

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH WELLBEING BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-21



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



Berkshire West

Clinical Commissioning Group



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Introduction

From April 2013 upper tier local authorities were required, under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, to establish Health and Wellbeing Boards. Wellbeing Boards are forums where key representatives from health, social care and the community work in partnership to reduce health inequalities locally and to improve the overall health and wellbeing of residents.

The membership of the Wokingham Borough Wellbeing Board for 2020-21 was as follows:

- Councillor Charles Margetts (Chairman, Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Services, WBC)
- Councillor John Halsall (Leader of the Council, WBC)
- Councillor UllaKarin Clark (Executive Member for Children's Services, WBC)
- Councillor David Hare (Opposition Councillor, WBC)
- Matt Pope (Director Adult Services, WBC)
- Susan Parsonage (Chief Executive, WBC) (from July 2020)
- Dr Debbie Milligan (Vice-Chairman) (NHS Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group)
- Sam Burrows (NHS Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group) (until October 2020)
- Katie Summers (NHS Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group)
- Tessa Lindfield (Director of Public Health for Berkshire) (until October 2020)
- Meradin Peachey, Director Public Health – Berkshire West (from October 2020)
- Carol Cammiss (Director Children's Services, WBC)
- Chris Traill (Director Place and Growth, WBC) (until March 2021)
- Graham Ebers (Deputy Chief Executive and Director Resources and Assets, WBC)
- Jim Stockley (Healthwatch Wokingham Borough)
- Phil Cook (Voluntary Sector) (until February 2021)

The key functions of the Wokingham Borough Wellbeing Board are:

- To lead the production of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, which gives an overview of the Borough's current and probable future wellbeing needs;
- Based on evidence detailed within the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, produce a Joint Wellbeing Strategy, which details how needs identified will be met;
- To create and publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment, an overview of local pharmaceutical needs, services and any gaps in provision;
- To encourage integrated working between commissioners of health services, Public Health and social care services, for the purposes of advancing the health and wellbeing of the people in its area. The Wokingham Borough Wellbeing Board works through exercising strategic leadership of public, private and community services in the promotion of healthy communities.

- To consider how resources can be shared effectively between partners and where appropriate, to pool budgets;
- The local Clinical Commissioning Groups must involve the Wellbeing Board in the preparation or revision of their commissioning plans.

Health and Wellbeing Context across 2020/2021 – Local Outbreak Engagement Board

This Annual Report covers a year in which the COVID-19 public health emergency dominated all areas of the lives of Wokingham's residents, our partners and our own Wokingham Borough Council workforce. The COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown measures put in place to control the spread of the virus across 2020-2021 changed our lives in unforeseen ways. COVID-19 has had a direct and devastating impact for some of our residents. But, the longer-term impact on our health and wellbeing, our healthcare services, on the way we all live and work, our communities, our businesses and our economy are only just becoming apparent.

We have mounted an unprecedented response to COVID-19 that will need to continue for some time to come. For COVID-19, unlike other emergencies, the boundary between response and recovery is blurred. How we manage COVID-19 now and going forward will influence how well we, as individuals, families and communities, recover and thrive in the future.

We have responded to local people and government policies and now provide local leadership of test, trace and isolate in liaison with our residents. Partners have worked together across the system to protect the health of our residents and support their emotional and physical health and wellbeing at a time of fear, uncertainty and vulnerability. Over the past year the Local Authority response to COVID-19 has included the setup of Adult Social Care and Children's Services Task Forces dedicated to dealing directly with Covid related situations and queries; an extensive response to support our clinically vulnerable residents including individual calls and working with our partners in the voluntary sector to provide support to residents through 'one front door'; setting up a Case Contact Tracing operation working alongside the national NHS Test and Trace system; setting up and running an isolation call system contacting every newly diagnosed COVID-19 resident to offer advice and support enabling self-isolation; co-ordinating a network of community champions; establishing COVID-19 marshals across the Borough working alongside our Public Protection Partnership team.

It is important to note that all of this work continues and is underpinned by a Covid Data Cell which carries out the work necessary to ensure a data and evidence driven response to COVID-19 within Wokingham and a comprehensive, adaptable communications operation which aims to inform residents of local and national messages around Covid. More recently extensive work was undertaken to set up and maintain three community Lateral Flow Testing Sites and two mobile testing sites to provide asymptomatic testing to residents to try and stop the chain of transmission within our Borough as we move into 2021.

The Local Authority plays a pivotal role within the vaccination roll-out in collaboration with our NHS partners. The NHS leads the vaccination programme. The vaccination

programme will continue across 2021 and Wokingham Borough Council's role will remain vital, as nuanced knowledge of local communities will be required to continually drive uptake of the vaccine.

The establishment of the Local Outbreak Engagement Board (LOEB), a sub-group of the Well Being Board formed in July 2020 has enabled dialogue with residents. The LOEB formed part of the governance structure for the Local Outbreak Management Plan, which drove much of the COVID-19 response across 2020/2021.

As these services and operations are being implemented nationally and locally to better prevent and treat the disease, we must recognise that COVID-19 has brought inequalities into sharp focus. In addition, 2020 has shown us all that there are alternative ways to live, learn, work and belong to communities. We have an opportunity to refocus on the health and wellbeing of our residents and to make sure our work closes the gaps between communities, rather than increases them, to emerge from the pandemic healthier, fairer and more sustainable.

Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021

The Wokingham Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021 was approved in November 2018 with three clear priorities to create healthier and more resilient communities. The Strategy has three key priorities which have helped to shape and underpin the work of the Board and its partnerships:

- Creating physically active communities
- Reducing Social Isolation
- Narrowing the health inequalities gap

Strategy into Action

The overarching indicators within the Wokingham Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021 are mostly based on the Public Health Outcomes Framework, social care and health indicators that are measured regularly. Short term measurable outcomes were presented to the August Board and the Public Health team have continued to work with key stakeholders to achieve these aims.

The Public Health team within Wokingham have been playing a leading role in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of this work, as with colleagues and partners, has been carried out in addition or alongside 'business as usual' public health service work. In addition, national restrictions across 2020/2021 have had a significant impact on the ability to deliver health and wellbeing services across the Borough for example when leisure services and centres were closed or children's centres closed according to national guidance. In many instances, where possible this challenge was met through novel ways of working for example via digital platforms such as Wokingham Active Kids (WAK) Videos or WBC Adult and Community Learning Services delivering all their courses online. In other ways the COVID-19 pandemic catalysed partnership working for the benefit of our communities for example the exemplary way in which the Voluntary sector organisations came together to work with WBC to cater for the health and wellbeing needs of residents during the most difficult times during the national restrictions.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also itself highlighted health and wellbeing issues including the sharp focus on health inequalities, the new government obesity strategy released as a direct result of the link between obesity and increased risk of COVID-19, an increase in children and family safeguarding issues across the course of the pandemic, an increase in mental health and wellbeing issues being reported across the life course and a reduction in presentation for routine screening and immunisation. There have also been positive changes including an increase in people presenting to smoking cessation services, an increase in use of outdoor green spaces and associated physical activity and a considerable reduction in air pollution across 2020 (nationally). However, the full extent of the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health and wellbeing of our communities is not yet apparent.

Work will continue throughout 2021 to determine areas of greatest need within our communities, how those have changed as a result of the pandemic and how this need can be met through the continued work towards the Wokingham Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities. In the second half of 2020 three Strategy into Action Groups were established to focus on each of the three priority areas. In spite of COVID-19 and associated pressures, progress has been made which can be seen in the in the regular reporting to the Wellbeing Board.

Design Our Neighbourhood

Due to Covid-19, we have not been able to run the Design our Neighbourhood event. However, the philosophy of 'Design our Neighbourhood' was adopted. Whilst the event has not occurred, the design our neighbourhood effort has not been forgotten, with Population Health Management approaches used during COVID-19, along with good inter-organisational and Multi-Disciplinary Team working to support the people of Wokingham. Further work will be required this year to push on and engage with the community more, alongside the organisational work.

The Design Our Neighbourhoods philosophy was used to underpin all of our project activities in the Wokingham Integrated Partnership. Our aim is to:

- Use insight gained from as broad a base of data, to support a data lead approach (Population Health Management)
- Seek input from the community, as well as professionals about what we plan to do, with which cohorts of the community and how we plan to do it
- Seek feedback from the community, as well as professionals to see that the interventions that are/have taken place continue to meet the needs of cohorts that they are supporting
- Create a 'one team ethos' for our work with all of our partners, no matter our uniform or badge, we support the people of Wokingham.

A 3-stage plan was developed, as well as the key partners to agree for the event. There are currently plans to run an event this year, and potentially to run these events every year (once it is safe and appropriate to do so).

Wokingham JSNA

Over the year 2020/2021 the Berkshire Public Health shared team and in particular the public health analysts, have necessarily been focused on the COVID-19 response. As a result, the JSNA has made limited progress across 2020/2021.

To supplement the JSNA we have completed the following local needs assessments to inform our work and our service delivery across 2020/2021:

- Children's emotional health & wellbeing health needs assessment
- Smoking needs assessment
- Children and young people health needs assessment
- Substance abuse health needs assessment
- Healthy weight needs assessment was updated
- Pharmaceutical needs assessment (delayed by 12 months)

Children & Adolescent Mental Health Services

Wokingham Mental Health Support Teams

In 2017, the Government published its Green Paper for Transforming children and young people's mental health, which detailed proposals for expanding access to mental health care for children and young people, building on the national NHS transformation programme already underway. In July 2018, the Government response to the Green Paper consultation set out a commitment to implement three core proposals immediately. These proposals are being delivered through a joint and collaborative programme led by the Department for Education, Department of Health and Social Care, Health Education England and NHS England:

- New Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) in schools and colleges
- Support and comprehensive training for senior mental health leads in schools and colleges
- Pilots for a four-week waiting time for children and young people's mental health Services.

In July 2019, Wokingham was successful in securing funding to set up one MHST. MHSTs are a new service designed to help meet the mental health needs of children and young people in primary, secondary and further education (ages 5 to 18), by providing mental health support in schools, colleges and other education settings. MHST teams are designed to work with schools to improve mental health and wellbeing among pupils as well as helping staff within a school or college setting to provide a 'whole school approach' to mental health and wellbeing. MHSTs will support the school and college to build resilience and wellbeing, support earlier intervention, enable appropriate signposting and deliver evidence-based support, care and intervention.

MHST teams will also work alongside and integrate with the mental health and wellbeing support that already exists locally, such as counselling, educational psychology and school nursing. Teams will also provide a key link with local children and young people's specialist mental health services (CAMHS).

Locally our MHST team will provide brief interventions to 12 schools (primary and secondary) to support children and young people with mild to moderate mental health difficulties. Each team is expected to cover a population of around 8,000 children.

The Wokingham MHST team will focus on:

- Providing support for cases of mild to moderate mental health issues, basing their approach on evidence of what works best for children, young people and their parents (or other carers). This may be, for example, brief, low-intensity interventions for children, young people and families experiencing anxiety, low mood, friendship difficulties and behavioural difficulties.
- Supporting and working with the senior mental health lead in each education setting to introduce or develop and co-design their whole-school or college approach. This will include identifying what support is already available and what is missing as well as providing targeted help by agreement, such as training parents, other carers and staff, or monitoring wellbeing.
- Giving timely advice to school and college staff, and liaising with external specialist services, to help children and young people to get the right support and stay in education.
- The service will take referrals from Participating Schools, GP's, Self-referrals, Parents/carers and other professionals.

In Wokingham, as in other MHSTs, newly-trained Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) will form part of the MHST team. The EMHPs are a brand-new addition to the Children and Young People's Mental Health workforce. The graduate level training programme for these new practitioners began in early 2019. Locally, Reading University is one of the Universities providing the graduate level training programme and four EMHPs are undertaking training in order to support participating schools in the Borough to identify and manage issues relating to mental health and wellbeing, as well as deliver interventions for mild and moderate needs. The EMHPs will be supported in the Wokingham MHST Team by a Senior Educational Psychologist and senior Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) workers. We are currently in the mobilisation phase of setting up Wokingham's MHST, and the team plan to 'go live' in January 2021.

An ambitious programme of work has been underway over the last year to ensure the team is ready, which includes:

- Recruitment of staff for the MHST: As of October 2020, the following roles are in post: Senior Educational Psychologist; Outreach Worker; four Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) and an Administrator. Recruitment is underway for two CAMHS worker posts.
- Service model and specification development: The team has consulted on a service model and a service specification.

- Putting arrangements in place to ensure that the local authority is able to flow data to NHS England in line with reporting requirements and adhering to a robust monitoring and reporting schedule as a condition of the funding: A new data capture system will enable data to flow to NHS England, in line with local and national requirements.
- Further communication and engagement activity with relevant partners, colleagues and schools. The service model and service specification has been consulted on with schools, colleagues and relevant partners. Service specific communication materials, including web based and paper based resources, are out for consultation. Monthly project board meetings review the mobilisation status of the project.

Local Transformation Plan

The Local Transformation Plan aims to ensure that promoting resilience and good mental health and wellbeing is a priority across all partners, with a commitment to helping every child and young person experience positive mental health and wellbeing by using the right help, when and where needed.

Our 2019/20 Local Transformation plan identified 7 priorities to focus and act as a way to galvanise the partnership to collectively achieve improvement and change.

These priorities are:

Priority 1 – Ensure that we embed and expand the Mental Health Support Teams in Berkshire West

Priority 2 – continue to focus on meeting the emotional and mental health needs of the most vulnerable CYP – particular attention to Children in Care

Priority 3: Continue to build a 24/7 Urgent care/ Crisis support offer for Children and Young People (CYP)

Priority 4: Continue to build a timely and responsive Eating Disorder offer

Priority 5: Improve the Waiting times & Access to support, with particular this year on access to ASD/ ADHD assessments and support.

Priority 6: To improve the Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion offer and access for Children and Young People in Berkshire West

Priority 7: Building a Berkshire West 0 – 25 year old comprehensive mental health offer

Better Care Fund Update

The Better Care Fund (BCF) is the national programme, through which local areas agree how to spend a local pooled budget in accordance with the programme's national requirements. The pooled budget is made up of CCG funding as well as local government grants, of which one is the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF).

In 2020/21 the Better Care Fund (BCF) has worked well in Wokingham. The pooled budget resources have been used to deliver the integration of adult health and social care services, since its inception in 2014. The schemes operating locally are:

- Voluntary Sector Partnership and Social Prescription,
- Complex Case Management,
- Maximising Independence (reablement services)
- Facilitated and Supported Discharges

The Better Care Fund also funded these Berkshire West wide schemes:

- Care Homes (Community Support) Project - incorporating RRaT (Rapid Response and Treatment);
- Connected Care;
- Integrated Discharge Team (IDT) and Trusted Assessment;
- Street Triage – Mental Health;
- Falls and Frailty.

Despite the pandemic, we are pleased to note that the number of non-elected admissions in over 65's has reduced.

As part of the Better Care Fund the Board considered a report on the Better Care Fund Submission 2020/21. Where it was advised that the submission had been signed off by the Chairman and submitted by the NHS England. The Wokingham submission was aligned with those of Reading and West Berkshire and it was noted that the total pooled fund for Wokingham had increased from £10.78m to £11.36m.

The Board will continue to receive quarterly updates on the programme performance and will continue to receive and review these in 2021/22.

[Berkshire West Integrated Care System Operating Plan](#)

The ICS has continued to work on building partnerships and introducing joint working across the health economy and with its local authorities. The system continues to perform well in delivering the 5 Year Forward View and is looking to build on these achievements now the Long Term Plan has been published. A key part of the Long Term Plan is the development of Primary Care Networks which are embedding well in the borough and are delivering services closer to home for patients. The 4 Primary Care Networks have been invaluable in the COVID response, setting up vaccination sites, and delivering vaccine to residents in the borough.

Joint working across the ICS has been key during the pandemic, with the partnership supporting to care homes, care providers and infection control being guided in as a joint response.

Vaccination has also been supported via this joint approach, with the Clinical Commissioning Group supporting out primary care networks. There has been support from the voluntary sector and Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust to ensure that the roll out has been successful for the first 4 cohorts.

A Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out where professionals across health and social care will work together to improve the health of the population. This year, for the first time, the Health and Wellbeing Boards in Reading, West Berkshire and

Wokingham have joined together to produce a new 10-year plan to improve the health and wellbeing of people who live across Berkshire West.

The new strategy will be the focus for health and social care working in partnership across all three areas to improve your health and wellbeing. It is a declaration of where we all think it is important to work together to make a difference, and so will affect decisions about where money is spent and where resources are put over the next 10 years.

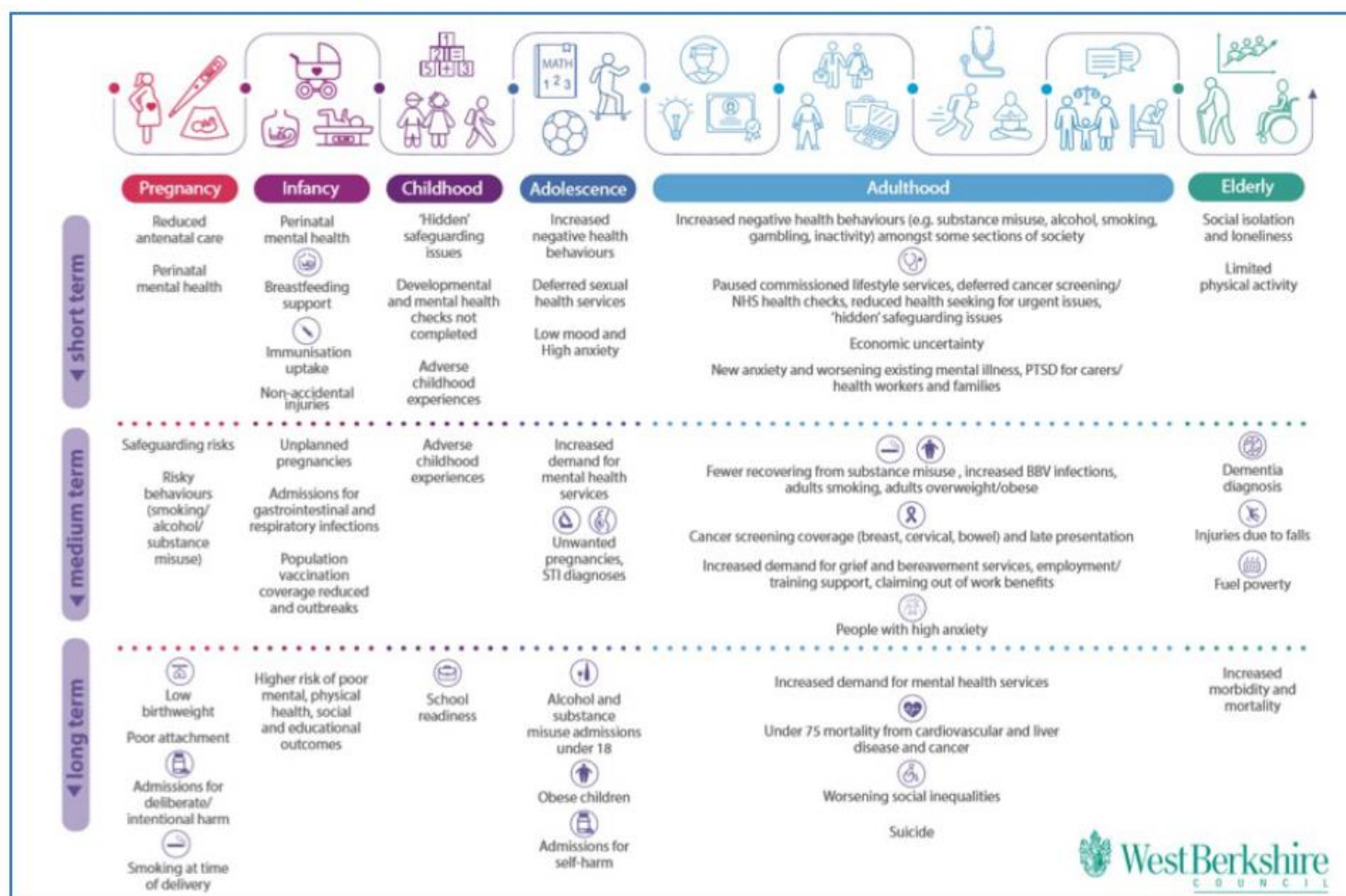
[NHS Berkshire- Annual Public Health Report 2020](#)

The Director of Public health's annual report has focused on the impacts and implications of the pandemic and highlighted 10 areas of consideration for response and recovery from Covid-19.

1) Inequalities

COVID-19 has shone a fresh light on existing health inequalities. As it progresses, it is likely these health inequalities will widen further. Emerging evidence has found some groups are at greater risk of being infected with and being harmed by COVID; the life course diagram below illustrates the short, medium and long term impacts of Covid on different age groups.

Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across the lifecourse



2) Employment

Employment is a key determinant of health and there are early signs that the harmful impact will be greater on some sectors than others, including those that employ some of the lowest paid workers.

3) Children & young people

Children and young people may be the hardest hit by social distancing and other control measures for COVID-19. More time at home with family may be a positive experience for many, but for others it may be a difficult time involving loneliness, bereavement, financial hardship, neglect or abuse.

4) Safeguarding

Our recovery from the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions will need to ensure that safeguards continue to be put in place to identify, support and protect victims of abuse. Evidence from previous disasters, all indicate that heightened levels of domestic abuse continue long after the event

5) Mental health

There were clear links between poor mental health and health inequalities before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and inequalities seem likely to widen further in its wake. There's evidence to indicate the rate of mental health conditions will increase as a result of both the pandemic itself and the measures put in place to control the spread of the virus.

6) Environmental impact

A 17% fall in CO2 emissions during April 2020 provides proof-of-concept that pollution levels are responsive to policy, creating an incentive for making the environmental impact a core focus of future strategies. Pollution is linked to lower life expectancy, particularly through its effects on cardiovascular and respiratory health and lung cancer.

7) Engaging communities

Those on the lowest incomes are less likely to feel able to exercise control over their futures by engaging with national and local political systems. If barriers to participation for those already disadvantaged are not addressed, there is a risk that our recovery plans will not reflect or meet their needs and could deepen and widen existing inequalities.

8) Resilience and social cohesion

Community resilience, including strong social cohesion and social capital, is linked with faster and more effective recovery. Socially cohesive communities tend to feel a sense of belonging and community and either share values or a tolerance for one another's differences.

9) Building on assets and reshaping society

The seismic impact of the pandemic has enforced a dramatic change on how we go about our daily lives. The widespread disruption to communities has broken down barriers and provided a unique opportunity to reshape the future.

10) Measuring progress

Learning from other disasters shows that the measurement of recovery needs to be defined, owned and shared by the community. The measurement of our recovery from COVID-19 will be vital to ensure that we are going in the right direction – towards a healthier, fairer and sustainable society.

Voluntary Sector Engagement

Wokingham Borough Council approved a new Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy in the summer of 2020. The Council recognised the significant contribution of the VCS in supporting the residents of Wokingham to live healthy and happy lives. There are hundreds of charities and community groups operating across the Wokingham Borough offering a vast array of services, activities, projects and opportunities for local people and communities.

Joint working between the VCS and WBC increased significantly since March 2020 and we have met at least twice a week during the whole year to plan and support the

Wokingham Borough Community Response to COVID. This partnership has really shown the value of how the Council and the VCS can work together, and with other health and social care partners, to support our residents.

Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Wokingham and Berkshire West

The development of the new Health and Wellbeing strategy started in March 2020. It has been led by a core team, supported by a monthly Steering group with representatives from each local authority, the CCG and RBHFT.

Development of the strategy has been in four phases. It started with defining the current state, evaluating the existing Health and Wellbeing strategy and by mapping other strategies and recent public consultations across the area. We determined population need through a review of local data and by engaging with stakeholders and partners across the system. This led to a long list of potential priorities to consider including. These were reduced through a series of workshops with partners and a prioritisation process encompassing hurdles such as system working and recovery from covid-19.

A task and finish group then co-produced and delivered an extensive piece of public engagement on the potential priorities. The group included public health, Healthwatch, the voluntary sector, engagement officers and the CCG. The public engagement included an online survey with almost 4000 responses and 18 focus groups. The impact of covid-19 has made the public engagement significantly more difficult than it would have been otherwise. In particular, as the engagement had to take place virtually, it limited the ability of some groups to take part. In view of this, we did extend the period of time for public engagement.

The findings from the public engagement are now being used to refine the potential priorities into the final 3-5 priorities that will make up the strategy. Further stakeholder engagement will be used to develop the strategic objectives for each priority. The first draft of the strategy is planned for early April. It will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing board in May 2021, following which it will go out for public consultation. It is anticipated that a revised draft will come to the Health and Wellbeing Board in September 2021 and the final Strategy will be available in October 2021.

Partnerships

The work of the Wellbeing Board is supported by the following partnerships:

- Business, Skills and Enterprise Partnership; (currently dormant)
- Children and Young People's Partnership
- Community Safety Partnership
- Wokingham Integrated Partnership

Children and Young People Partnership Board Update – February 2021

The Children and Young People Partnership board (CYPP) met three times over the course of 2020 despite the outbreak of Covid-19 and the significantly increased partner workload and responsibilities all members have continued to be fully committed to driving forward the CYPP Plan.

Carol Cammiss, as Director of Children's Services and chair of the CYPP, has worked closely with key stakeholders, who are also members of the board, throughout this period to discuss emerging matters affecting the children, young people and families within the borough and to share updated policy and guidance. In January 2020 the Children and Young Peoples Plan 2020 – 2023 was formally agreed and signed off by the board. Our shared vision is:

'We will work collaboratively across partnerships to ensure that all children and young people in Wokingham are the best they can be whilst being happy, healthy and safe'

We also agreed the shared areas of focus and priorities, these are:

- **Early Intervention and Prevention**
- **Emotional Wellbeing**
- **Contextual Safeguarding**
- **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

In order to drive the four priorities forward, a number of task and finish group (workstreams) have been developed and are now operational which the CYPP Board has oversight and governance of.

A multi-agency co-production working group has been developed to ensure that effective, collaborative early intervention and preventative work is offered to the children, young people and families in Wokingham Borough.

A Serious Violence and Exploitation Strategic Board has been established under the auspices of the Community Safety Partnership - it will be jointly chaired by the Bracknell and Wokingham Police and Children's Social Care. The board has responsibility for setting the strategic direction and systems leadership oversight of violence reduction and exploitation (including sexual exploitation), ensuring that Wokingham has a local strategy and action plan to tackle and prevent serious violence and is compliant with the Serious Violence Duty, which will cover all public bodies from April 2022. The activity of the Wokingham Child Exploitation Strategy Group previously under the Berkshire West Children's Partnership is amalgamated into the Serious Violence and Exploitation Strategic Board. There will have active reporting lines to the CYPP and the Berkshire West Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BWSCP). A mapping exercise was undertaken on the 1 March 2021 with participants from across the partnership working together to develop a comprehensive understanding of the current and emerging drivers of violence, existing initiatives to prevent and reduce violence, identifying gaps and the need for increased capacity.

The CYPP has oversight of the progress of The SEND Improvement Board (SIB) which was established in October 2019 following the Area SEND Inspection (March 2019). The SIB has been effectively addressing the issues raised during the Area Inspection and the subsequent required 'Written Statement of Action'. The CYPP

receive updates on the progress of the SIB board and provides critical discussion and sign off where appropriate. The CYPP will continue to function in this manner and support the SIB through the course of the improvement journey.

Work is being undertaken to strengthen the Contextual Safeguarding approach across Children's Services. We have created capacity within the management structure of the Youth offending Service (YOS) through the creation of a new Team Manager post; the new manager commences employment on 12th April 2021. Whilst their primary function is as the manager of the YOS, they are also going to support the embedding of both the operational and strategic Contextual Safeguarding approach. This includes Exploitation and Missing Risk Assessment Conference (EMRAC) and Return Home Interview (RHI) development, as well as links to strategic activity being progressed via the merging of the VRU and Exploitation Boards.

In recognition that there are safeguarding issues that are extra-familial, which fall out of scope in terms of a traditional Child Protection responses, work is currently being undertaken to develop a Contextual Safeguarding meeting for individual children. The purpose of this approach is to shift the conversation away from harm caused in the home, to harm caused through associations and places, with a view to looking at how to disrupt activity and increase safety.

The CYPP meetings have standing items to ensure oversight of the action plan additional dedicated time has been set aside during board meetings for each partner organisation that make up the board membership to present in more detail the respective organisations' structure, governance, priorities and long term plans. This has not only strengthened the partnership understanding of key stakeholders but also allowed a more joined up approach in supporting the children and young people of Wokingham Borough.

Community Safety Partnership

The Community Safety Partnership is currently updating its strategic and priorities and is in the process of undertaking a public consulting with respect of its new priorities. The new draft priorities for 2021-2024 include three strategic themes and five specific aims:

Draft Priorities 2021-2024

Strategic Themes

Listening to the needs and concerns of local residents and taking action – We will ensure that the partnership has a robust and clear approach to listening, monitoring and responding to issues and concerns at a local neighbourhood level. We will take a problem-solving approach to help communities and businesses to address behaviours and incidents and crimes. This includes burglary, vehicle crime and anti-social behaviour as well as other key issues that affect local communities including unauthorised encampments, and rural crime concerns.

Intervening early and preventing issues escalating – we will ensure that children and young adults have access to a range of support including engagement through

diversionary activities. This will underpin the partnerships work and delivery of the Governments Violence Reduction Strategy. To prevent and reduce the likelihood of children and young adults being drawn into anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, crime and exploitation including serious violent and knife crime. The partnership will ensure that issues are dealt with at the earliest opportunity using a range of measures and interventions to stop them escalating. Where there is a need, we will take adequate and proportionate action including enforcement steps to address issues.

Working together to protect vulnerable residents – We will ensure that all local victims have the access to help, information and advice they need. This includes victims experiencing domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour, hate crime, vulnerable residents at risk of being drawn into exploitation and racialisation, and residents targeted by specific crime types including fraud. As a partnership we will ensure that services and information reach all sections of the community, especially those that may have additional barriers to accessing help such as ethnic minority groups and residents with protected characteristics.

Specific Aims

1) Work with communities to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour hotspots

Our aim is to:

- Listen to communities at a neighbourhood level to identify crime and disorder hotspots to improve safety in areas using a multi-agency problem solving approach.

We will achieve this by:

- Exploring and investigating hotspots identified in the Strategic Assessment
- Monitoring the number of cases referred and resolved by the partnership problem-solving groups.
- Strengthening our multi-agency group led jointly by Wokingham Borough Council Community Safety Team and Thames Valley Police to consider and to resolve the crime and disorder hotspots.

2) Reduce the harm caused by domestic abuse

Our aim is to:

- Prevent and intervene at the earliest stage possible.
- Reduce the risk of people becoming repeat victims of domestic abuse
- Reduce the harm caused to children and young people affected by domestic abuse

We will achieve this by:

- Monitoring the number of victims referred to specialist services and responding to emerging issues.
- Working in partnership to promote opportunities for perpetrators to change their behaviour.
- Continuing to deliver appropriate interventions and specialist support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse including development of a Healthy Relationships' Programme.
- Increasing the number of practitioners trained to recognise domestic abuse and how to refer to support services.
- Increase community awareness and messages through communications campaigns

3) Reduce incidents of serious violence and knife crime

Our aims are to:

- Understand the risks around knife crime, reduce the harm it causes and reduce knife crime incidents.

We will achieve this by:

- Educating young people and promoting awareness of violence prevention
- Reducing crimes of serious violence and knife crimes in the borough.
- Working with our partners to adopt a long term, preventative public health approach to serious violence and harm.

4) Tackle exploitation of children, young people and vulnerable adults

Our aims are to:

- Utilise the use of criminal and civil powers to protect victims
- Ensure that victims have the right level of information, help and support
- Ensure that communities are equipped to recognise and report issues of concern including exploitation

We will achieve this by:

- Monitoring the use of civil powers, for example, community protection notices, premises closure orders, and injunctions.
- Increasing the number of practitioners trained to recognise the signs of exploitation and how to refer for support

5) Reduce crimes of residential burglary and theft from vehicles

Our aim is to:

- Make Wokingham Borough a hostile place for burglars and vehicle thieves to operate by encouraging community resilience and pursuing offenders
- Reduce crimes of thefts from vehicles
- Reduce crimes of residential burglary
- Increase the number of crime prevention messages to the community

We will achieve this by:

- Tackling organised criminals by working in partnership multi agency problem-solve to reduce crimes

Wokingham Integration Partnership Update

There has been progress made against the 2020/21 integration work programme, although a number of projects have been delayed or re-prioritised because of Covid-19, and new projects have come to the fore to specifically address the impact of the pandemic. Work within the programme includes the implementation of the Winter Plan, the recruitment of additional social work, social prescribing and public health posts, and the development of a pilot leg ulcer clinic, which now has a provisional start date of June 2021.

Much of the focus of PCNs and general practice in 20/21 has been responding to Covid-19, maintaining business as usual, and delivering the vaccination programme. 2020/21 saw Wokingham partners respond with an integrated and coordinated approach to the Coronavirus pandemic. This approach provided social and medical

support to the shielded, isolated, and vulnerable populations across Wokingham borough. The joint response to the first wave of the pandemic included:

- The immediate establishment of a partnership team.
- The combination of health and care data sets into a combined database to support the response to the public health emergency.
- Adult social care undertaking welfare calls to local residents, with outcomes recorded and feedback given to general practice. This work integrated with the work of PCN Social Prescribing Link Workers. In total, around 19000 local residents were contacted.

Following the first wave of the pandemic, partners continued to work together to address many of the consequences of Covid-19 diagnosis, shielding, and lockdowns, including:

- Deconditioning (physical inactivity).
- Mental health (anxiety /acrophobia /depression/isolation).
- Inequalities (exacerbation of existing health inequalities).

Throughout the pandemic, WIP continued to meet to oversee the partnership response.

[2021/22 Work Programme:](#)

The Wellbeing Board's work programme for 2021/22 will continue to build on the working undertaken in 20/21.

The priorities of the CYPP include;

- 1) Early Intervention and Prevention
- 2) Emotional Wellbeing
- 3) Contextual Safeguarding
- 4) Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

The CSP priorities include:

- 1) Work with communities to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour hotspots
- 2) Reduce the harm caused by domestic abuse
- 3) Reduce incidents of serious violence and knife crime
- 4) Tackle exploitation of children, young people and vulnerable adults
- 5) Reduce crimes of residential burglary and theft from vehicles

The WIPP priorities for 21/22 include:

- 1) Mental Health & Social Inclusion
- 2) Deconditioning/Rehab/Physical Activity
- 3) Frailty Monitoring
- 4) Inequality and Poverty
- 5) Social Prescription (including Data & IT to support Integrative working)
- 6) Better Care Fund, Monitoring and Administration

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