

Divisions Affected - All

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

5th December 2024

CHAIR'S REPORT OF THE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP BOARD 7th NOVEMBER 2024

Report by Director of Public Health and Communities

RECOMMENDATION

The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the content of the most recent Health Improvement Partnership Board meeting on the 7th November 2024 and the Board's contribution to the implementation of Oxfordshire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Background

1. The Health Improvement Partnership Board (HIB) has identified 3 priority thematic areas to focus on;
2.
 - 2.1. Tobacco Control
 - 2.2. Mental Wellbeing
 - 2.3. Healthy Weight and Physical Activity

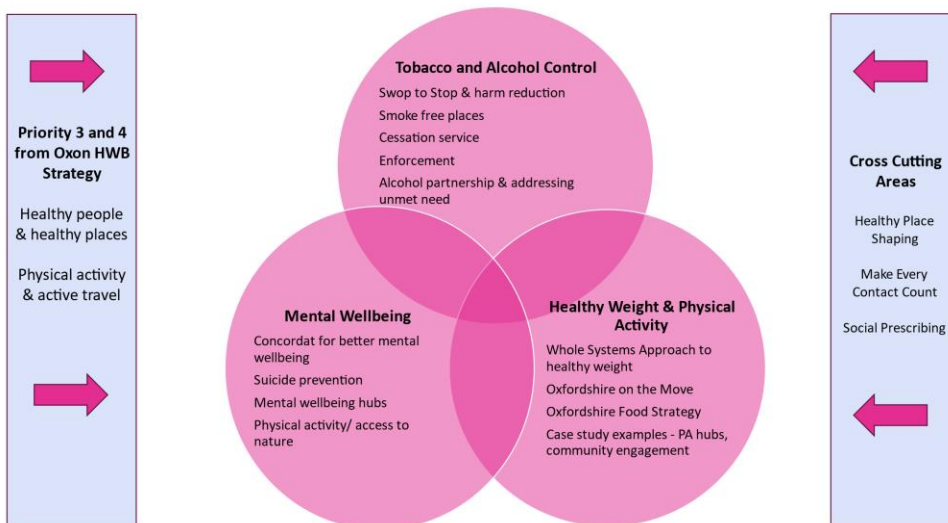


Figure 1- Priorities for the Health Improvement Board

3. Action on these priority areas is supported by an approach which is focused on addressing health inequalities and taking a preventative approach in all we do.
4. The most recent meeting of the HIB was on 7th November 2024. In addition to the standing performance report and Healthwatch update, the thematic focus of the meeting was on tobacco control and health place shaping. There was also an important update item on the Marmot Place initiative to help address local health inequalities. A summary of the meeting is provided below and full reports are available at:
<https://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=899&MId=7699>

Key Reports

5. **Tobacco Control-** the HIB received an update on this work stream which remains the leading cause of poor health, early death and cause of health inequalities in Oxfordshire. The data review demonstrated a reduction in overall county wide prevalence and a significant decline (26% to 15%) in a key priority group- Routine and Manual Workers. There is also District level data available, but it was noted that the data is a modelled estimate using relatively small sample size, so some caution is needed when sub-Oxon level data is reviewed as accuracy can lessen.
6. The recent announcements on national legislation were welcomed- the banning of disposable vapes, control around marketing vapes to children and the plans to bring in the “smoke free generation” approach through next year. This focused has also led to increased funding for tobacco control in Oxon from the Dept from Health and Social Care (£0.8m) and plans to utilise this locally were outlined to the Board
7. Two partners in the Oxfordshire Tobacco Control Alliance presented specific work in their organisations- Response’s work to support residents experiencing mental ill-health to swap from tobacco to vapes as a harm reduction approach and Cherwell District Council’s smoke and vape-free policies which prohibit smoking and vaping on all council-operated sites in order to create healthier environments for employees and visitors.
8. **Healthy Place Shaping-** This item was focused on progress on air quality action. This included updates to District Council 5-year action plans and changes to Air Quality Management Areas. The County Council now has an air quality technical lead recruited to enhance capacity and support partnership work. This includes accessing more granular data and modelling tools.
9. Dr.Suzanne Bartington from University of Birmingham presented findings from a study on the impact of school streets initiative on air quality. The study used air quality sensors at pilot and control sites to measure nitrogen dioxide levels. Results showed a reduction in nitrogen dioxide levels during road closure periods at intervention sites, with reductions ranging from 10% to 75%.

10. **Marmot Place-** The HIB was updated on developing plans around Oxfordshire becoming a Marmot Place since the briefing at the HWB on 26th September. A process of mapping current strategies, projects and data against the 8 Marmot Principles was outlined and initial findings that the following 3 principles are likely to be focused on

- 10.1. Give every child the best start in life
- 10.2. Create fair employment and good work for all
- 10.3. Ensure healthy standard of living for all

Board members contributed to a discussion the local need, challenges and opportunities they are aware of relating to these principles. This input will be taken into the launch event on the 25th November.

Future meetings of HIB

11. As described above the HIB will continue to focus on its priority areas and ensure this aligns with the Live Well section of the new Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The performance report it receives on a quarterly basis will be updated to reflect the Key Outcome Indicators and Supporting Indicators specific to this priority.

12. The next meeting of the HIB will take place in February 2025

Ansaf Ahzar
Director of Public Health

Contact Officer: David Munday
Deputy Director of Public Health/Public Health Consultant
david.munday@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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