

Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

7 February 2019

Health & Wellbeing Board Membership and Strategy

Briefing from Integrated System Delivery Board

1. Introduction

This paper addresses the questions raised by HOSC members at the meeting on 29 November 2018 regarding:

1. The proportionality of democratic representation on the Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB) and its transparency.
2. The transparency of the Integrated System Delivery Board (ISDB)

It also includes the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy for feedback from HOSC members.

2. Health & Wellbeing Board Membership

Ahead of the CQC Local Area Review in November 2017, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the HWB began a full review of the board's membership and governance arrangements.

The review included an engagement exercise with key stakeholders to help shape the revised HWB terms of reference, this included:

- Organisations currently represented on the Health and Wellbeing Board
- NHS Foundation Trusts
- NHS GP Federations
- Other providers of health and social care services
- Voluntary Sector Organisations
- Representatives of Patients' and Service Users' Groups

During this exercise the Chair and Vice Chair considered many views about how to get a wide range of opinion into the Board, particularly from the public, interest groups and voluntary organisations.

The paper 'Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board Function and Governance Review' which was taken to full council on 15 May 2018, described the consensus view that the HWB membership should be as small as practically possible, and should contain members who already have key decision-making powers on behalf of organisations.

The principles which shaped the membership proposals included:

- We should propose people with the skills and experience to deliver the functions of the board.

- We need to keep membership to a minimum to facilitate manageable discussion and decision-making.
- We need to achieve a balanced membership and should not be County Council top-heavy.
- We should favour representatives who already have significant delegated authority so that these can be aligned. In practice this means proposing Chief Executive Officers as opposed to Chairs or non-executive members.
- We should respect the views expressed to us by the voluntary sector and patient group respondents by engaging them through a reference group or on specific issues rather than through permanent seats on the Board.
- We want to strengthen the clinical voice of primary care provision as this has been lacking in the past
- We need to retain representation from the two upper tiers of local Government.

The revised membership, governance structure and Terms of Reference were agreed at the HWB on 10 May 2018 and subsequently approved on 15 May 2018 at County Council.

2.1. Stakeholder Representation

The issue of how the voice of the voluntary sector is heard at boards and committees is one which has been discussed at length over many years. Oxfordshire has more than 150 voluntary organisations providing valuable services in the health and social care sector. The sheer number of organisations makes it very difficult to fairly allocate places on boards and committees to speak for the voluntary sector. Regarding this point, the 'Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board Function and Governance Review' paper which was taken to full council on 15 May 2018 states:

We are proposing to establish a reference group for the HWB. This will have wide membership and will include members of the Voluntary Sector and patient group representatives who all expressed a wish to be part of such a body. This body will meet six monthly and a wide range of topics will be discussed

The Health & Wellbeing Board is working with Healthwatch on developing the Stakeholder Reference Group. It has been proposed by Healthwatch that this should be done through working with natural communities / localities.

In addition to the reference group it is anticipated that a wide range of speakers, including voluntary and community sector representatives, will be asked to collaborate in achieving an in-depth perspective of key topics which will inform the Board and its strategy. An example of this is the work underway to ensure that there is meaningful engagement with stakeholders on the revised Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

- A survey to gather people's views has been developed and can be completed via the council's online consultation portal, via email or in hardcopy and posted to a freepost address.
- A stakeholder event for up to 100 people, led by Healthwatch, will be held on 28 February.

A report on the views gathered during this engagement period will be used to inform the final strategy.

3. Transparency of Integrated System Delivery Board

In response to discussions at HOSC in November 2018, system leaders have considered questions raised about the level of transparency in relation to the work of the Integrated System Delivery Board (ISDB).

As a sub group of the Health and Wellbeing Board, the ISDB will provide an update and report on progress to each Health and Wellbeing Board meeting. ISDB aims to ensure the Oxfordshire health and social care system maintains a consistent approach, aligned with wider and at-scale system working. It will manage the programme of work to advance the integration of health and care in Oxfordshire. Much of the day to day business of ISDB is the progress reporting of this work and for the accountable Chief Executive Officers to meet to discuss and support this progress.

Partner organisations represented on ISDB have public facing meetings and Board level membership that include non-executive or lay member representatives.

Members of the ISDB discussed the points raised by HOSC in response to the terms of reference and understand that the integration of health and care is a subject that is of wider interest. Therefore, System Leaders agreed that the actions and notes of the ISDB meetings will be made publicly available from January 2019.

4. Draft Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The draft Health & Wellbeing Strategy is currently undergoing a process of stakeholder engagement and is attached to this paper in Annex 1. Members of HOSC are welcome to make comments on the draft strategy, these will be collated as part of the stakeholder engagement and will help inform the final strategy. It is expected that the final strategy will be signed off at the Health & Wellbeing Board on 14 March 2019.

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