

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

REVIEW OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Purpose of the Report

1. To propose a review into the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board to support the delivery of the joint health and wellbeing strategy for 2022 – 2026.

Information

Statutory Context

2. Health & Wellbeing Boards (HWB) were established under the [Health and Social Care Act 2012](#) with the duties to:
 - a) To improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Nottinghamshire.
 - b) To reduce health inequalities.
 - c) To promote the integration of services and integrated working.
 - d) To produce a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), identifying current and future health needs.
 - e) To develop a health and wellbeing strategy which addresses the health needs identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
3. An update to the Health and Care Act came into effect on 1 July 2022, which implemented a number of changes to local health systems including the establishment of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) across England, including an NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Integrated Care Partnership (ICP).
4. A review of the Health and Wellbeing Board in 2023 is well timed to explore how the Health and Wellbeing Board influences the new system (specifically its relationship with the place based partnerships and the integrated care partnership); and use its longstanding partnership position in the system to improve the health and wellbeing of our local population and promotion prevention.

National Reviews of Health and Wellbeing Boards

5. In response to the recent changes in the health and care landscape, numerous bodies have conducted reviews or issued guidance for Health and Wellbeing Boards on its role and ways of working that outline a number of different considerations.
6. [National Government Guidance \(November 2022\)](#): National Government updated its guidance on Health and Wellbeing Boards in November 2022 in light of the new system arrangements outlined in paragraph 3. It stipulates that Health and Wellbeing Boards should

continue to lead action at place level to improve people's lives and remain responsible for promoting greater integration and partnership between the NHS, public health and local government. This involves working effectively with local leaders, specifically referencing place-based partnerships. Updated guidance also recommends that boards review their membership following the establishment of Integrated Care Boards and Integrated Care Partnerships and their associated functions and duties, reflecting local circumstances and priorities. Additional considerations for updated membership included district & borough councils, housing, lay members, police and fire services, acute and community health providers, and the voluntary sector.

7. [County Councils Network \(IMPOWER - November 2022\)](#): Survey results from the County Council's network indicated that fewer than half (42%) of council respondents indicated that they felt the respective responsibilities of Health and Wellbeing Boards and Integrated Care Partnerships were clear in their areas. Interviews and roundtables indicated that while production of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments was clearly the responsibility of HWBs, there was much less clarity over setting the strategic direction for local areas. JSNAs in particular were regularly referenced by both councils and NHS partners as an essential basis for setting local strategies. Findings also indicated that in complex ICSs, Health and Wellbeing Boards offered the primary option for setting genuinely local strategy.
8. [Local Government Association Survey \(2021\)](#): 90% of respondents thought their Health and Wellbeing Boards showed collaborative local leadership to a great or moderate extent, and 88% reported this included working with a wider range of partners such as police, housing, or the voluntary sector. However, only 36% of respondents felt involved in influencing and shaping ICS strategies and investment plans. It suggests that informal discussions and 'in principle' agreements between HWB and ICS leaders are extensive in many areas, but these currently have not developed into formal alignment of plans and strategies for place and system. Only 38% of respondents reported having effective partnership working arrangements with other HWBs within their ICS to a great or moderate extent, and some comments indicated it is not always clear how effective partnership working locally will be translated up to the system level. The most commonly identified challenges in building effective working relationships with ICSs were funding and resourcing issues; organisational and cultural differences; and ways of working together. The two most common cited challenges facing Health and Wellbeing Boards working effectively with ICSs/health partners were differing governance arrangements between health and local government, and restrictive (and reduced) funding limit the ability of health partners to shift the balance of investment away from acute and inpatient care and support to preventative measures.

Local Reviews for the Health and Wellbeing Board

9. Findings from these national reviews, alongside feedback from engagements during the development of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 – 2026, provide a range of considerations on how to develop the Board's influence in the new health and care landscape. There are opportunities on expanding membership, strengthening partnership identity, utilising the Better Care Fund for collaboration, coordinating communications and co-production, representation of the public voice, integrated working arrangements with ICS and use of data and assessments. The board has already successfully implemented numerous positive changes, such as the inclusion of Place Based Partnerships and Nottinghamshire Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Alliance into its membership, the workshop on Better Care Fund and the ongoing Covid Impact Assessment.

10. In order to discuss the considerations above and seek the input of members, it is therefore proposed that a review is undertaken on the Health and Wellbeing Board. This proposal is supported by, the Chair of the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board, Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health, Corporate Director of Childrens and Families and the Director of Public Health. It is also proposed that the Health and Wellbeing Board seek the support of the Local Government Association (LGA) in undertaking the review.
11. The LGA offer includes tailored and flexible support such as a one off session, workshop(s) or even a peer challenge activity. It provides an established method in reviewing strategic boards, and LGA has previously supported the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board in a similar exercise in 2015. Involving the LGA in a self-supported review of the Board would allow delivery at pace any recommendations from the review, whilst providing on objective assessment too. LGA has expertise both in local government and place working and can share best practice in addition to the national findings outlined in this report. It is proposed that LGA are engaged on behalf of the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board to review the Board in autumn 2023.

Other Options Considered

12. There is the option to not review the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board in 2023. However, this is deemed not advisable as there have been many changes since its last review in 2015. Therefore a review will support and ensure the Health and Wellbeing Board is delivering to the best of its ability its statutory functions to improve health and wellbeing of residents in Nottinghamshire.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

13. A review of the Health and Wellbeing Board is well timed as there have been many changes to the local health and care system since the last review in 2015. Identifying opportunities to develop the board will support and improve its delivery of its statutory duties to promote integrated working and improve the health and wellbeing of residents of Nottinghamshire.

Statutory and Policy Implications

14. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

15. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any expenditure required for delivering the review will be covered by the Health and Wellbeing Board's annual budget.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked:

1) To approve undertaking of a review on how the Board can deliver its responsibilities most effectively in the current health and care context, and to establish the opportunities for developing the Board's role.

Councillor Dr John Doddy
Chair of Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Briony Jones
Public Health and Commissioning Manager
Briony.jones@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (CEH 13/06/23)

16. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Any future proposed changes to the Board's terms of reference will need to be in line with the statutory responsibilities of a health and wellbeing board and be approved by Full Council.

Financial Comments (DG 13/06/23)

17. There are no direct financial implications arising from 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.

- [Health and Wellbeing Board Governance and Management \(7 March 2018\)](#)
Report to the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All