

Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board - stakeholder network

Background

The Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board (OHAWB) as part of its review in 2018 identified their commitment to engaging with the wider communities of interest for example voluntary organisations, community groups, faith groups, local authorities, parish councils, umbrella bodies, professional organisations, patient groups, self-help groups, and social enterprises involved in delivery of service provision.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire has been asked to identify how this can be achieved with the remit to inform and influence the OHAWB strategy.

This is an opportunity for Oxfordshire to develop and support a network of communities of interest that can bring their experiences of supporting people, delivering services and knowledge of their community needs and experiences of health and wellbeing to the attention of the Health and Wellbeing Board to inform and influence the strategy and services in the county.

Approach

- A. To create an environment where all communities of interest can contribute to the development and evaluation of the OHAWB strategy.
- B. To be inclusive, so not create a 'closed' group.
- C. To enable organisations to contribute in a variety of ways including:
 - a. attending an annual forum
 - b. attending a themed network forum
 - c. online survey
 - d. email, letter
 - e. through existing and new partnerships with a focus on health and wellbeing.

Activity

1. An annual forum that will focus on the OHAWB strategy specifically the progress against objectives, impact on communities, and consider priorities for future years. The forum will be:
 - a. Open to all, inform and influence OHAWB strategy and plans
 - b. Supported by annual survey
2. Network forum meeting twice a year that will be theme based.
 - a. Themes to be agreed at the annual event; for 2019/20 to mirror those themes agreed at OHAWB.

- b. A themed forum will ensure that those community of interests can contribute to specific themes
 - c. An electronic survey will support all three forum - thus giving organisations that cannot attend an opportunity to contribute, local organisations will be encouraged to present at the events
3. Engage with district and local partnerships about the HAWB strategy, themed network forum, and annual forum meetings. Encourage participation in themed forum and annual network.
- a. Focus on partnerships that include health and wellbeing on their agendas for example West Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Partnership, Healthy Abingdon, Carers Oxfordshire, AgeUK Oxfordshire, Mind Oxfordshire, Cherwell Partnership Network.

Resources

The proposed approach is resource intensive. The reality is that to establish a new wide-ranging network, be inclusive, and run three major events a year will require people and event budget. Relationships need to be established that, in the first instance will require attendance at local partnership meetings.

Communications

Communication of the OHAWB strategy and progress will be key to encouraging involvement in the network.

Reporting back to the HAWB on the outcomes and recommendations from the annual event and two themed network events.

Communicate with the wider community the influence and impact of the annual forum and themed forum have on the strategy and priorities.

Establishing a strong communications plan supported by board member organisations and existing networks will reduce the need to create a new (yet another!) data base at the outset. A data base of organisations attending and contributing to the network will be established, operating within General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) compliance.

Staff and event costs

The costs of running three major events a year including staff costs, event costs and communications costs need to be covered if this approach is agreed by the board. We will explore options including a combination of seconded staff from Board member organisations on a sessional basis supported by a dedicated Healthwatch Oxfordshire staff resource thus maintaining the involvement of the Board member organisations in the process.