

Annual Report

Chair: Cllr Christine Lawrence (until March 2020) Cllr C Paul from March 2020

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1. Summary

Health and Wellbeing Boards are an important feature of the reforms introduced by the Health and Social Care Act (2012). These Boards are constituted as formal committees of all upper tier local authorities and form part of the role that local authorities now have to improve the health of their population.

The Health and Wellbeing Board has the following four statutory duties:

- The Board must have a Health and Wellbeing Strategy for its population in place
- The Board must produce a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to inform planning and commissioning
- The Board must produce a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for the area
- The Board must oversee the Better Care Fund (BCF) and promote the integration of health, public health and social care where appropriate

In addition to fulfilling its statutory duties, the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board undertakes to progress health improvement through a number of specific workstreams each year, as well as taking an oversight and influencing role across the whole health and wellbeing system.

The Board has 20 Members from Somerset County Council, Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group, District Councils, NHS England, Healthwatch and Avon and Somerset Police.

2. Background

2.1 Work Programme

At each meeting, the Board considers and updates its work programme. Members appreciate the attendance of representatives and stakeholders from partner agencies.

3. Meetings 2019/2020

3.1. 26 September 2019

Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP)

The STP and Fit For My Future (FFMF) are standing agenda items on the Health and Wellbeing Board agendas. This allows for Board members to have sight of the transformation plans for health and care locally.

Better Care Fund

A report on the Better Care Fund was presented jointly by SCC and the CCG. The Better Care Fund (BCF) was established by the Government in 2014/15. Its principal intention has been to foster the integration of health and care services and in doing so help people better manage their health and wellbeing and live as independently as possible in their own homes and communities. At a commissioner level, the BCF promotes the legal duty of both CCG's and Local Authorities to promote integration and to enter into pooled budget arrangements where this will lead to a more effective use of public monies, improve health and care outcomes or reduce inequalities.

Safer Somerset Partnership Report (SSPB)

The Safer Somerset Partnership Annual Report was presented. This provided Board members with updates on the work programmes of the SSPB. The Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board sits on the SSPB which allows for the partnership between the Boards to be maximised around topics such as domestic abuse, county lines, and other key community safety issues which impact on health and wellbeing.

14 November 2019

Somerset Safeguarding Adults Boards 2018/19 Annual Report

The purpose of the report was to present the Board's Annual Report for the 2018/19 financial year to the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board. The Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) operates as an independently chaired, multi-agency body under The Care Act 2014. It became statutory from April 2015.

SEND Annual Report Update

A presentation from the Assistant Director Inclusion Somerset on the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) improvement plan. This is an important topic area for Board members to understand and have sight of.

Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy was presented to the Board. This was an update on the cross-sector Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and was a follow up to the presentation to the Board in May 2019. The Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health was introduced, and it was agreed to take this work forward led by Public Health.

16 January 2020

Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership New Arrangements and Annual Report

A report covering the newly formed Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership was presented. The report summarised the progress in implementing the new safeguarding arrangements for children in Somerset, as required by the Children and Social Work Act (2017) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018). It allowed Board members to fully understand the new arrangements locally.

'Our Plan' - The Somerset plan for children, young people and families 2019 - 2022

We received a report in April 2019 following the Somerset Children's Trust (SCT) approval and launch of 'Our Plan- Somerset's plan for children, young people and their families 2019 -2022'.

Better Care Fund

Following this report, The Better Care Fund for 2019/20 was approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board and submitted to the national team.

Sustainability and Transformation Plan

This update focused on the Workforce element of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan, as Board members had requested an update on recruitment and retention of health and care workers; a critical element of the health and care integration and transformation.

21 May 2020

This was the first virtual meeting of the Board with our new Chair Cllr Clare Paul. We thanked Cllr Christine Lawrence for her commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism as Chair of the Board for many years.

Virtual Meeting – Guidance

The procedures and guidance for conducting virtual meetings was discussed and agreed.

Covid 19 – Assurance

A comprehensive update on the current state of the pandemic, actions taken so far and the proposed priorities for the coming months was presented to the Board. It was a multi-agency presentation with input from the Police, CCG, District Councils and SCC. The approach taken to date was endorsed by the Board and it was agreed that all Board members would continue to encourage the key public health messages : -

- Keep Your Distance
- Keep Washing Your Hands

- Isolate for 7 days if you have symptoms (dry cough, fever or reduced taste sense of smell)
- Do not go to work if you have symptoms, and to self isolate.

16 July 2020

Covid-19 Update

The Health and Wellbeing Board received a joint presentation on the Covid-19 response by Somerset County Council and the Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group. A presentation was made on Adult Social Care Delivery, Activity and Support during Covid-19; it was noted that during the past four to five months, partnerships had been working extremely well, the infrastructure had been strengthened, and there had been provision of help for the most vulnerable as well as building blocks for communities to help themselves. A presentation was made on the Public Health Nursing sector; it was noted that being part of a local authority has assisted them in focusing on the community and continuing to offer all mandated contacts. The CCG then presented the Restoration Update; it was pointed out that Public Health, Adult Services, Children's Services, and the Chair had all worked together to provide a truly positive model for providing care to children, families and those in homes. As far as learning from the Covid response, an exercise in inter-organisational lessons learnt has been completed, AHSN system-wide research will begin in July, and there is linking of patients and carers with Healthwatch, citizens' panels, and regional colleagues. It was emphasised that this all entails a new way of working, new procedures, and a new form of delivery of health services, which is a significant challenge in a Covid-present world.

Local Outbreak Management Plan

This plan has been in place since the beginning of July; it is the role of Public Health to manage any outbreaks, and dealing with local outbreaks is very important. It was noted that an "outbreak" signifies two or more confirmed cases of Covid-19 amongst people linked by time and place, while a "cluster" entails two or more confirmed cases arising within 14 days which are linked by setting/ place. The Committee noted that the Somerset Local Outbreak Management Plan was submitted nationally for audit, and it has been considered as one of the national examples of good practice, which is to be highly commended. The Committee also looks forward to collaborative working with the districts.

Homelessness

A presentation was made on Covid – Rough Sleepers and Complex Homelessness. The purpose of the report was to outline the government advice during Covid, to describe the partnership response and lessons learnt, to discuss the pressures faced and responses to them, and to suggest ideas to take forward. Rough sleeper numbers rose during the Covid emergency due to unemployment and changes in familial situations, such as a need to protect elderly members in the home leading

to other family members being displaced. The biggest challenge was the urgency, along with the impossibility of using hostels or even hotels at the time. The biggest success was the stabilisation and moving on of 54 residents, along with other achievements including rapid delivery, speedy decision making, a partnership approach between Housing and Health, and a commitment from providers to assist. Going forward, there is a commitment to see rough sleeping as a combined health/ care/ housing issue, to maintain partner engagement, to explore the possibility of a Homelessness Reduction Board for Somerset, and to research a business case for integrated Health-Care-Housing commissioning, because housing is only a response to root causes. 2) The Board agreed to explore the creation of a Somerset Homelessness Reduction Board with a reporting mechanism directly to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4. HWBB Constitution

- 4.1.** A review of the constitution was undertaken and finally adopted in autumn last year, as under the Social Care Act 2012 the County Council must establish a health and Wellbeing Board and the constitution covers the operation of that Board. The constitution was last revised in 2014.

The proposed amendments were discussed and there were clarifications suggested:

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- That the Better Care Fund was discussed at the Board every six months and not every meeting as suggested in the draft constitution,
- That the name of the post rather than the current postholder should be used for proposed members of the Board.
- That the new body resulting from the combining of the Safeguarding Board and the Children's Trust be added when the name was known,
- That a generic e-mail for democratic services rather than a named individual be included.

These amendments were then made.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1.** Further information about the Board including dates of meetings and agendas and reports from previous meetings, are available via the Council's website: [Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board](#)