

Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board – 14 March 2019

Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Engagement Activity Report on initial analysis

Context

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2018. It was agreed that this version could be circulated for wider engagement and comment. This engagement activity comprised an on-line survey in January – February 2019 and a Reference Group event for a wide range of invited stakeholders held on 28th February 2019.

This paper outlines major themes identified in the responses given. A full report of the survey responses and the feedback given in a Reference Group event will be tabled at the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 14th March. It is hoped that these reports will enable the Board to decide whether any changes should be made to the strategy before it is signed off.

The on-line survey

The survey was launched on 25th January and closed on 20th February. Widespread promotion and encouragement for stakeholders and members of the public to participate was undertaken by Communications Teams from the CCG and County Council.

A total of 82 responses were received. Questions on whether people were in agreement with the aims of the strategy were overwhelmingly positive.

Initial analysis of the written responses to open questions in the survey has highlight several themes. These include:

1. Delivery of the strategy – questions on how the strategy will be translated into action, how it will be funded and some concerns about workforce issues which could have a bearing on delivery.
2. Endorsement of the emphasis on prevention from many respondents, but also concern from a few people that this had been framed as a means of saving money.
3. Measuring progress was a concern for respondents who are keen to know how the Board will show that the strategy is being implemented.
4. Communication – many respondents expressed their hopes for clear communication about the work of the HWB in delivering the strategy including through all the sub groups.
5. Involvement of wider public, voluntary sector and other stakeholders was mentioned by several respondents
6. There was lack of clarity over what is meant by “Healthy Place Shaping” and this was linked to several respondents thinking that there was no mention of air quality, active travel and healthy environments.
7. Concerns about the immediate problems in the local system were also recorded by several people, including local concern in Wantage and Banbury.
8. Design and layout of the document were commented on by a few people.

The Reference Group event

Invitations were sent out to approximately 200 stakeholders and organisations by Healthwatch, who organised the event. They also posted details of the event in several newsletters and websites. Approximately 36 people attended and a similar number sent their regrets that they couldn't attend due to other important events at the same time.

Group work discussion and feedback included the following themes:

1. Cultural change is needed to deliver this work – a holistic approach to care, across age groups and including transitions; not universal one-size fits all; initiatives should include people not known to services.
2. Communication with the public and stakeholders is essential. Use parish councils and other stakeholders.
3. Support for the emphasis on prevention and early intervention; should be addressing root causes rather than symptoms; “holding your nerve” for the long-term investment on prevention agenda; ensure healthy workforce, ensure appropriate promotion of healthy lifestyles before people get old.
4. Higher profile could be given in the strategy for mental health and for dementia. Also need to mention the NHS Long Term Plan, Integrated Systems and other imminent changes.
5. Translate the strategy into specific, targeted, local plans; addressing inequalities is essential.
6. Involve people in implementation – continue with stakeholder engagement, make sure there are young people and more men at these events. Many stakeholders benefit from networking with each other at these events too.
7. Housing issues should include availability of social housing, affordability, link to workforce issues, community development, transport to help people remain independent.

Next steps

1. A full report on this engagement activity will be tabled at the HWB meeting on 14th March and published so that all stakeholders can see it.
2. A response to the issues raised by participants in the engagement activity will be drafted, showing how the suggestions and comments have been implemented.

Recommendation

1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to note the themes and comments in the reports on engagement activity and consider what changes to make to the draft Joint HWB Strategy and other actions to implement in the light of these comments.

Jackie Wilderspin, March 2019