

Oxfordshire Place-base Partnership: Health and Wellbeing Board Update March 2025

6.0 Oxfordshire Place-based Partnership (PBP)

Oxfordshire PBP continues to meet on a monthly basis. The partnership is currently considering the role(s) that it may play going forwards to support wider system partners in health and social care throughout Oxfordshire, given numerous forthcoming changes, including:

- Local Government Reorganisation
- Devolution
- Transforming Social Chair
- Abolition of NHS England in 2027
- Further 50% reduction in ICB running costs
- Reduction in corporate costs for NHS providers
- The 10 Year Health Plan

The current joint commissioning arrangements in place between OCC and BOB ICB demonstrate a high level of integration, yet there are opportunities to further this. The Section 75 agreement that underpins these arrangements is undergoing a review, to ensure that processes and decision making mechanisms reflect current ways of working, and to explore opportunities around increasing the scope of provision / resources contained in the agreement.

6.1 Children and Young People

The Oxfordshire Local Area Partnership (LAP) SEND Strategic Improvement and Assurance Board continues to meet monthly, reflections from Stever Crocker, the independent chair can be found [here](#). The LAP is working representatives from NHS England and the Department for Education (DfE) to shift away from an inspection response via a priority action plan, into an improvement plan. The Oxfordshire SEND strategy is currently being developed, with a strong level of involvement planned from parent carers, CYP and professionals.

On 13 March, the Oxfordshire Parent Carers Forum (OxPCF) hosted a SEND Together event on behalf of the Oxfordshire LAP. The event brought together over 150 parent carers and professionals, on the whole, feedback has been very positive.

Members of the Oxfordshire LAP recently met at one of the county's special schools, colleagues from health and social care worked alongside representatives from all of Oxfordshire's special schools to work through some of the challenges that organisations face in supporting some of our most vulnerable and disadvantaged CYP. The group discussed options for how to further improve the Special School Nursing (SSN) provision in Oxfordshire, as well as what other clinical support would be beneficial to special schools and their pupils. The group committed to reconvene on a regular basis and will meet once more before the end of the academic year with a view of agreeing proposed changes to the Oxfordshire SSN provision.

6.4 Neighbourhood Health

Oxfordshire PBP has committed to driving progress in further developing neighbourhood health in the county. An Oxfordshire Steering Group has been established, with broad and inclusive representation from a range of organisations. A stakeholder workshop for around 45 people took place in early June to establish a vision for Oxfordshire. Professor Malcolm

McCulloch from the University of Oxford department of engineering is supporting Oxfordshire with this work through his expertise in system improvement. Oxfordshire is building on foundations laid through the development of several Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs). These have been developed through a localised population health management approach to identify population cohorts that would most benefit from more joined up and proactive care.

BOB ICB is also establishing a Neighbourhood programme covering the BOB footprint to support with the identification of deliverables that make most sense to be done once, for example, ensuring consistency, strategic alignment and stakeholder management with national and regional bodies. Oxfordshire colleagues are fully engaged in this work and arrangements are emerging to ensure that efforts deliver maximum benefit for all.

6.5 Prevention and Health Inequalities

BOB ICB has again committed to a dedicated Prevention and Health Inequalities budget that has been delegated to each place. In Oxfordshire, the Prevention and Health Inequalities Forum (PHIF) will soon review the proposal for how this is allocated and will receive updates on a regular basis. It is anticipated that funding will remain largely with voluntary sector organisations and the two largest areas of spend will be for the whole system approach to physical activity as well as a newly designed whole system approach to community development. Alongside funded projects, BOB ICB and colleagues from public health in OCC will jointly develop a health evaluation unit which will enable a greater understanding of preventative interventions and services that are put in place, and will support wider system colleagues in developing public health management capability, capacity and culture .

Chris Wright
BOB ICB, Assistant Director of Place - Oxfordshire
June 2025