

# **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 28 JUNE 2023**

**Present:** Councillor Alan Macro (Executive Portfolio Holder: Adult Social Care and Health Integration), Sarah Webster (Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board), Councillor Janine Lewis (Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Culture, Leisure, Sport and Countryside), Councillor Joanne Stewart (Shadow Portfolio: Adult Social Care; Integrated Health ; Public Health), Councillor David Marsh (Minority Group Spokesperson on Health and Wellbeing), Paul Coe (Interim Executive Director - People (DASS & DCS)), April Peberdy (Acting Service Director - Communities and Wellbeing) and Garry Poulson (Voluntary Sector Representative)

**Members Attending Remotely:** John Ashton (Director of Public Health) and Fiona Worby (Healthwatch West Berkshire)

**Also Present:** Rob Bowen (Acting Director of Strategy and Partnerships), (Gordon Oliver (Principal Policy Officer)

**Apologies for inability to attend the meeting:** Councillor Heather Codling, Zahid Aziz, Matthew Hensby, Jessica Jhundoo Evans, Stephen Leonard, Janet Lippett, Sean Murphy, Dr Heike Veldtman and Gail Muirhead and Dr Heike Veldtman

**Members Absent:** Councillor Lee Dillon and Bernadine Blease

### **PART I**

#### **1 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

#### **2 Membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board**

It was noted that membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board was on an organisational basis. A standing item was retained on the agenda to note any changes in personnel. Changes since the last meeting included:

- Appointment of Councillors Alan Macro, Heather Codling, Lee Dillon, Janine Lewis, Jo Stewart and David Marsh to the Health and Wellbeing Board at the annual meeting of Council on 25 May;
- Stephen Leonard had been nominated as a representative of the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

**RESOLVED** to note the changes.

#### **3 Joint Forward Plan Response**

Rob Bowen (Acting Director of Strategy and Partnerships, BOB ICB) presented the Joint Forward Plan (JFP) (Agenda Item 4).

The Board was invited to comment on the JFP or ask questions of the ICB.

A question was asked about whether the views of young people and their parents / carers had been sought to inform the Joint Forward Plan. It was explained that a wide range of stakeholders had been involved. A series of focus groups had been held, which

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - 28 JUNE 2023 - MINUTES

included various voluntary / community sector organisations, and there had been an emphasis on the 'start well' aspects. Although there had not been direct engagement with children and young people so far, the ICB aimed to do this in future. It was stressed that the JFP was an annual plan. All parties had been feeling their way with this first version, and it was recognised that there were things that could be done better for the next version. The ICB indicated that it would welcome ideas, advice and support about how to better engage with children and young people in future.

Paul Coe (Executive Director – People) presented the Board's draft formal response to the JFP.

The Board was invited to comment on the Board's draft response.

It was noted that the response was similar to that of the Reading Health and Wellbeing Board in that the JFP was broadly supported and it was seen as the first stage in a longer journey. It was suggested that integrated action by partners at the 'place' level would be critical to delivery of change, but concern was expressed that the default position would be high level, NHS-based activity. It was stressed that the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Director of Public Health had key roles to play in ensuring integration of activities across all partners, but there were issues about capacity. It was stressed that Berkshire West did not exist as an entity, so the focus needed to be on the contribution of each Council and Health and Wellbeing Board and delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Members praised the honesty that was evident in the JFP, particularly in recognising the shortcomings of available data. It was recognised that there were challenges associated with certainty of future funding levels and that things may need to change as these were confirmed. Workforce issues were also recognised as a key challenge and it was suggested ways needed to be found to make people want to stay in the NHS.

Members felt that the proposed response referenced the key points. However, it was suggested that the Board was too remote in terms of how the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy was performing and regular updates were requested, which gave assurance about alignment with the JFP.

It was noted that the voluntary and community sector had interacted with the JFP development process. An alliance had been established between the voluntary sectors across the BOB area and it was felt that the sector had been well-heard, with ample opportunities to input to the JFP.

It was highlighted that the JFP referred to tackling tobacco and alcohol consumption, which were Public Health functions, which suggested that there was a clear need for integrated working.

Councillor Janine Lewis proposed to accept the report's recommendation and agree the proposed response to the JFP. This was seconded by Councillor Jo Stewart. At the vote, the motion was carried.

**RESOLVED** to agree the contents of Appendix A for inclusion in the final Plan.

*(The meeting commenced at 10.01 am and closed at 10.34 am)*

**CHAIRMAN** .....

**Date of Signature** .....