
Health and Wellbeing Board – Terms of Reference

Introduction

West Berkshire's Health and Wellbeing Board (the Board) was established in 2013 with a duty to encourage integrated working between health, social care and other public services in order to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for West Berkshire residents.

It has an important strategic influence on encouraging joined up, integrated and system wide working to improve outcomes for local people.

Following a Peer Challenge in 2016 the role of the Board was broadened. It is now the primary partnership in West Berkshire with the role of promoting health and wellbeing across the District.

Our vision for West Berkshire

The Health and Wellbeing Board's ambition is to enable communities to live healthy lives and to close the gap between communities that are doing well and those that need help. We will listen together, deliberate together and make decisions together to overcome barriers and improve opportunities for everyone to support and sustain healthy, independent living.

What outcomes do we want to achieve?

- the people of West Berkshire will live longer, healthier lives;
- fewer people die prematurely;
- the gap in healthy life expectancy between the most vulnerable and the least well off in our District and the rest will be reduced;

Objectives

The West Berkshire Health and Wellbeing Board will meet the obligations for Health and Wellbeing Boards set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and modified under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.

The statutory purpose of the Health and Wellbeing Board is defined in the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

To be a systems leader, the Board will:

- (1) Oversee the integration of health and wellbeing services.
- (2) Drive prevention and action to decrease inequalities in health through addressing the wider determinants of health.
- (3) Focus its work on identified needs in the system as specified in the Joint Strategic Needs assessment.

Role

The role of the Board is different for different areas of work, for example it:

- (1) has a role in endorsing some work undertaken elsewhere in the system.
- (2) must be assured that work is being undertaken in other parts of the system.
- (3) has a role in driving work that needs to be done in the system.

Responsibilities

The specific medium term objectives of the Board are drawn from the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. For 2017-2022 there are five key objectives. These are;

Give every child the best start in life

Promote the emotional health and wellbeing of children. Support mental health and wellbeing throughout life

Reduce alcohol related harm across the District for all age groups. Reduce premature mortality by helping people live healthier lives

Address the issue of a lack of affordable housing. Build a thriving and sustainable environment in which communities can flourish

Prevent falls and ensure integrated care for those who have sustained a fall. Help older people maintain a healthy, independent life for as long as possible

The Board will also set annual short term priorities. The Board's strategy for delivering these objectives and priorities is shaped around embedding the following strategic functions;

improving the integration of services;

promoting prevention;

building stronger community resilience;

improving public engagement;

tackling health inequalities.

The Board will also be responsible for undertaking the following;

Preparation and review of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment;

Preparation and sign off of funding re the Better Care Fund;

The Board will be supported by a number of sub-partnerships and Task and Finish Groups in fulfilling its role. It will be directly supported by the HWBB Steering Group

Membership

The Membership of the Board shall consist of the following:

- (1) Leader of the Council (or other designated Portfolio Holder)
- (2) Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Wellbeing
- (3) Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People
- (4) Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care
- (5) Shadow Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing
- (6) *Director of Public Health*
- (7) *Director for Communities (WBC)*
- (8) *3 nominated representatives (in total) from the two Clinical Commissioning Groups*
- (9) A nominated representative from the Voluntary and Community Sector
- (10) A nominated representative from Local Healthwatch
- (11) A nominated representative from NHS England Local Area Team
- (12) A nominated representative from Thames Valley Police
- (13) A nominated representative from Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- (14) A nominated representative from the housing sector
- (15) Portfolio Holder for Community Resilience and Partnerships

Those members denoted in italics are Statutory Members of the Board.

Each Board member should nominate a substitute who can attend in their place.

Chairmanship, Quorum and Voting

The Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board will be provided by West Berkshire Council and the Vice-chair will be provided by the Clinical Commissioning Groups.

A quorum shall be four members (which must include at least one member from the Clinical Commissioning Groups and one from West Berkshire Council). Board members are able to nominate a deputy who can attend and vote in their absence but must have delegated authority to make decisions. Nominated deputies will form part of the quorum.

Code of Conduct

All members are required to comply with West Berkshire Council's Code of Conduct.

All members must therefore notify the Council's Monitoring Officer of disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of being appointed to the Board and are prohibited from participating in discussion or voting on any matter where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Agendas, Meetings and Decision Making

Administrative support will be provided by West Berkshire Council.

The Health and Wellbeing Board has been established as a sub-committee of the Executive and accordingly will comply with the Access to Information Procedures as outlines in the Council's Constitution.

There may be occasions when decisions of the Board impact on the finances or general operation of the Council and in these instances any recommendation of the Board must be referred up to the Executive for final determination and decision.