

UPDATE ON HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARDS HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Introduction

Following the announcement in the Health & Social Care Bill that each top tier Local Authority should set up a Health & Wellbeing Board (H&WB Board) the three Unitary Authorities in Berkshire West have been developing their Boards in accordance with the guidance.

This report provides a brief update on the development so far.

Functions of the Board

The H&WB Board will be responsible for developing the Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA) which will provide an integrated data set and analysis of the health needs of the population. This will enable health and wellbeing board partners to jointly analyse current and future health needs of their population and be used to guide commissioning of health, wellbeing and social care services across the Local Authority area.

The main functions should include the following:

- Assess the needs of the population through the JSNA
- Agree and produce a health and Wellbeing strategy to address to needs which Clinical Commissioners (CCs) will need to have regard of in developing commissioning plans for health care, social care and public health
- Promote joint commissioning
- Promote integrated provision, joining up social care, public health and NHS services with wider local authority services
- Involvement in the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) commissioning plans
- Provide advice to the NHS Commissioning Board in authorising and assuring CCs

Membership of the Board

The guidance specifies the core membership as follows:

- At least one councillor from the Local Authority
- The Director of Adult Social Services
- The Director of Children's Services
- The Director of Public health
- A representative of the Local Health Watch
- A representative of each relevant Clinical Commissioning Group

Current development of HWBB in Wokingham

A steering group including officers of the council and public Health representation has met on a number of occasions over the last year to discuss the setting up of the Board, the membership, and the key functions.

There has been considerable debate as to how the development of the new Health and Wellbeing Boards will fit with the current structures of the Strategic Partnership Boards.

David Johnstone has been commissioned to help lead this work in Wokingham.

At the recent meeting on the 6th January the following items were discussed:

- Council membership – Leader of Council, David Lee and Executive Portfolio Holder for Health and Communities, Julian McGee Sumner to be appointed as council representatives and to attend the next HWB Focus Group
- Formal support will be provided through Democratic Services
- Template for formal board papers to be circulated
- Terms of Reference to be refreshed and circulated
- Updates on Public Health Transition, and Clinical Commissioning Groups to be provided at next meeting
- Governance Framework to be tabled at next meeting
- Participation Forum to meet to develop plans for effective, efficient and representative participation through new Health Watch

JSNA Update

The Public Health team who will be responsible for leading on this work is proposing moving to a new framework for the collection and analysis of data and information which will follow the Local Government guidance in the publications - JSNA: A springboard for Action and Data Inventory.

These recommend organising data around the six domains of:

- Population:
- Social Care and place wellbeing
- Lifestyles and health improvement
- Health and wellbeing status
- Service Utilisation
- Priorities for action

The JSNA steering group will bring together representatives from the three Local Authorities and Public Health in order to ensure most efficient delivery of this work but also to enable good use of data from local populations.

It is planned that the first full meeting of the H&WB Board will meet in April for the beginning of the shadow year during the reorganisation of the health services with the development of the Clinical Commissioning Groups and transition of public health to Local Authorities.

References

- Health and Social Care Bill 2010
- Operating Principles for Health & Wellbeing Boards – laying the foundations for healthier places. NHS Confederation 2011
- LGA JSNA Springboard for Action 2011
- LGA Data Inventory 2011

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