

Minutes

of the Meeting of

The Health and Wellbeing Board

Monday, 29 July 2024

Daffodil Room, Oldmixon Family Centre, Weston-super-Mare

Meeting Commenced: 2 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 5 p.m.

Councillors:

Jenna Ho Marris (Chair)
Georgie Bigg
Jeremy Blatchford
Paula Clarke
Emma Diakou
Mandy Gardner
Catherine Gibbons
Mark Graham
John Heather
Matt Lenny
Joe Tristram
Hayley Verrico

Apologies: Councillors: David Moss (Vice-Chairperson), Kirstie Corns, Ros Cox, Jenny Ford, David Jarrett, Sarah Pepper, Julie Sharma, Dan Thomas, Helen Thornton and Roger Whitfield.

Other colleagues in attendance: Mavin Kashyap (GP registrar), Kirsty Staunton (Voluntary Action North Somerset), Fiona Matthews (Super Culture) and Natasha Ward (Harbourside Family Practice).

Council officers: Gerald Hunt, Chris Head, Hayley Davenport, Samuel Hayward, Kate Bolger and Leo Taylor.

1 Confirmation of Vice Chairperson

Resolved: that David Moss (ICB Locality Director One Weston and Woodspring) be confirmed as Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

2 Public Participation (Standing Order 17)

Nicky Clare, resident, Hall spoke about her concerns about food security, particularly in respect of the current situation facing dairy Farmers. She asked for support from the Board in respect of the representation to the Council to declare a food security emergency. A letter in response would be sent from the Chair to reply to the key points/asks raised.

The Chair thanked Ms Hall for her address.

3 Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference and Membership

Resolved: that the revised Terms of Reference be adopted, subject to the following amendments

- (1) provision for the nomination of substitutes;
- (2) the addition under Section 2.2 to reflect the Board's duty to produce and publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment; and
- (3) the addition of a separate action log, incorporated with the ToR and forward plan

4 Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interest (Standing Order 37)

None.

5 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Board meeting held on 14 February 2024 be approved as a correct record.

In commenting on the minutes, Paula Clarke (UHBW) updated Members on a meeting with the Chairs of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel, the NSC Chief Executive and the UHBW interim CEO. The meeting helped to identify ways anti-racism could be supported in North Somerset and how all partners could work together to be anti-racist in all that we do. Councillor Catherine Gibbons indicated she would also like to be involved in any further discussions arising from this meeting.

6 Better Care Fund 2024-25

The Assistant Director Commissioning, Partnerships and Commissioning (North Somerset Council) presented the report which provided the Board with information from the 23/24 expenditure and performance outcomes together with the updated plans for 2024/25; and which sought the Board's retrospective approval for the North Somerset Better Care Fund (BCF) submission.

Members noted that NHS England deadlines were challenging and that it had been difficult to synchronise with the Council's internal governance (Committee meeting frequencies), requiring an element of retrospective decision making. Focus was on work to improve flow and advice, and support in the community was part of that - including the transformation of North Somerset Online Directory (NSOD) to become ConnectionNS (New virtual hub support). Work around technology, supporting large cohorts of need and the appointment of a new housing post to help those with complex mental health needs was also noted.

Members provided feedback as follows:

- there was some concern about the need for retrospective sign-off. It was noted that this item had also gone to other Council committees and the preference in future would be bring everyone together in one meeting

ahead of the NHSE decision making timetable.

- Officers noted the aim was to strengthen the BCF themes through Locality Partnership engagement, making it less of just a system view and more Locality Partnership focused: sign off at would therefore feel more valid. It was noted that David Moss would be regularly attending Corporate Leadership Team meetings at the Council to help ensure health and wellbeing implications in all Council directorates were addressed.
- In response to discussion about average time to smooth discharge from hospital, officers emphasised that it was too complex an issue to generalise but it was noted that North Somerset was outperforming other areas in BNSSG. From the Weston General Hospital perspective, the number of bed days taken up by those fit for discharge had reduced by 18% on previous years.

Resolved:

- (1) that the 2024/25 Better Care Fund allocation and update to the BCV Plan 2023/25 be approved; and
- (2) that the reporting template for 2023/34, including the use of the Hospital Discharge Grant, be noted.

7 System-wide, population level approach to healthy weight and introduction of the ICS Healthy Weight Declaration

The Health Improvement Service Leader (North Somerset Council) presented the report updating the Board on the planned approach to reduce the prevalence of unhealthy weight in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG).

Members noted this had recently been presented at the Integrated Care Partnership Board where its support had been requested for a system-wide approach around addressing the impacts on children and adults (where 2 in 3 adults and 1 in 3 children leaving primary school, were overweight or obese). These impacts on health costs and service demands were similar to those associated with smoking and the scale of population numbers meant this work would be challenging.

Members heard that the reference to “system-wide” meant that the issue was considered in wider context, taking into account aspects such as transport, exercise, road safety, housing and employment; and that consideration was being given to how the work could be reframed, taking a more compassionate and trauma-informed approach. The proposal for a co-produced ICS Healthy Weight Declaration was also highlighted. This Declaration would be formally launched by the ICS in March next year.

Members’ discussion and feedback:

- New housing developments and planning policy needed to be considered (eg the provision of play areas and the use of community/public transport for towns and villages), linking people to activities.
- Opportunities around “health by stealth” were referenced as means to encouraging people to exercise (e.g. dog walking initiatives).
- Whatever we do must resonate with the communities that most need it: need to get the right balance (avoiding alienating communities that might

- see interventions as preaching or fat shaming).
- Genuine co-production meant reaching out to communities, talking to people who were known and trusted by communities, and more information was requested about the approach to co-production of the ICS declaration.
- The need to address the “so what” challenge around signing the Declaration: recognising the commercial determinants and identifying the links that touch people’s lives (eg planning, licencing etc).
- A framework was needed to enable it – so that each bit of work has the right connections and pick-up (policy “built-in”).
- How do we leverage policies (e.g. Active Travel opportunities) and link into existing plans and strategies and create conditions for success and attention for funding decisions/future service and community planning?

ACTIONS:

- (1) Director to share more on the co-production methodology with Members
- (2) officers to explore proposal that ongoing engagement be enabled through a working group, sharing opportunity and to enable everyone to commit.

Resolved:

- (1) That Members feedback be provided in the form of the minutes; and
- (2) That the Board support a system-wide approach across the ICS to preventing and reducing unhealthy weight.

8 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2025 - 2028

The Consultant in Public Health (North Somerset Council) presented the report which set out the Board’s statutory responsibility for developing and updating the Pharmaceutical Need Assessment (PNA) and the request that the Board consider the recommended approach for updating the North Somerset PNA before 1 October 2025. Members noted that, following options appraisal, the recommended approach was for total alignment of PNAs across BNSSG with the rationale that better alignment and closer collaboration had the potential to improve consistency, accuracy and strategic value of the PNAs as well as lead to efficiencies in resource use.

Members gave feedback and asked questions as follows:-

- In response to a query about the assessment timeline, officers confirmed a decision was due to be taken in July 2025 and Members would be kept informed.
- Officers confirmed that support from Pharmacies was valued by GP practices, noting that some Pharmacy teams were co-located within practices. Pharmacy first was a significant Government initiative and initial feedback was positive but there were some challenges, including ongoing issues around medicine stocks, workforce and some premises were not set up to deliver and needed to adapt. Local conversations were taking place to manage these impacts on patients.
- Members asked about the extent of the Board’s influence around pharmacy workforce issues and officers and heard there was some scope around compliance with guidelines around some workforce related activities such as travel times and supervised places for opioid provision.

- Members sought assurance that the long-term view would capture what was needed beyond this framework, including potential solutions in the community.

Resolved:

- (1) that the Boards statutory responsibilities in respect the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment be noted;
- (2) that the recommended approach for delegating, updating and reviewing the North Somerset PNA, as set out in sections 3, 4 and 5 of the report, be approved; and
- (3) that the Board's statutory requirement to sign-off and publish the final version of the PNA before 1 October 2025 be noted.

9 Creative Health and Wellbeing

The Director of Public Health (North Somerset Council) and Creative Director (Super Culture) presented the report which set out and asked the Board to consider options for incorporating creative health approaches into the refreshed Health and Wellbeing Strategy and action plan and system strategies and plans, including investment opportunities.

The Director of Public Health noted that origin of the Board's interest in this workstream was from discussion between the Chairs of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health Overview and scrutiny Panel about helping to support change and promote opportunities for a creative approach for health and wellbeing - leading to the workshop in the Front Room, Weston-super-Mare, providing an opportunity to hear the voice of the participants and how to increase the impact.

The following points emerged from discussion:

- Could the West of England Music Hub be linked into this programme? Officers acknowledged these possibilities and confirmed this would be followed up.
- Thinking about the next Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the health equity strand that linked Health and Community strategies, were there opportunities to joint up activities with interventions that people could enjoy and bring agency to those impacted?
- Opportunities around improving wellbeing (implications for the prevention agenda) were highlighted together possibilities for outreach at family hubs.
- Members questioned the possibility of broadening the focus beyond Weston-super-Mare and into other districts and communities including for example Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. There may be opportunities to link up with Parish and Town Councils (they may have resources to support events). It was noted that there had been some work outside Weston, the Good Grief Festival would have wider reach this October.

ACTIONS:

- (1) *Officers to investigate using communications channels to work with Super*

Culture to widen collaboration in the district.

(2) In considering next steps, it was noted that the upcoming bid was the key focus going forward and a workshop would be arranged to build links and understanding. Board members will receive invites in due course.

Resolved: that Members support the four approaches to incorporate creative health approaches set out in the report.

10 Voluntary Action North Somerset - State of Ageing Report pre-publication update

The Chief Executive Officer of Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS) and the Ageing Well Lead (VANS) presented the report setting out early findings from the State of Ageing report for North Somerset commissioned by VANS together with information about applying to the UK Network of Age Friendly Communities.

Members fed back as follows:

- In response to how the Board could support this work, the VANS representatives indicated they would welcome the Board advocating for age friendliness in all Council directorates.
- There was a need to avoid “tokenism” and build this into all policy, emphasising the added value to the wider community (noting the example set by Vanguard Communities in Manchester).
- A key element was facilitating more intergenerational activity, getting younger people into homes and gardens (e.g. co-located play groups in care homes). Intergenerational activity research had demonstrated older people without children increasingly disengage – though Members recognised that additional funding could be needed to support these kinds of initiatives
- The Policy and Partnerships Manager (NSC) highlighted VAN's contribution of securing £0.5m funding, noting there was a 5-year window to develop strategies and build these into all aspects of the Council's work. He also emphasised the need to focus on considering how to fund what happens next (e.g. lottery funding).

Resolved:

(1) that the report be noted: and

(2) that the application to join UK network of Age Friendly Communities be supported by the Board.

11 Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024-2028 Prioritisation of Investment

The Director of Public Health presented the report which set out a proposal for the prioritisation of actions to be funded as part of the North Somerset Joint Health and Wellbeing strategy 2024-2028. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the development of the strategy (in particular the learning from a stakeholder event held in early July which sought to agree more of the detail and focus of the new strategy and how it would be delivered through collaborate working and learning through a common evaluation approach); and on suggested

funding options. The purpose of the report was to check that the Board was comfortable with the direction of travel.

The following points came out of discussion:

- Target outcomes lacked some clarity, for example around Children and Young People, mental health and food; and more time was needed to identify success measures. There was officer recognition that there would be outcomes and proxy outcomes e.g. activities delivered to target cohorts to support changes that matter to them. Further details were emerging through existing work and would emerge in greater depth at the Autumn Board meeting - given the engagement taking place now and in September/October to refine focus and get views via established networks and targeted activities e.g. workshops run by VANS to get greater community insight, together with a survey open to all.
- There was interest from the Board in social prescribing for young people. Officers referred to ongoing work around applying key learning from the adults model, the need for multiple destinations to meet different needs and easy and effective ways to help people navigate opportunities. Referral routes would be different and key to work with stakeholders like schools and primary care.
- Social prescribing for young people (from a GP perspective) required the right foundations e.g. modelling approaches around best practice. The ability to refer would be welcome and proposals around a shared investment fund seemed sound.
- Was there a clear enough picture of what “good” looked like? Communities needed this clarity to understand how they can come together to support the strategy.
- Building on that point, VANS were working through the Children and Young People’s Forum, helping to understand what the needs were and how best to use limited resources. Working together was key to getting the right tone and aspiration for change.
- In respect to the funding proposals, there was discussion around the need for more time to work these up, not forcing a model too quickly and ensuring genuine coproduction was “built-in”.
- The need to show the totality of all action (it was not just about small amounts of money) – the focus needed to be on how any investment would make a difference. Decisions needed to be underpinned with data evidencing success. Officers confirmed that this approach would be included in the draft strategy, showing the logic behind the approach.
- It was noted that some groups were not visible in the strategy so far (e.g. no schools or housing providers).

ACTION: the Directors of Children’s Services and Adult Services and Housing to look into representation from schools and housing providers.

Resolution: it was agreed the proposals for prioritisation of actions to be funded be deferred until the October meeting.

12 Community Strategy

The Head of Business Insight, Policy and Partnerships presented the report giving an overview of the development approach for the proposed North Somerset

Community Strategy and its associated workstreams including the tackling inequalities programme.

Resolved: that the update on the development of the North Somerset Community Strategy be noted.

Chairman
