



Ageing Well Task Group

Update for HWB Steering Group – November 2023

Current Activity

- Group will now meet face to face on alternate meetings
- Actions assigned to mini task groups for progression
- Successful delivery of Older Persons Day event in partnership with Dementia Friendly West Berkshire and Age UK Berkshire. 16 stall holders attended to meet residents, share information and signpost to activities. WBC Adult Social Care, Walking for Health, Public Health and Community Learning teams also attended. The afternoon included a Love to Move seated exercise session which was very much enjoyed by residents along with a Dementia Friends Information Session which saw residents and stall holders learn more about what it is like to live with dementia and become a Dementia Friend.
- Stay Well in Winter booklet updated and distributed.
- Active Social Media posting around staying well in winter, slips trips and falls and impact of the clock changes and darker evenings

Future Actions

- Partners to progress actions – outcomes will be shared in future updates

Building Communities Together Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group – November 2023

Current Activity

- The Partnership met last on 10 October and will meet again on 16 January 2024.
- The Partnership receive local crime and disorder data at each quarterly meeting and the sub groups have access to local police data to inform local activity and multi-agency problem solving.
- The Strategic Assessment is about to commence with a request to partner agencies to advise on what has changed enough to warrant further analysis. This data will assist the Partnership in identifying issue of concern and enable a review of the Partnership Priorities within the Partnership Plan.

Serious Violence

- In accordance with the Serious Violence Duty through the Serious Violence Steering Group the Partnership is developing a local Serious Violence Reduction Strategy and Delivery Plan. This must be submitted to the Home Office in January 2024.
- West Berkshire is fortunate to have maintained a low prevalence of serious violence however the Duty requires that each locality develops a Serious Violence Plan and a Serious Violence Needs Analysis. The Needs Analysis to inform the strategy is now virtually complete and the Strategy and Plan are in draft.
- A Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) survey was undertaken seeking information on perceptions of areas where people feel unsafe and the data captured has been analysed, and the outcome will inform local partnership activity. Initial responses indicate positive feelings of safety. Further analysis of the results has now indicated the key locations for potential action to reduce fear and feelings of being unsafe.
- In support of the Safer Streets Fund (Round 5), West Berkshire feature as one of the bids submitted by the OPCC to obtain grant funding to focus on reducing ASB in The Nightingales, Greenham. There are several key criteria for approval, but this will enable a number of necessary interventions, via grant funding. The bid has now been approved by the Home Office and activity has started in relation to each of the agreed interventions.
- Partnership Trauma Informed Practice Training has been delivered via a mix of Face to Face and online courses. Further courses are expected in the New Year

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Work in this area is currently extremely limited – see ‘Challenges’.
- PSPO at Speen Lodge Court has been discharged.
- A six-week consultation has just started on the future of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Newbury town centre and the proposal to extend and vary the PSPO for a further three years. The current PSPO is due to expire in early February 2024.

Prevent

- The Prevent Steering Group met on 23 October 2023.

- There are currently zero cases in Channel and zero cases in Police Led Panels. One case has progressed to the information gathering stage.
- The new Prevent and Channel duty guidance has been published.
- The annual County Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) is underway and West Berkshire agencies are in the process of completing the return.
- The Home Office and the Joint Extremism Unit (JEXU), on behalf of HMPPS, have developed a process to ensure Local Authority Prevent leads are aware of nominals residing in their area, managed by HMPPS, who are deemed to pose a terrorist risk. The Chief Executive has now signed and completed the required MoU to support an ISA. No referrals have been received to date.

Domestic Abuse

- The last domestic abuse board meeting took place on 25 September and will meet again on 20 November.
- The domestic abuse and safe accommodation local needs assessment is almost complete.
- An exceptional domestic abuse board meeting is scheduled 22 November in the form of a workshop to review needs assessment findings and act as first phase of strategy development.
- The DRIVE perpetrator programme is progressing, awarded to Caunston, for high-risk, high-harm perpetrators. Scheduled to go live shortly. Task and finish group set up to monitor implementation across Thames Valley.
- West Berkshire's domestic abuse service, provided by Berkshire Women's Aid, are very high with referrals and have funded themselves an extra worker until 31 March 2024.

Modern Slavery

- The Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2022-23 has been signed off by Chief Executive. This has been published on the Council's website and on Gov. Registry.

District Parish Conference

- Work is underway to deliver a District Parish Conference in December or January; with the final decision on the date of the conference and agenda topics to be determined at the Corporate Board meeting on 7th November. It's very likely that the new Council Strategy and next year's Council Budget proposals will feature at this conference. It has also been suggested to broaden the agenda to consider issues wider than just WBC services and allow the input from external agencies and this may also be incorporated into the event.

Members' Community Bids

- The application deadline has just closed for the next round of Members' Bids and there will be a cross-party Panel established to consider the bids and allocate £82k of funding towards community projects. The Panel date has been set for 28th November.

Town/Parish Councils

- There's not any major concerns or issues being raised by our towns/parish councils at the present time.

Future Actions

- Implementation of the Serious Violence Reduction Strategy which has to be published by the end of January 2024.

Challenges

- Senior Community Co-ordinator Resolution post is currently vacant as the postholder is Acting BCT Team Manager. The majority of anti-social behaviour related case work is no longer being done but legislative requirements under the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 mean that a significant amount of work must continue particularly around the PSPOs. This is adding pressure to an already small BCT Team.
- BCT Team had to make the difficult decision not to do the Giving Tree this year. Staffing levels within the Team have made it impossible to undertake.

Children's Early Help & Prevention Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group – November 2023

Current Activity

Public Health – Universal Offer: Public Health provided an update to the group on the nature and extent of the universal offer that is available in West Berkshire, where are the gaps and where there are strengths. There is ongoing work around accessibility of support and information about how to access universal services for families.

Early Help Data: focussed work exploring the trends and needs associated with the provision of Early Help in West Berkshire. The volume of referrals for Early Help is high and increasing with the most common risk factors being Domestic Abuse, children/adult mental and emotional health concerns.

Digital Referral Form: A pilot has been initiated with 12 settings who make early help referrals to use a digital referral form. This pilot will support the decision making about the best way to make non-safeguarding referrals into the early help space. The findings from the pilot will support the decision making about a wider roll out or alternative mechanism.

Supporting Families: feedback was provided from the operational group. Information sharing and the collection of data from a variety of different agencies involved in early help remains challenging, there are some workarounds in place but a longer term technical solution is being sought. There was a visit from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities exploring the Supporting Families programme and the Early Help System Guide.

Parenting: following on from the parenting mapping exercise, a gap in parenting provision for those who have primary school aged children was identified, training and material is being provided to staff in primary schools to be able to deliver such provision.

Overlapping groups - Schools and Universal Offer Working Group (SEND): there is ongoing work on the SEND Strategy and there is an overlap between the these groups. The Early Years Inequalities Group is a new group looking at the first 1001 days and family hubs, this group also overlaps with the CEHPP.

Future Actions

The CEHPP are continuing to drive the actions and agenda around Early Help building on the activity outlined above. Specifically:

- Pilot the Early Help Digital Referral Form
- Establish a robust dataset around Early Help indicators
- Drive forward actions stemming from the Early Help Self Assessment
- Undertake a Hot Focus Session focussed on Early Help

Health Inequalities Task Force

Update for HWB Steering Group - November 2023

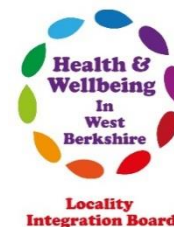


Current Activity

- The Health Inequalities Task Force met at the end of September, after a 6-month break. The new BOB ICB Lead for Health Inequalities, Manu Cuccureddu, joined the meeting.
- Mike Bridges, Interim Consultant in Public Health has taken on the role as Chair of the Task Force and is undertaking a final review of the Terms of Reference. The key roles for the Task Force will be identifying key priorities, action to be taken, accountability and outcome measures captured in an Action Plan.
- Zoe Campbell was voted in as Vice-Chair.
- Membership of the Task Force requires further review and development to ensure involvement of key partners, particularly for the development and implementation of the Action Plan.
- A working group will be set up to assist Mike with the review of the Terms of Reference and the membership of the Task Force.
- It was confirmed that the newly established Early Years Inequalities group will be affiliated to the HITF as a Task and Finish Group.

Future Actions

- Going forward, the HITF will meet monthly.



Locality Integration Board

Update for HWB Steering Group – November 2023

Current Activity

- Following departure of Belinda Seston from the ICB, the new co-chair is Helen Clark.
- Inequalities & Prevention Community Outreach model approved – Public Health mobilising the project. To avoid any delay to the project, the Co-Chairs have agreed that BCF will continue to fund the JOY App at the same level as they are now for the next 18 months, the remaining amount will be underwritten by the ICB.
- Funding for the inequalities and prevention project needs to be shared more widely – PCN's were unaware of the split across BOB and top-slicing.

Future Actions

Mental Health Action Group

Update for HWB Steering Group – November 2023

Current Activity

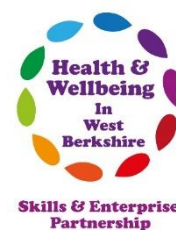
- A final report on Financial Problems and Mental Health was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on 3rd October. The Board noted the actions already undertaken and ongoing progress with delivery of the recommendations. Amongst other things, it also agreed:
 - that the Scrutiny Commission be asked to review issues around debt recovery and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme
 - that the Public Protection Service be asked to review how it could be involved in delivery of the targets identified in the report, including training of staff on mental health
 - that consideration be given to improved co-ordination of work between the voluntary sector and BHFT
 - that BHFT be asked to respond to the original request on the ability of its staff to provide support on financial problems, such as through signposting to other sources of help
- We have continued to work with the Health and Wellbeing in Schools Co-ordinator to produce a guide for teachers of resources to help them support students on financial management. This was produced to coincide 'Talk Money Week', 6th-10th November.
- The Chair of MHAG attended the first meeting of the Berkshire West Mental Health Place Board. It is hoped that improved integration with wider governance structures will enable MHAG to be more effective.
- We continued to support the Volunteer Centre's series of workshops exploring people's understanding of mental health pathways and their experience of services
- We held a Poetry in Mind Celebration Event at Shaw House on Tuesday 10th October. We invited residents who had submitted a poem about mental health as part of the Poetry in Mind campaign. We received over 100 poems and a selection were displayed in West Berkshire libraries, museum and Shaw House. At the event, participants were presented with a certificate of participation from Cllr Janine Lewis and some brave residents read out their poems to the group, which was at times very emotional. All the chosen poems are available to read online: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/poetry-in-mind> We are also planning on creating a book with all the poems in in order to raise money for charity.
- A very positive meeting of the MHAG was held on 13th September. This was the first face-to-face meeting for some time, and it seemed to create a more energetic atmosphere.

Future Actions

- The next meeting of the Mental Health Action Group is on 22nd November, again, in person. This will address how we tackle the remaining objectives assigned to the group.

Skills and Enterprise Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group – November 2023



Current Activity

The SEP met on the 2nd November 2023 and received updates on the remaining actions identified in the Delivery Plan.

| | Planned Actions | Progress at November 23 |
|---|---|--|
| 2 | Extension of the Developing Life Skills' programme | The H&WB approved funding for this programme in 2022/23, which was delivered in secondary schools by the EBP. All sessions were completed by July 2023, with a significant increase to 250 participants. The further funding bid for 2023/24 was discussed at the recent HWB Board, however there are currently no identified funds to support these activities in 2023/24. |
| 4 | Enhanced delivery of a Work and Careers Fair – including participation by local schools and supporting the work on employment opportunities for people with learning disabilities | The 2023/24 annual Work & Careers Fair (the 'Destinations Expo') was successfully delivered on 12th October 2023 at Newbury College. There was a significant growth in attendees with over 1,400 young people from local secondary schools attending, and around 60 employers and other organisations exhibiting. There was, once again, a strong focus on careers for students with disabilities, with attendees from special schools and those with EHCPs from other local schools. The EBP project managed the event, with financial support from Greenham Trust. |

The SEP also discussed the promotion of 'Workplace Wellbeing Charters and Commitments' to local businesses. The discussion was prompted by a paper provided by the Mental Health Action Group summarising the options for 'wellbeing charters' for employers to support the mental health of their staff. The SEP were supportive of these initiatives and colleagues from the DWP agreed to promote to businesses the national 'Mental Health at Work Commitment' www.mentalhealthatwork.org.uk/commitment/

Future Actions

The SEP has two identified actions which it is now supporting on an annual basis – the 'Developing Life Skills' programme and the 'Destinations Expo', as reported above.

The SEP has reviewed the current work being delivered across the agencies aimed at supporting the development of skills and employment of people from under-represented groups (including People with physical disabilities, People with mental health problems, People with learning disabilities, People with long-term health conditions, and Young People).

The group has identified three further potential areas for future action by the SEP. These are:

- Green skills and jobs – extension of a successful project, currently delivered in other areas of Berkshire, to develop skills and employment opportunities for people with disabilities in the Green economy (Groundwork).
- Supported internships – development of local provision of supported internships to enhance the employment routes for people with disabilities (Newbury College).
- Employability sessions – extension of the support provided by DWP to local schools and colleges to enhance the understanding of employment options for young people. Particularly focussed on under-represented groups and on the wide range of routes to skills and future employment (DWP).

Substance Misuse Harm Reduction Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group – November 2023

Current Activity

Owing to Denise Sayles (previous chair) currently being on long term sick, the chairing of the SMHRP meeting is being undertaken by Jessica Ryall-Spoor, Senior Officer – Community, Protection and Health within the Public Protection Partnership.

- The first meeting since Denise's absence took place on 2nd November 2023
- The majority of those in attendance at the meeting, including the chair, were new to the meeting and to their role.
- During the meeting, the Terms of Reference were considered alongside the purpose of the meeting and membership.
- It was agreed that the Young Person's Substance Misuse Strategy Meeting should be relaunched.
- The meeting provided a good opportunity for new partnership links and potential partnership working.
- It identified some comms issues which are being rectified.

Future Actions

- Finalise TOR for SMHRP
- Update Young People's Substance Misuse Strategy document.
- Arrange SMHRP Meeting and YPSMS Meeting for the beginning of the new year.
- Rectify identified comms issues.

Suicide Prevention Outreach worker

Project Report Update for Trustee Meetings

Quarter 2

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| Project Scheme/Title: | Suicide Prevention Outreach project |
| Period: | July August September |
| Aim/Objective: | To provide training and resources throughout West Berkshires, voluntary organisations, small businesses, sports and social organisations |
| Activities Resources contacts made etc | <p>I delivered a Suicide First Aid Course face to face in June to 7 attendees, these represented Healthwatch, Newbury Street Pastors, a Solicitor, Citizens Advice, Soup Kitchen, Greenham Trust</p> <p>Because of the summer holidays it was decided to hold off courses in July and August, and then recommence during September onwards.</p> <p>Follow up meeting Andrew Spaak, who is hoping to make a bid for funding for courses for Rugby Club (Hungerford/Thatcham)</p> <p>Meeting with Dave Seward at the Waterside, discussed courses and where to deliver, encouraged to book at Broadway House for training.</p> <p>Meeting with 2 local PCOS to explain courses, both felt that would be very useful and agreed to share info. with colleagues</p> <p>We are aware of a lack of local support for those bereaved by Suicide, I contacted SOBS who explained the process of how to set up a support group, I discussed this with Garry, and information has been sent through the Volunteer media of how to apply through SOBS, and how the support groups run and function.</p> <p>I attended The Suicide Prevention Action Group quarterly meeting and updated on my activities.</p> <p>I attended the Theale meeting of 3 regarding local Mental Health Services, the attendees were a diverse mix and many were very interested to hear about what I have been doing, I felt very included in the discussions and workshop</p> <p>I attended Mental Health Academy Virtual webinars, and was able to dip into those sessions of interest to me.</p> <p>I attended a tutor drop-in session and regular check-ins with a fellow tutor for continuing support and further CPD</p> <p>I attended the National Centre for Suicide Prevention Education and Training Virtual Conference 2023 "Suicide Prevention: Working Together</p> <p>I have continued to deliver leaflets, cards, QR code to many whilst I am out and about, these include shops and businesses,</p> <p>I have been to East Garston also to discuss delivering a course either at a local hall or the local café for local people</p> <p>I have also taken the opportunity to continue emailing contacts, particularly Sports Clubs of all types</p> |

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| <p>Significant events/successes:</p> | <p>Attending the virtual NCSPET Conference. The speakers were brilliant, particularly the session on Gambling and Suicide, but also the key speakers Jonny Benjamin and Neil Laybourn, both of whom share their true story on the video I present on the training course I deliver. To hear their back story and how their relationship and work has evolved since, was one of the most emotive and incredible things, and certainly will help further my content of the course. Dr Frank Campbell talked about his work in postvention, very inspiring and a man who is a complete expert in his field.</p> <p>Each course I deliver I consider to be a success, as new knowledge and confidence is gained by attendees, which will forever potentially keep more people in a place of safety. I always invite the Samaritans to attend, which I think is a good collaboration and learning tool for us, their local outreach worker tries to endeavour to do this. This enables a great listening ear for those who need it, as the course can be quite triggering.</p> |
| <p>Any Difficulties?</p> | <p>So many people who I meet agree that the courses I deliver would be so very useful and important to do, I have been passed contacts who listen intently to my explanations of the course content. However due to possibly time needed to apply for their funding, many are yet to book.</p> <p>We agreed that the summer holiday months would be difficult to book and made the decision of cancelling July/August</p> |
| <p>Planned Future Activities Training Events</p> | <p>I will continue as planned monthly face to face training courses, and have booked a room at Broadway House through to the end of 2024 for this.</p> <p>I will continue to attend the Tutor drop-ins through NCSEPT, and I also hope to attend an upskill event and Men's Mental Health CPD during November</p> <p>To see a local SOBS group get themselves started will be a huge achievement for them and will be so good to see and ultimately be able to share the resource with those in need.</p> <p>Participate in the open day at Broadway House in November and the next Suicide Action Group Meeting.</p> <p>I have been asked to attend the local Samaritans Group AGM at St Bartholomew's School, and I am very much looking forward to it.</p> <p>"Most people thinking of suicide do not want their lives to end, they want the pain to stop".....therefore "Suicide has to be one of the most preventable deaths" NCSEPT, two core beliefs that I try to instil in those that I meet along the way , this opportunity that I have been given still evokes a passion to show how kindness and care really do help change people's lives.</p> |

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| | 13 trained in October |
| Directors comments | Very pleased with the work we are doing. In addition to Sues excellent work we have been advocating for the work within the Health and Wellbeing board at WBC which has been noted by elected members of the council and council officers. |