

Minutes of the Meeting of the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board held on 23 September 2015.

Present:-

Chair

Councillor Izzi Seccombe

Warwickshire County Councillors

Councillor Les Caborn
Councillor Jose Compton

Warwickshire County Council Officers

John Dixon (Interim Director for the People Group)
Dr John Linnane (Director of Public Health)

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG)

Dr Adrian Canale-Parola (Coventry and Rugby CCG)
Dr Deryth Stevens (Warwickshire North CCG)
Dr David Spraggett (South Warwickshire CCG)

Provider Representatives

Andy Meehan (University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire)
Stuart Annan (George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust)

Healthwatch Warwickshire

Phil Robson (Chair)

Police and Crime Commissioner

Ron Ball

Borough/District Councillors

Councillor Margaret Bell (North Warwickshire Borough Council)
Councillor Neil Phillips (Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council)
Councillor Derek Poole (Rugby Borough Council)

1. (1) Apologies for Absence

Councillor John Beaumont (Warwickshire County Council)
Councillor Moira-Ann Grainger (Warwick District Council)
Councillor Stephen Gray (Stratford District Council)

Russell Hardy (South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust)
Jagtar Singh (Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust)
David Williams (NHS England)

(2) Appointment of Board Members

The Board approved the appointment of the following new members and the Chair welcomed the new members present:

University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire	Andy Meehan – Chair
South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust	Russell Hardy – Chair
Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust	Jagtar Singh – Chair
George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust	Stuart Annan – Chair
Police and Crime Commissioner	Ron Ball

(3) Members' Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Margaret Bell declared a non-pecuniary interest, as a member of the County Council's Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

(4) Minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2015 and matters arising.

The Minutes were agreed as a true record.

Under Minute No. 8, Public Health Funding, it was confirmed that Councillor Caborn had written to the Government to lobby against the funding cuts for Public Health, but no response had been received to date. Further to Minute No. 9, Clinical Commissioning Group Quality Premiums, it was confirmed that final figures were still awaited, although indicative figures were provided for the South Warwickshire CCG.

2. Governance

(a) Appointment of Vice-Chair

It was agreed that Dr Adrian Canale-Parola be appointed Vice-Chair of the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board.

(b) Decision Making between Board Meetings

Sarah Duxbury, Warwickshire County Council's Head of Law and Governance reminded members of the proposals approved at the 8 July Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) for revised governance arrangements. The HWBB would not meet as frequently, with more workshops and an Executive Team meeting between Board meetings to co-ordinate the business of the Board.

There might be occasions where a formal Board decision was required between scheduled meetings. The Executive Team could not make those decisions, as the HWBB was not permitted to delegate its functions to officers or individuals. Therefore it was proposed to establish a sub-committee to take any necessary decisions where the timescale for the decision did not fall within the cycle of the scheduled Board meetings. The suggested membership and terms of reference for the sub-committee were set out within the report.

The Chair provided a context, confirming that there would be fewer Board meetings, more workshops and in exceptional circumstances the need for decisions to be taken between full Board meetings. She referred the Board to the structure diagram appended to the previous minutes.

Legal clarification was provided why the delegation could not be made to an individual or to the Executive Team, but had to be made to a Sub-Committee of the HWBB. There was discussion about the reporting arrangements and it was agreed that all Board members would be advised of meetings of the Sub-Committee and the proposed decisions. As a Sub Committee, all proposed decisions would be published five working days beforehand. It was further requested that where the matter related to a specific area of Warwickshire, that the Board representatives of the relevant district/borough council and CCG had the opportunity for prior input. This suggestion would be examined. Another suggestion was to prepare a flow chart for such decision making. The Chair and John Dixon, Interim Director for the WCC People Group confirmed that such decisions should only be required rarely. There would be a report back to the subsequent Board meeting of any decisions taken.

A question was asked about the Peer Review and associated action plan. An outline was given of the work undertaken since the Peer Review. It was noted that many of the actions had now been completed and further progress reports would be provided.

Resolved

That the Health and Wellbeing Board establishes a Sub-Committee, with immediate effect, in accordance with proposals set out at Appendix A to these Minutes.

3. Report of the Health and Wellbeing Executive Team

John Dixon gave a verbal report, confirming that the Board's purpose was to set the strategic direction for health and wellbeing in Warwickshire. Through the planned workshops, greater depth would be given to focus on key strategic areas.

The new Executive Team would meet on 5-6 occasions each year. He confirmed the composition of the Executive Team which brought together local government, CCGs and health providers and the voluntary sector at the executive level. The Executive had now met on three occasions. This would also have a strategic focus to support and inform the Board's work with detailed reports being considered at the operational group level. Mr Dixon referred to the financial constraints which meant that closer working and service integration were even more crucial. He emphasised the constructive dialogue to date. The agreed initial priorities were end of life and stroke care. A workshop on end of life care was scheduled for 19 October 2015.

John Linnane, Warwickshire's Director of Public Health confirmed details for the workshop and encouraged all Board members to attend. End of life care provided a good measure of how effective services were. He spoke about patient survey data which showed a preference for patients to die at home. In reality, the majority died in care. The variation of services and adopting good practice of others would be used to make progress in this area. The proposed vision would be brought back to the Board for consideration.

A briefing paper had been circulated to provide information ahead of the workshop. Discussions had recently taken place with Macmillan Cancer Support, who wanted to work with Warwickshire's organisations to look at palliative care pathways. With increasing cancer survival rates, another aspect was living with cancer and longer-term care for this chronic illness. Macmillan was willing to provide a financial investment as part of this joint work.

Phil Robson, Chair of Healthwatch advised that its Chief Executive, Chris Bain had not been invited to the initial meetings of the Executive. Whilst this had since been remedied, a briefing for Chris Bain would be appreciated. An apology was made for this oversight.

Andy Meehan, Chair of University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire, was supportive of the work with Macmillan, but stated the difference between end of life care and coping with cancer. There was a danger that the funding being offered may distract from the work on end of life care. John Linnane assured that the focus of the October workshop was on end of life care. The involvement of Macmillan provided the opportunity to learn more from this organisation. The Board also acknowledged that there were three excellent hospices within Warwickshire.

It was agreed that the Executive Team's minutes be circulated to members of the Health and Wellbeing Board for information.

Resolved

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the report of the Health and Wellbeing Executive Team.

4. Combined Authorities and Devolution Plans – Update

Dr John Linnane presented this item. Combined Authorities were voluntary arrangements, designed for groups of local authorities that wished to work more closely together to deliver improvements in economic development, regeneration and transport across a designated area.

Following the Greater Manchester Combined Authority deal, 38 bids had been submitted to Government for devolution and the report informed of the proposals being progressed, including a proposal for a West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA).

In July 2015 the seven Metropolitan Authorities in the West Midlands proposed to set up a new governance structure and published a launch statement, with the endorsement of the chairs of the three Local Enterprise Partnerships. The launch statement was appended to the report and set out the early priorities that the WMCA would focus on.

Coventry City Council was a signatory to the launch statement and had agreed that joint consultation on setting up a combined authority for the West Midlands should take place in Coventry. Coventry City Council would make a final decision on becoming a member of the WMCA on 13 October.

WCC agreed on 3 September not to enter the WMCA as proposed. It would continue to support and pursue the Coventry-Warwickshire Combined Authority as its preferred devolution model. A member working group would be established consisting of the Leaders and one other Member of the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups (plus one member of the Green Group and one member of the Independent Group as observers) to task officers to engage with Government on the devolution issue and develop proposals for alternative devolution models for Warwickshire. These models to include a stand-alone Warwickshire model and alternatives with neighbouring non-metropolitan councils. Council had agreed that the work of the member group should be as open and transparent as practicable and should be underpinned by effective consultation. Its proposals and recommendations should be subjected to the widest possible consultation with the citizens of Warwickshire before any final decisions were taken by this Council.

The five district and borough councils in Warwickshire were considering their positions, with meetings taking place in September and October. Councillor Phillips confirmed that Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council had agreed to be a non-constituent member of the WMCA.

It was noted that a combined authority area could only cover the area of the local authorities that agreed to be constituent authorities. In two tier areas this prevented one tier of local government becoming a constituent member if the other tier was not.

Warwickshire's three CCGs and the County Council worked closely together to deliver a vision for health and social care. Locally, health and social care partners had actively sought opportunities to work as a single system, and continue to find ways of organising services in order to meet the needs of the user.

Regardless of the final decisions on governance structures and devolution, health and social care organisations supporting the Warwickshire population would need to continue to work together, to provide quality local services that met the needs of the population, within a challenging financial environment. This would need to take into account that communities would continue to use the logical pathways of movement for their daily lives including healthcare and would naturally involve patient flows between Warwickshire and Coventry.

It was questioned how the HWBB would be affected if several district or borough councils opted to join the WMCA, but felt that the Board would continue irrespective of individual council's decisions, as residents' health pathways within Coventry and Warwickshire were well established. No formal consultation had yet taken place with the CCGs, although informal discussions had taken place. Healthwatch would need to better understand the proposals in order to form an opinion on the best option from a residents' viewpoint. Ron Ball, Police and Crime Commissioner added that there had been little discussion about policing. He drew a comparison between the WMCA and that for Manchester, where there were long established relationships. Further aspects raised were the current improvement position for West Midlands Police and need for joint work on policing of mental health issues.

Paul Lankester, Chief Executive of Stratford District Council confirmed that councils had until 12 October to determine whether or not they wanted to join the WMCA. From 20 October, the formal consultation process, led by Government, would be commenced. A further point was that combined authorities could only take on roles of the HWBB, if the Board agreed to this.

The Chair gave a summary of the points raised. It was noted that a provisional date was included in the forward plan for a workshop on 4 November to enable more detailed discussion of Combined Authorities.

Resolved

That as the devolution models for Warwickshire are further developed, at an appropriate stage, the Health and Wellbeing Board considers the potential implications for health and social care and the wider health and wellbeing landscape.

5. Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report

Dr John Linnane introduced the Health & Wellbeing Board's second annual report, which provided an overview of the Board's activities for the period 2014/15. Alongside this report, partners had compiled a number of case studies demonstrating the integrated working taking place. These would be published shortly, together with a detailed work programme for the coming year. The annual report would also be submitted to the meeting of Warwickshire County Council on 8th December 2015.

A question was submitted about the redesign of sexual health services and relocation of the Warwick service to Stratford. Dr. Linnane advised that services would also be provided at Leamington. It was noted that Ron Ball had been omitted from the list of current HWBB members, which would be corrected.

Resolved

That the Health and Wellbeing Board approves its Annual Report for 2014/15.

6. Forward Plan

The Board gave consideration to its Forward Plan for the year ahead, which detailed the dates for agenda items and proposed workshops.

Phil Robson publicised the joint Healthwatch and Public Health workshops on promoting independence. He encouraged Board members to attend and offered to provide feedback to the HWBB.

It was agreed to hold a joint workshop with Coventry's HWBB in early 2016. The Chair paid tribute to Alison Gingell, the former Chair of Coventry's HWBB, who had resigned from her position due to ill health. It was agreed to send a letter from the Warwickshire HWBB to record thanks for her service.

It was noted that there was no reference in the Forward Plan to the agreed priority for Stroke Care Services. Dr Linnane confirmed that this topic had been considered by the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and would be the subject of a consultation exercise.

Thereafter, it would be brought to the Board. It was agreed that Stroke Care Services be included in the Forward Plan.

There was discussion about the completion of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, which was not expected to be in place by the target date at the end of 2015. Work was ongoing between the Police and the County Council to progress this and a key issue was determining the appropriate accommodation. It was requested that regular updates be provided on progress via briefing notes.

Publicity was given to the annual flu vaccination campaign. Suggestions were made for publicity involving senior officials having their vaccinations and the importance of all front line health staff being inoculated was stressed.

Dr Linnane advised that new board member packs were being produced to give valuable information and links to further reading.

The Chair referred to the recent Public Health Annual Conference, held at Warwick University. She mentioned particularly the passionate speech by the Secretary of State for Health on his intentions to tackle childhood obesity. Adrian Canale-Parola added that an event on childhood obesity had taken place earlier in the day at Coventry. A key issue was healthy eating in schools. Parents were often restricted from including certain foods in packed lunches. However, the snack foods and drinks available from school vending machines were an issue. Whilst schools generated an income, the longer-term health impacts were more important. A lot of work had taken place with schools in Warwickshire and some progress had been made, but more was required. However, it was a matter for each school to determine.

Resolved

That the Board approves its updated Forward Plan.

7. Any Other Business

None.

The meeting rose at 3.10pm

.....Chair

Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee

Membership

1. The membership of the sub-committee shall comprise two or more members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to sit as or when required.
2. Where possible the sub-committee will include representation from both health and social care.
3. The selection of members to form a sub-committee to deal with a particular matter or matters shall be made by the Chief Executive of Warwickshire County Council.

Terms of Reference

1. To exercise the functions of the Health and Wellbeing Board where a decision is required within a time frame which does not fall within the cycle of scheduled meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
2. Details of the meetings of the Sub-Committee and proposed decisions shall be circulated members of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
3. The notice of proposed decisions. Any decisions made by the Sub-committee shall be reported to the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board.