

1 April 2015

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES & CORPORATE SERVICES

KEY FINDINGS FROM THE HEALTH & WELLBEING PEER CHALLENGE

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides a summary of the key findings of the recent health and wellbeing peer challenge, which took place between 3rd & 6th February 2015. It also describes plans to address the issues raised and identifies some early actions for delivery.

Information and Advice

2. The Council took part in the health and wellbeing peer challenge during the first week of February. The purpose of the peer challenge was to support the Council, its Health and Wellbeing Board, health and other partners in implementing their new statutory responsibilities.
3. The process focussed on a set of headline questions around which the preliminary review of materials, the interviews and workshops were framed. The headline questions were:
 - Is there a clear, appropriate and achievable approach to improving the health and wellbeing of local residents?
 - Is the Health & Wellbeing Board at the heart of an effective governance system? Does leadership work well across the local system?
 - Are local resources, commitment and skills across the system maximised to achieve local health and wellbeing priorities?
 - Are there effective arrangements for evaluating impacts and for underpinning accountability to the public?
4. The peer challenge team consisted of seven members with a breadth of experience and professional backgrounds. The on-site visit included one-to-one meetings with key individuals from the Council and partner agencies including NHS England, Healthwatch and Public Health England. There were also a number of group sessions which included wider stakeholders and council officers. In total, the team held over 25 interviews and 7 focus groups and attended the Health & Wellbeing Board.

Main findings from the challenge

5. The Peer Challenge highlighted achievements and areas of good practice, and identified areas for further consideration. The full report is included in **Appendix One**. The main findings from the review were focussed around three key themes. These were:

Strategic leadership

6. The review found that the Board's potential is appreciated and the chair is highly valued by partners. Board members were committed to the Board, and eager to make a difference. It was noted that the Board had set a firm foundation on which to deliver the health & wellbeing strategy, and examples of joint working, where the Board had acted as a catalyst, were commended.
7. Alongside the strengths, some areas were highlighted for consideration. The review found that the Board needed to reflect on its vision and be clear what this meant for Nottinghamshire people. It was also suggested that the Board focus its efforts on a reduced number of Health & Wellbeing strategic priorities, and finalise the delivery plan to ensure the Board could easily monitor and demonstrate its successes.

Communication & engagement

8. The review highlighted areas of good practice, such as the stakeholder network and Board workshops; development of a common identity (logo), and circulation of post-meeting Board summaries. The panel also praised the developing culture of inclusivity and the role of Board champions in promoting strategic priorities and driving collective ownership.
9. Further areas were highlighted to help broaden engagement with partners. The need to engage more effectively with acute providers and the Voluntary & Community Sector was noted. Wider communication activity was also suggested, using the Board champions and members to communicate the value and successes of the Board.

Governance & support

10. It was noted that the Board was well-placed to become a systems leader and the consultation process to develop the strategy at district & CCG level was highly valued. The draft protocol to describe the working relationships between the Board, scrutiny committees and Healthwatch was also acknowledged as good practice. The practical support provided by the Public Health team was viewed as essential to the work of the Board and was widely appreciated by the Board and its partners.
11. The panel found that there was an urgent need to review the governance structure for the Board, to streamline and simplify arrangements. This included linking the Better Care Fund and integration agenda to the core strategic priorities, and clearly articulating relationships between complementary Boards and Committees. Furthermore, the level of support should be strengthened to assist the Board and Chair in their leadership task. On-going development of the Board should also be reflected in a future development plan.
12. Overall, the review found that the key themes arising for Nottinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board were common to many Boards around the Country. The Local Government Association has commented that no one Board has totally succeeding in its leadership task, but examples of good practice can be gathered through shared learning. The support team

will ensure that information is obtained from other well performing Boards to support Nottinghamshire in addressing the recommendations from the review.

Next steps and early actions

13. An action plan is being developed to identify short, medium and long term actions. This will be developed in conjunction with the Health & Wellbeing Implementation Group, and key partners to promote shared leadership and ownership.
14. A workshop will be held on 29th April 2015 (Lakeside part 2) to allow the Board an opportunity to consider its role and progress around the Better Care Fund. This session will also provide the opportunity to test some of the developing plans from the peer challenge and look at how the Board and its partners work together in a positive manner.
15. Work will be taken forward with Board members according to an agreed timeline to implement required actions in a timely manner.
16. The Local Government Association is also offering follow up support, which the Board can take advantage of to deliver any challenging issues. This support can involve:
 - a. Hosting a further action planning workshop with the Council
 - b. Organising a workshop on specific themes or areas, involving experts or other peers as appropriate
 - c. Arranging a follow up visit at a later date to challenge the process

Statutory and Policy Implications

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) The Health & Wellbeing Board is asked to note the key findings from the peer challenge and support the actions to address improvements.

Anthony May
Corporate Director of Children, Families & Cultural Services

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Cathy Quinn, on 0115 9772882 or cathy.quinn@nottsgov.uk.

Constitutional Comments (SLB 19/03/2015)

The Health and Wellbeing Board is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (DG 24/03/15)

18. There are no financial implications in this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Stick with it! A review of the second year of the health and wellbeing improvement programme. Local Government Association publication February 2015. Accessible at:

<http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/6101750/Stick+with+it+-+a+review+of+the+second+year+of+the+health+and+wellbeing+improvement+programme/5a54723b-d235-48c3-a499-327a29ba272b>

Local Government Association Peer Challenge programme. Information from:

http://www.local.gov.uk/peer-challenges/-/journal_content/56/10180/3511124/ARTICLE

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

- All