

1 October 2014

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

PEER CHALLENGE

Purpose of the Report

1. The Board has been accepted as part of the Peer Challenge for Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWB) led by the Local Government Association. This paper gives some further information for HWB members about the process.

Information and Advice

2. The purpose of the peer challenge is to support councils, their health and wellbeing boards, health and other partners in implementing their new statutory responsibilities. It is a voluntary process which focuses on three elements in particular:
 - Operation of effective HWBs as forums in which key leaders from the health and wellbeing system are coming together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and to promote more integrated services
 - Transfer and integration of the Public Health function into councils
 - Establishment and effective operation of a local Healthwatch.
3. The peer challenge will focus on a set of headline questions around which the preliminary review of materials, the interviews and workshops will be framed. They will be discussed and tailored to each council. The headline questions are:
 - i. Is there a clear, appropriate and achievable approach to improving the health and wellbeing of local residents?
 - ii. Is the HWB at the heart of an effective governance system?
 - iii. Does leadership work well across the local system?
 - iv. Are local resources, commitment and skills across the system maximised to achieve local health and wellbeing priorities?
 - v. Are there effective arrangements for evaluating impacts of the health and wellbeing strategy?
 - vi. Are there effective arrangements for ensuring accountability to the public?
4. The initial expression of interest submitted identified a number of local issues for consideration within the peer challenge process:
 - Governance arrangements
 - Board member relationships and ownership

- Communication and engagement with stakeholders
 - Reaching a consensus on the strategic direction for health and wellbeing
 - Further development needs of the HWB
5. There will be an initial meeting between representatives of HWB, the Council and the Peer Challenge Programme in October. Members of the HWB are invited to raise other issues which they would like included within the process. Meetings with HWB members will be arranged to understand individual issues. There will also be a survey of HWB members which will be submitted with other documentation including the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Better Care Fund Plans, information from Healthwatch and CCGs and information about health scrutiny.
 6. The HWB completed a self-assessment exercise in November 2012 and the results will be included within the background documentation. The self-assessment tool has since been updated and will be repeated as part of the preparation for the Peer Challenge Process.
 7. The timetable for the Peer Challenge Process will be:
 - 23 October 2014 – initial scoping meeting (representatives of HWB and Council)
 - 3 – 6 February on site Peer Challenge (all HWB members)
 - Friday 6 February 2015 initial feedback
 - March 2015 written report to be received
 8. The on site visit will include one-to-one meetings with key individuals from the Council and partner agencies including NHS England, Healthwatch and Public Health England. There will also be a number of group sessions to include wider stakeholders, council officers, and representatives of the voluntary and community sector and service users. There will also be an opportunity for follow up work which could potentially include:
 - Holding an action planning workshop with the Council
 - Organising a workshop on specific themes or areas, involving experts or other peers as appropriate
 - Arranging a follow up visit at a later date to challenge the process.
 9. Intelligence gathered from the process will also be fed back into the LGA to inform planning of future support.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) HWB members to note peer challenge and approve that the preparatory work for the visit should be undertaken.
- 2) All HWB members to ensure their availability for the Peer Challenge 3 – 6 February 2015.
- 3) HWB members to identify issues for the Peer Challenge scoping meeting.

Councillor Joyce Bosnjak
Chairman of Health and Wellbeing Board

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LM 17/09/14)

11. The recommendations in the report fall within the terms of reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Financial Comments (KAS 22/09/14)

12. There are no financial implications contained within the 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.

- None

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

- All