

**An update of the work of the Health Improvement Board  
Report to the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board  
March 2017**

Since the last report to the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Health Improvement Board (HIB) has held one meeting in public and convened 2 workshops - one on Housing Related Support and another to discuss the recommendations of the Health Inequalities Commission.

A summary of the business of these meetings is given below.

**1. Housing Related Support workshop, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

Members of the Health Improvement Board were joined by District Councillors with responsibility for housing and officers from District Councils and the CCG. They met in private to discuss final commissioning plans for housing related support. New arrangements for a pooled budget and joint commissioning were in place and the underpinning legal agreement was in advanced stages of development.

The new plan will be implemented from April 2017 and transitional arrangements were finalised.

**2. Health Inequalities Commission workshop, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

Members of the Health Improvement Board enjoyed a presentation from Professor Sian Griffiths, the Chair of the Health Inequalities Commission. They were also joined by one of the Commissioners in this process, Dr Joe McManners, the Clinical Chair of the Clinical Commissioning Group. Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles and Councillor Ed Turner, both members of the HIB, had also been Commissioners working with Prof Griffiths on the Health Inequalities Commission and were both at the workshop.

The discussion at the workshop focussed on the role of the Health Improvement Board in taking forward the recommendations of the Commission. It was agreed that the members of the Board would

1. Make sure all the HIB workstreams focus on reducing inequalities
2. Talk to Growth Board about “The Future of Health in Oxfordshire” and the idea of setting up an Innovation Fund to pump prime some work to address inequalities.
3. Ensure the recommendations of the Commission are considered when planning priorities for 2017-18 as part of the revision of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
4. Report on the workshop to the HWB

In addition the HIB also received a report from the Healthwatch Ambassadors who had been unable to attend the workshop. This paper was discussed at the February meeting of the HIB. The report was warmly welcomed and it was agreed that the

HIB should lead by example to the rest of the HWB in addressing inequalities issues through the performance framework and in setting priorities.

### **3. Health Improvement Board meeting, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017**

The public meeting included in-depth performance reports on two areas where performance has been giving cause for concern – uptake of NHS Health Checks and Rough Sleeping. Officers leading these areas of work explained in detail the action plans currently being implemented to improve outcomes.

The members of the Board continued their discussions on the Health Inequalities Commission, building on the workshop discussions in December (see above). Plans were developed for addressing the Growth Board on this topic.

Progress in implementing the Healthy Weight Action Plan was reported. Richard Neal from Oxfordshire Sport and Physical Activity outlined the outcomes of a workshop on physical activity in schools. A range of ideas had been discussed and will be taken forward. It was noted that the Pupil Premium will be doubled as a result of the levying of the soft drink tax in the next couple of years, so plans need to be formulated to help schools use this to reduce and prevent childhood obesity.

Ian Davies stepped down from the HIB and this was his last meeting. He was warmly thanked for making a significant contribution to the Board since it was first formed. A process is underway for a senior officer from a District Council to take up this place on the HIB.

#### **Future meetings**

Future plans for the Health Improvement Board include holding a workshop to discuss the issue of Fuel Poverty and explore options to expand and sustain the work that addresses this locally.

Jackie Wilderspin, March 2017