



16 January 2013

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AMBITION AND OPERATING PRINCIPLES FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides a summary of discussions from the recent workshop held on 28 November 2012. It proposes an ambition statement and operating principles for the Board.

Information and Advice

2. Health & Wellbeing Board members participated in a workshop to consider the Local Government Association self assessment tool and discuss the role and operating principles for the Board going forward.
3. Discussions were far reaching, but were around the following themes. A full report of discussions is available on request:
 - a. The Board should maintain a strategic approach to issues and be confident in setting future strategy.
 - b. The Board should lead system change to find a financially sustainable solution to delivering health and wellbeing services that meet local needs.
 - c. Discussions need to be supported by accurate, comprehensive information and evidence.
 - d. The Board should concentrate its role around what it can do over and above the role of individual organisations.
 - e. The Board needed to invest in engaging communities to help shape the debate on future priorities.
 - f. The Board has a major influencing role across the system as it could maintain a holistic view across all partners.
 - g. The Board should lead by example and guide the change to commissioning by outcomes. Success will build credibility with partners and the public.
 - h. The Board should be greater than the sum of its individual members.
 - i. The Board should lead the integrated approach, using public health as a focus for change.
 - j. The Board provides opportunity to harness political power to deliver the Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

4. The Board members discussed the importance of an ambition statement to communicate what the Health & Wellbeing Board aspired to. **Appendix One** includes a draft statement and supporting principles. The Board is asked to consider this information and adapt or approve the statement.
5. The Board discussed the development of operating principles to govern member responsibilities and codes of conduct. It was noted that there were a number of similar standards available. Therefore the Board members agreed to be governed by the Nottinghamshire County Council Councillors Code of Conduct (see **Appendix Two**) and the Seven Principles of Public Life developed by the Nolan Committee. New regulations for Health & Wellbeing Boards are due to be published in January, which will govern how the Board will operate and therefore replace the Code of Conduct.
6. The self assessment was completed by 10 members before the workshop. The collated information was discussed at the Board, but members felt that views from all members should be obtained and the information re-analysed to get a representative picture. A request for outstanding responses has been undertaken and a follow up report will be circulated and or presented at a future workshop.
7. Several actions were identified from the workshop. These included gaining a better understanding each others role; further work on mapping roles and accountability across partners; clarity around scrutiny; communications and review of the self assessment responses. In addition, an example of early leadership in tobacco control was raised, and it was suggested that all partners be asked to make a pledge about what they would do to support this important health and wellbeing area. All actions will be incorporated into the forward programme for the Board.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) The Health & Wellbeing Board is asked to consider and agree the Ambition statement and supporting principles.

COUNCILLOR MARTIN SUTHERS
Deputy Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
Cathy Quinn, Associate Director of Public Health

Constitutional Comments (SG 21/12/2012)

9. The Board is the appropriate body to consider the issues set out in this report.

Financial Comments (NDR 07/01/2013)

10. There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers

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.

Seven Principles of Public Life. Available at:

http://www.public-standards.org.uk/Library/Seven_principles.doc

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

HWB53

Ambition

The Health & Wellbeing Board will advocate for improvement in Health & Wellbeing for the population of Nottinghamshire.

Health & Wellbeing Strategy includes the following Ambition:

Our aim is that the people of Nottinghamshire have longer, healthier and happier lives.

Through better joined up working across health, social care and wider communities, we want to make a real difference in improving health and wellbeing opportunities for all.

Supporting Principles

The Board will operate in an open and transparent manner.

Each Board member will work together to build a common understanding of Health & Wellbeing priorities, and what needs to be done to make improvements.

Each Board member will use their position and influence to advocate for the Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

The Board will focus on what can be done differently and collectively to improve outcomes, reduce waste and avoid duplication.

The Board will promote the need for financial sustainability and prioritise action to achieve extra benefit that could not be realised by individual partners.

Information and views will be actively sought so that the Boards plans take account of what is important to local people.

The HWB will advocate for community involvement, so that decisions are shared and based on all information available, taking account of risks and constraints.

The Boards strategy will use the best evidence of what works and make sure we measure success through recognised health and wellbeing outcomes.

The Board will keep a broad oversight of health and wellbeing issues so that the needs of all people, especially the vulnerable, are considered.

COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

1. The public is entitled to expect the highest standards of conduct from all Councillors and co-opted members of the County Council.
2. The Code sets out the standards of service that are expected from Councillors and co-opted members of the Council. In particular, Councillors and co-opted members should act in an open and transparent manner and should not do anything which would prejudice the reputation of the Council.
3. It is important Councillors and co-opted members understand their position as regards standards of conduct, and if in any doubt should seek guidance. This is because in some circumstances a breach of the Code could be a criminal offence and because any person could make a complaint to the Council if they believe a Councillor or co-opted member has breached the Code.
4. This Code is adopted in accordance with Section 27(2) of the Localism Act 2011.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

5. As a Councillor or co-opted member of the Council you must have regard to the following principles – selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

GENERAL CONDUCT

6. Accordingly, when acting in your capacity as a Councillor or co-opted member:
 - a. You must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person or act to gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend or close associate;
 - b. You must not place yourself under a financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence you in the performance of your official duties;
 - c. When carrying out your public duties you must make all choices, such as making public appointments, awarding contracts or recommending individuals for rewards or benefits, on merit;
 - d. You are accountable for your decisions to the public and you must co-operate fully with whatever scrutiny is appropriate to your office;
 - e. You must be as open as possible about your decisions and actions and the decisions and actions of the Council and should be prepared to give reasons for those decisions and actions;

- f. You must declare any private interests, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary, that relate to your public duties and must take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest, including registering and declaring interests in a manner conforming with the procedures set out in the box below;
- g. You must, when using or authorising the use by others of the resources of the Council, ensure that such resources are not used improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes) and you must have regard to any applicable Local Authority Code of Publicity made under the Local Government Act 1986;
- h. You must promote and support high standards of conduct when serving in your public post, in particular as characterised by the above requirements, by leadership and example

REGISTERING AND DECLARING PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

- 7. You must, within 28 days of taking office as a Councillor or co-opted member, notify the Council's Monitoring Officer of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (we have set out the definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the Annex to this Code), where the pecuniary interest is yours, or that of your spouse, civil partner, or a person you are cohabiting with.
- 8. You must declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and private interests, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary, to any meeting of the Council at which you are present and have an interest in any matter being considered.
- 9. If the interest being declared is a "sensitive interest" you only have to disclose the fact you have an interest but do not need to disclose the nature of the interest.
- 10. Following any disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest not on the Council's register, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the date of disclosure.
- 11. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.
- 12. Additionally, you are required to leave the room in which the meeting is being held whilst the matter is under consideration in accordance with the Council and Committee procedure rules, paragraphs 17 and 12 respectively.

SENSITIVE INTEREST

- 13. Where you are concerned that the disclosure of an interest would lead to you or a person connected with you being subject to violence or intimidation, you may request the Monitoring Officer to agree that the interest is a "sensitive interest".

14. If the Monitoring Officer agrees, then you merely have to disclose the existence of the interest rather than the detail of it, at a meeting, and the Monitoring Officer can exclude the detail of the interest from the Council's publicly available version of the register.
15. You must, within 28 days of becoming aware of any change of circumstances which means that information excluded is no longer a "sensitive interest", notify the Council's Monitoring Officer in writing.

ANNEX

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Interest	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within the previous 12 months (up to and including the date of notification of the interest) in respect of any expenses incurred by you carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (or a body in which you or they have a beneficial interest) and the Council</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged</p>
Land	<p>Any beneficial interest in land which is within the Council's area.</p> <p>For this purpose "land" includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you, your spouse, civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.</p>
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the Council's area for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to your knowledge)</p> <p>–</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the Council; and</p>

	<p>(b) the tenant is a body in which you, your spouse or civil partner or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where –</p> <p>(a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the Council's area; and</p> <p>(b) either –</p> <p>i. The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>ii. If the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p> <p>For this purpose, “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.</p>