as below.



### Learn

Learn what is the Prevention Framework and what is meant by Prevention.



### Reflect and Apply

Reflect on how you can apply the Prevention Framework and its principles to your work.



### Embed and Deliver

Use the guided questions when planning or reviewing any activity, intervention or policy. Use the checklist to see how you use the Prevention Framework and keep it as evidence of how you applied it.



## What is Prevention?

Prevention focuses on helping people stay healthy, avoiding illness, and managing conditions early. This can happen in different ways – from supporting people to stay well in the first place, to spotting problems early, to helping manage health issues so they don't get worse.

The term 'prevention' is used in different ways across health and social care.



### Primary prevention

**Focus:** Reduce the chance of illness in the first place. Promote healthy lifestyles like moving more, healthier food choices and Healthy Schools and workplaces.



### Secondary prevention

**Focus:** Spot problem early through screening to take action or address housing and employment concerns before they get worse.



### Tertiary prevention

**Focus:** Reduce the impact of it on their life and negative consequences through careful management, like cardiac rehabilitation after a stroke.



### Social Care

– in the Care Act Statutory Guidance (2016), prevention is the care and support system actively promoting independence.

**Focus:** Support wellbeing like falls prevention.



# What is the Prevention Framework?

The Prevention Framework Model shows that prevention happens at three different levels to support people, communities and the environment. At this centre of the model, the aim is to embed prevention as a whole-system approach that helps reduce health inequalities and supports everyone to live healthier lives.

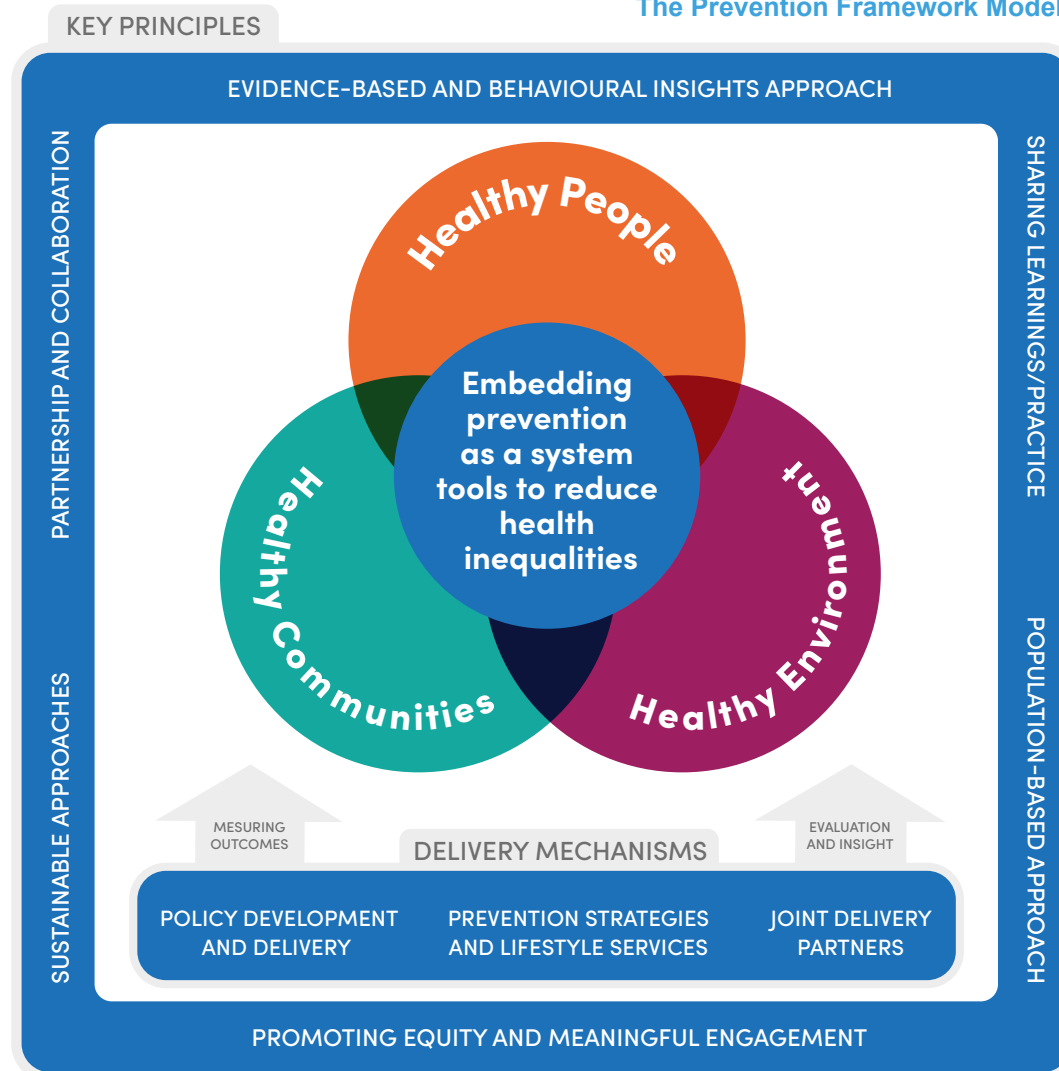
Surrounding this are the framework's key principles. These principles guide the process of how prevention can be applied across the system.

The delivery mechanisms are the practical ways prevention is put into action.

## The Prevention Framework's objectives are to:

- 1 Deliver an evidence-based approach to prevention to support the wider system to strengthen delivery of prevention and tackling health inequalities through its work.
- 2 Facilitate making the healthy choice the easy choice for our residents using positive and assets-based approaches.
- 3 Support a tailored approach to prevention, defining and agreeing success measures across the Council and partners.
- 4 Connect with existing and planned policies and initiatives to enable prevention and health inequalities work to be sustainable.
- 5 Create supportive communities and health-promoting environments.

The Prevention Framework Model





# Prevention Framework checklist

You can use this fillable form as a group or as an individual. Not all boxes may apply. Refer to the Prevention Framework model on page 3.

**Title:**

**Who:** (Organisation and Team name)

**Context of your piece of work:**

**Applying the PF across the system**

– to benefit which level and how?

## Checklist

How will you apply the Prevention Framework to your work?

How would you apply the Prevention Framework Principles?

How would you ensure your policy/ intervention/ advice was in line with the different levels of the Prevention Framework?

What else do you need to know in the other 'levels' (individual, community, environment) to align with the Prevention Framework?

What is missing?

How would you know that you are preventing ill health?

How would you know that you are addressing health inequalities?

What can you measure?

## PF Principles applied:

What evidence base and behavioural insights did you apply?

Which partners did you collaborate with?

Which populations are you focused on?

How did you promote equity and agency?

How did you consider sustainability?

How does this reduce health inequalities?

How have you shared your learning with other Council teams or externally?

**Delivery mechanism:**  
Which one?  
Describe it.



# Applying the Prevention Framework

**Figure 2** outlines the steps of applying the Prevention Framework in practice when reviewing or planning actions, policies, interventions, strategies and work. In each step it first states the principle in bold then it states some key considerations when taking a Prevention Framework (Health-in-All Policies) approach.

The expected outcomes are that when applying the Prevention Framework, it leads to reducing the risk of ill-health, reducing health inequalities and creating a sustainable health and care system.

Figure 2. Process for applying the Prevention Framework as a system tool across people, communities and environments

