



Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board

**Health and Wellbeing Board update
March 2024**

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1. ICB Board Meeting

BOB ICB board meeting 19 March 2024; Board papers and reports are/will be on [the BOB ICB website](#)

2. BOB ICB Primary Care Strategy

The Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB) published its draft Primary Care Strategy which highlights ambitions for the future of general practice, community pharmacy, optometry (eye care) and dentistry across BOB.

Stakeholders, patients and the wider public were invited to share their views via an online survey at: <https://yourvoicebob-icb.uk.engagementhq.com/primary-care-strategy> – to help further inform and shape these plans. The survey closed on 29 February 2024. Focus groups, webinars and face-to-face meetings with a wide variety of stakeholders have also taken place over the last four months

A report on the public involvement will be developed and made available in April 2024.

Alongside this, engagement has been going on with primary care providers and NHS partner Trusts.

The final strategy will go to the ICB Board for agreement in May 2024.

The draft strategy outlines three priorities to help deliver the ICB ambitions:

1. to improve access so patients get the right support first time to manage their health and wellbeing;
2. to develop proactive and personalised community care for patients with complex health needs;
3. to prevent ill health by using and sharing data with our partners about the health needs of local communities.

To help deliver these priorities we are proposing to further develop the following services:

- Non-complex same day care
- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams
- Cardiovascular Disease Prevention

Non-complex same day care

Primary care will better manage patients who require same day support; but whose conditions are not complex. The aim is to improve the patient experience as they get the support they need promptly. This will be achieved by triaging patients more efficiently with an initial contact made with the right health service or professional. This way of working will allow GPs to focus on patients with more complex needs (having more than one health condition).

Integrated Neighbourhood Teams

GPs will work with multi-disciplinary teams in the community made up of hospital consultants, district and community nurses supported by care navigators, physiotherapists and the voluntary sector to provide personalised, proactive care to patients with more than one health condition (complex) such as frail elderly people.

Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention

Primary care will work with health and care partners to reduce the risk of patients developing CVD by tackling smoking, obesity and high blood pressure. CVD is one of the most common causes of ongoing ill-health and deaths across the ICB leading to heart attack and strokes. This approach will rely on using and sharing data (Population Health Management) between partners to understand better the health needs of our local communities.

3. NHS industrial action

Junior doctors undertook their 10th period of industrial action from 24 - 29 February. All local trusts across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West were affected.

The ICB worked closely with partners across the NHS and care sector during the strikes to ensure services remained safe.

We prioritised resources to protect emergency treatment, critical care, neonatal care, maternity, and trauma, and ensured priority for patients who had waited the longest for elective care and cancer surgery.

Unfortunately, some appointments and procedures were re-scheduled and patients were informed. During the period of industrial action from 24 – 29 February 2024 inclusive, a total of 2,641 outpatients, 341 inpatients and day cases, and five community appointments were

rescheduled across the system. The NHS trusts across BOB are working to see patients and service users as quickly as possible.

4. Vaccination programme – measles and Covid-19

With the rise in measles cases across the country, data shows that one in five children who catch the virus will need to visit hospital. BOB ICB is working to encourage anyone unsure of their MMR vaccine status or that of their child to check with their GP surgery.

For children, one dose is usually given at one year old, and the second dose given at three years, four months. Two doses are needed for maximum protection.

Anyone older who may have missed out for any reason is also being encouraged to catch up with routine vaccines as soon as possible, including those people:

- planning a pregnancy
- travelling abroad
- starting college or university
- frontline health and care staff
- anyone born between 1970 and 1979, as they may have only been vaccinated against measles
- born between 1980 and 1990, as they may not be protected against mumps

The BOB ICB Stay Well page has information on flu and other routine vaccines:
Immunisation and vaccination - Stay Well (staywell-bob.nhs.uk)

In addition, the Covid-19 Spring Booster campaign is expected to start in mid-April for the following cohorts:

- adults aged 75 years and over
- residents in care homes for older adults
- individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed