

READING HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD MINUTES – 23 JUNE 2023

Present:

Councillor Ruth McEwan (Chair)	Lead Councillor for Education and Public Health, Reading Borough Council (RBC)
Tehmeena Ajmal	Chief Operating Officer, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT)
John Ashton	Interim Director of Public Health for Reading and West Berkshire
Councillor Jason Brock	Leader of the Council, RBC
Andy Ciecierski (Vice-Chair)	Clinical Director for Caversham Primary Care Network
Councillor Paul Gittings	Lead Councillor for Adult Social Care, RBC
Alice Kunjappy-Clifton	Lead Officer, Healthwatch Reading
Steve Leonard	West Hub Group Manager, Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Councillor Alice Mpofu-Coles	Chair of the Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Education Committee, RBC (substituting for Councillor Hoskin)
Rachel Spencer	Chief Executive, Reading Voluntary Action
Sarah Webster	Executive Director for Berkshire West Place, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB)
Melissa Wise	Interim Executive Director of Adult Social Care & Health, RBC

Also in attendance:

Chris Greenway	Assistant Director for Commissioning and Transformation, RBC
Rob Bowen	Acting Director of Strategy and Partnerships, BOB ICB

Apologies:

Councillor Graeme Hoskin	Lead Councillor for Children, RBC
Caroline Lynch	Trust Secretary & Data Protection Officer, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust (RBFT)
Lara Patel	Executive Director of Children's Services, Brighter Futures for Children (BFfC)
Steve Raffield	LPA Commander for Reading, Thames Valley Police
Eamonn Sullivan	Chief Nurse, RBFT
Martin White	Consultant in Public Health, RBC
Jackie Yates	Chief Executive, RBC

1. BOB INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM JOINT FORWARD PLAN

Rob Bowen submitted a report presenting the draft Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB) Joint Forward Plan (JFP), which described how the BOB Integrated Care Board (ICB) and partner NHS trusts were required to develop an annual, five year Joint Forward Plan and the first JFP had to be published by 30 June 2023. The Health & Wellbeing Board was required to provide comment on the JFP's alignment to the current Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy – specifically whether the draft JFP took proper account of the strategy - by 30 June 2023, when the first JFP would be formally published. The report had appended a summary of the JFP and included weblinks to supporting documents and appendices.

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The report explained that national guidance set out that the JFP needed to describe how the ICB and partner NHS Trusts intended to arrange and/or provide NHS services to meet their population's physical and mental health needs. This should include the delivery of universal NHS commitments. Systems were also encouraged to use the JFP to develop a shared delivery plan for the Integrated Care Strategy and the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategies (JLHWS).

The plan intended to balance delivery of the BOB Integrated Care Strategy ambitions with delivery of the other NHS commitments. The plan had been developed jointly with BOB Integrated Care System (ICS) partners with input and feedback from wider system and public engagement, including input from local authority partners, which had informed the development of the JFP.

The BOB JFP addressed the ambitions across the organisations and also recognised the value and importance of partnerships with local authorities in the ongoing development and delivery of services for the benefit of the people and communities who lived and worked in the area. The JFP set a rolling five-year ambition and would be updated annually before the beginning of each subsequent financial year.

The report stated that the JFP aligned with and built on the strategies, approaches and targets set out by the three JLHWSs developed by the five Health & Wellbeing Boards across BOB. It referred to the five key priorities in the Berkshire West JLHWS and explained that the JFP took into account these strategic priorities and they were picked up in the service delivery plans aligned to the five themes of the Integrated Care Strategy:

- Promoting and Protecting Health
- Start Well
- Live Well
- Age Well
- Improving Quality and Access to Services.

A table in the report set out this alignment, mapping the Berkshire West Health & Wellbeing Priorities to the BOB JFP.

The Board discussed the draft Joint Forward Plan and the comments made included:

- The JFP did take proper account of the Berkshire West Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy and aligned appropriately with the Strategy.
- The Board's formal response should embrace the principle of integration, reflecting the integrated care system partnership role and avoiding a 'you and us' approach.
- The response should acknowledge that Place would be an appropriate level to focus on some of the health priorities, rather than being excessively Local Authority-focused. The Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Boards would need to look at how to collaborate to have a coherent overview and the Berkshire West Local Authorities and partners would need to re-orientate their thinking and delivery to the Place-Based level in order to make the system work.
- One of the areas not yet sufficiently fleshed out in the JFP was how the NHS would engage as a system with supporting change around the wider determinants of health, for example looking at housing and other partnership areas, such as

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schools. Rob Bowen agreed that the JFP did not currently say much on this and later iterations of the Plan should include more on the NHS's role and responsibility in wider determinants of health.

- The Start Well section of the JFP was a bit more superficial than was ideal and was not as detailed or clear as the Live Well section. Rob Bowen stated that there was more that could be included in future iterations of the JFP on how the NHS would work with partners in the delivery of national and local ambitions around early years development.
- Over the next few years, it would be good to be able to build health strategies from the neighbourhoods upwards, for example by educating the public about when they did not need a GP consultation, building homes to enable people with dementia to stay at home as long as possible, etc.
- The JFP would be reviewed and refreshed each year, and so as the Place-Based Partnerships developed, there would be opportunities to refine local needs.
- The delivery plans were mixed, with some good examples of co-production, services for people, language and culture being reflected in the maternity area, but there were some which were not as good, for example assuming that GP access was about phone answering.
- The JFP needed a glossary, and easy read versions and translations into different languages should be provided. It was also queried how it would be communicated to the Voluntary and Community Sector and the wider community, so that it was transparent how the delivery of the JFP would work and where accountability for the delivery plans would fall.
- Rob Bowen reported that an Easy Read version of the JFP would be produced, starting with the summary, but this would not be available by 30 June 2023. Information would also be produced in other languages.

Resolved:

That the Director for Public Health, in consultation with the Chair of the Board, be authorised to develop a formal opinion statement on the BOB ICS Joint Forward Plan on behalf of the Board to be submitted by the 30 June 2023 deadline, taking into account the comments made at the meeting.

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and closed at 2.50 pm)