



Committee and Date

Health and Wellbeing Board

16 November 2023

**MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD MEETING HELD ON 14
SEPTEMBER 2023
10.00 - 11.50 AM**

Responsible Officer: Michelle Dulson

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Present

Simon Whitehouse – ICB Chief Executive Officer, NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin (Co-Chair)

Cecilia Motley – PFH Social Care, Public Health & Communities (Co-Chair)

Kirstie Hurst-Knight – PFH Children & Education (Remote)

Rachel Robinson - Executive Director of Health, Wellbeing and Prevention

Tanya Miles – Executive Director for People

Laura Tyler – Assistant Director for Joint Commissioning

Laura Fisher – Housing Service Manager (Remote)

Carla Bickley – Substitute for Nigel Lee, SaTH

Lynn Cawley - Chief Officer, Shropshire Healthwatch

Heather Osborne – Substitute for Jackie Jeffrey, VCSA

14 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Claire Parker - Director of Partnerships, NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin

Jackie Jeffrey – VSCA (Substitute: Heather Osborne)

Paul Kavanagh-Fields - RJAH

Sara Ellis-Anderson – Deputy Director for Nursing & Quality, SCHAT

Claire Horsfield –, SCHAT

Nigel Lee – Interim Director of Strategy & Partnership SaTH (Substitute: Carla Bickley)

Stuart Bills – Superintendent, West Mercia Police

Ben Hollands - MPFT

Lisa Middleton – Shropshire Council

15 Disclosable Interests

None received although some members delivered on the BCF/Winter support service.

16 Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED:

that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 June 2023 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Following on from the action agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board to ask providers, on behalf of Healthwatch Shropshire, for their response to their report “Your Care, Your Way” on the Accessible Information Standard requirements, it was requested that an email be sent on behalf of the Board to Provider Partner Board Members (including the Local Authority) asking them to provide the Health & Wellbeing Board with an update on their organisation’s progress on the accessible information standard.

17 Public Question Time

A question was received from Mr Darren Childs in relation to staffing at Ludlow Hospital.

The full question and the response provided by the Director of Operations & Chief AHP, Co-Chair Shropshire Telford & Wrekin AHP Council / Shropshire Community Health Trust is available from the web page for the meeting:

[Agenda for Health and Wellbeing Board on Thursday, 14th September, 2023, 9.30 am — Shropshire Council](#)

18 SEND Action Plan update

The Board received the joint report of the Assistant Director Education and Achievement, the SEND and Inclusion Service Manager, the Deputy Director of Partnerships, Shropshire Telford and Wrekin ICS and the Designated Clinical Officer for SEND – copy attached to the signed minutes – which updated the Board on the Ofsted/CQC Area SEND Inspection Revisit in November 2022 and set out the next steps following publication of the inspection report in February 2023.

The SEND and Inclusion Service Manager introduced and amplified the report and highlighted the key areas to note including the progress that had been made and that which was still required. She drew attention to the Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) which had been published on their local offer website, progress against which would be monitored monthly. Progress was also monitored by the Department for Education and NHS England both formally and informally. Following a recent informal visit, no concerns were raised and the formal monitoring was due to take place at the beginning of November and six monthly thereafter.

The SEND and Inclusion Service Manager informed the Board that Shropshire was one of four local areas within the West Midlands to be selected to work on the SEND Change Programme to test and design aspects of that system. The Change programme was officially being launched on 19 September and would run for two years.

The Designated Clinical Officer for SEND discussed their work around the diagnostic pathway for ADH and ADHD for which the average waiting time nationally was over 9 months with a further 7 months until treatment. Locally this had been addressed by allowing access to services and support without the requirement of a diagnosis along with work undertaken to clarify and improve access and timeliness of diagnostic

pathways. Although increased funding had been provided to undertake additional diagnostic assessments, demand was still outstripping capacity.

She then highlighted the challenges around waiting times for speech and language therapy services which had very high referral rates and a very variable service offer and how it was commissioned across the Country. Locally, support was being provided whilst waiting and access to the services in a timely way was being addressed. Again, demand was still outstripping the capacity of that service and she went on to discuss the next steps.

Turning to EHCP, the SEND and Inclusion Service Manager explained that nationally there were gaps in external provision and training, a lack of coordination between services, weak co-production and a lack of accountability. Locally, feedback had shown an inconsistency in the quality of the input from Education, Health and Care in relation to the advice and reports that are collected prior to issuing an EHCP, along with a lack of effective quality assurance processes and plans not being updated or issued in a timely manner. She went on to inform the meeting about the work being undertaken by these workstreams. Timescales for issuing new EHCPs were now more or less in line with the national average.

The Portfolio Holder for Children & Education commented that the partnership working around this had been a real success and only by coming together could a way forward be found. She queried whether the ICB were considering additional funding for mental health services for young people. In response, the Deputy Director of Partnerships at Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin ICS agreed to share their profiling around mental health spending with Board Members which set out the latest information. She explained that in terms of the amount of investment into services, this was continually reviewed by the ICB and as part of their investment process they had strengthened their commissioning arm which would help them to look at some of the data behind the commissioning intentions and work as a system to build those investment cases going forward.

The Chair reported that the ICB did meet the mental health investment standard and although the funding was not where they wanted it to be, it had grown since previous years and was 20% higher than the national average and there was a focus on continued investment in this area.

The Executive Director for People congratulated the team for all their work both pre and post inspection and she was pleased to see that the inspectors were assured that significant progress had been made with three areas of concern and that the remaining three areas were both a national and local problem. However, huge progress had been made since the last inspection. In terms of demand and capacity, she was interested to learn of the work being done and to really understand the demand moving forward to ensure the right support was available.

In response, the Deputy Director of Partnerships, Shropshire Telford and Wrekin ICS felt that they were in a much better position than back in November in terms of understanding the profile of the additional demand. They were working with regional and national teams to look at this pattern of demand, whether it would continue to grow or whether there would come a point whereby demand would level out along

with work to understand how to commission services differently in terms of triage around assessments.

The Executive Director of Health, Wellbeing and Prevention felt, in relation to the waiting times, that it would be helpful for ShIPP (Shropshire Integrated Place Partnership) to have oversight of the long-term trends and the impact all the good work was having and where further support was needed.

RESOLVED: To note the recommendations contained in the report.

19 Suicide Prevention Strategy

The Board received the report of the Consultant in Public Health, Shropshire Council – copy attached to the signed Minutes – which set out the draft Shropshire Suicide Prevention Strategy which had been refreshed. The Consultant in Public Health introduced and amplified his report which had been out for stakeholder consultation. He informed the Board that the Strategy had been co-produced by their multi-agency Suicide Prevention Network which sat across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and built upon the work of the first Suicide Prevention Strategy that was launched in 2017. He drew attention to the outcomes from that Strategy and explained that the vision within the new strategy was to build upon the work that had previously been undertaken with a continued focus on reducing the number of people who take their life.

He went on to highlight the key messages from this Strategy which were very much around promoting greater awareness and conversation about suicide to tackle stigma and to encourage anyone who was struggling or had been impacted by suicide to reach out as early as possible and he reminded the Board of the priorities outlined within the updated Strategy. He reported that an Action Plan was being created by the Shropshire Suicide Prevention Action Group and sub-groups had been set up to help deliver this. He went on to explain that buy in and support was required from partners and others who already worked with those high-risk cohorts and who had that insight and understood the challenges in order to really help explore where the shared ambitions could be and what could be done to strengthen outcomes in terms of suicide prevention, reducing inequalities and improving the lives of those individuals. He requested that anyone who was interested in supporting that work to please contact him direct.

Finally, the Consultant in Public Health explained that the Strategy used to be for Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, but following stakeholder feedback it was felt that having a dedicated Shropshire local authority area strategy would be beneficial and gave flexibility as Shropshire had quite a different demographic to Telford. However, he reassured the Board that they still operated as one Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Suicide Prevention Network and that partnership work was still ongoing. He went on to inform the Board that the local ambitions did align to the national ambitions (the National Strategy having been published that week) however there was still uncertainty around the funding commitment to take this work forward as the current funding was coming to an end in March 2024.

Members welcomed and endorsed the strategy. A query was raised in relation to objective three, suicide risk aware and Action 5 increasing suicide risk awareness

and skills intervention, and what was being done to ensure that the people of Shropshire understood what they could do in terms of contact if they were concerned about someone. In response, the Consultant in Public Health explained that there were some resources which had been developed and which were available on the Healthy Shropshire webpage so, for example, if a professional was supporting someone who was struggling with suicide ideation, there were some initial contacts and guidance information about what they could do and who they could contact, depending on the situation and age of the person. A first point of contact for concerns around mental health and wellbeing in the broader context document had recently been launched, which was also available from the Healthy Shropshire webpage and again gave some brief advice as to what you can do, what you can say, who you can contact. He confirmed to the Board that he would be happy to explore what more could be done to ensure professionals were aware of what support services were available in Shropshire and what more the Board could do to ensure those messages were out there in our communities.

A brief discussion ensued around how to make the Zero Suicide Alliance free online training mandatory for all professionals and how this was being picked up by providers. It was felt that the Board as local authority and the NHS could build in mandatory training and set the example to the wider organisations. The Chairman therefore asked NHS provider colleagues and partners if they could have a conversation around what that mandatory training would look like. A plea was made for consideration of training for the voluntary sector also.

The Portfolio Holder for Social Care, Public Health & Communities thanked the Consultant in Public Health for producing this excellent report and she felt that the recommendations needed to be taken seriously. She explained that part of the problem being faced was that Shropshire was a very large county with limited resources and a whole gamut of different age groups that were affected, particularly by suicide, and trying to deal with each group appropriately was quite difficult so an overall approach was not necessarily going to be the right one and there may need to be different approaches depending on who you're dealing with. She felt that one of the other really important things was that people understood that help and support was available and that there was a point of contact for them and she would certainly be talking to her parishes about it. She urged that thought be given to starting at the bottom not just with the professionals in order to be as holistic as possible.

The Consultant in Public Health agreed to take away all the points raised and take them forward. In conclusion, he reminded the Board that the joint training team were 'suicide first aid' accredited and they were able to provide that training offer at a subsidised/no cost to other delegates, particularly in the voluntary and community sector and he drew attention to the DHSC suicide prevention grant fund that had been established which was specifically aimed at the voluntary and community sector to support suicide prevention activity, the deadline for which was 1 October 2023, anyone interested in submitting a bid was requested to contact him.

RESOLVED: To note the recommendations contained in the report.

20 Physical Activity, including Beat the Street

The Board received the joint report of the Head of Engagement, Energize Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and the Head of Joint Partnerships, Shropshire Council/ Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin ICB – copy attached to the signed Minutes – which provided details of the national strategy ‘Get active: A strategy for the future of sport and physical activity’ as well as Shropshire’s activity offer, infrastructure and programmes to support people to take up physical activity and sport.

A presentation was given – copy of slides attached to the signed Minutes. The Head of Joint Partnerships introduced and expanded on the report. She explained that within the last few weeks a National Strategy had been produced, which retained the same five outcomes from its previous strategy, and she drew attention to the three priorities of the new strategy (set out on page 43). The national strategy also highlighted some evidence around reducing the number of inactive children and adults and how it reduces the burden on the NHS and social care and delivered a combined saving of £7.1b to the UK economy which shows how important physical inactivity is. Locally, we also have a significant number of people who were inactive but the paper highlighted that activity levels could be improved by sustained input and programmes like ‘Beat the Street’ which demonstrated that when you input into support for people to access activity and to do more, people did more, and when you support that a bit more, people continued to do more.

The Head of Joint Partnerships highlighted that as a local authority and a local authority area there were a wealth of things at our fingertips, including outdoor spaces, leisure facilities, and all kinds of things that could help people to get active however, there were still people who had barriers to getting into that activity.

The Head of Engagement at Energize Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin informed the Board that the report set out all of the work and all of the areas that Energize were involved in and she particularly highlighted the work around the Green Social Prescribing project (which was coming to an end in November) which had been a success over the last few years with NHS Charities coming together with Shropshire Council, Telford and Wrekin Council, Sport England’s ‘Tackling Inequalities’ fund, Energize and Shropshire Wildlife Trust. The next phase of this project was currently being scoped and would be based on all the intelligence that had been gained across the last two years.

The Head of Operations drew attention to the three ‘Ls’ (local, low-level and low-cost) and how people could be connected to their green spaces and be made more aware of what was available in their communities, how it linked to the social prescribing system in terms of connecting people better but also for the social prescribers themselves to be more connected to green spaces and the local community that they were serving and she gave an example of the ‘Let’s go outside’ brochure and the Bench to Bench walks.

Turning to another area, the Head of Engagement discussed their work within schools as part of the ‘Creating Active Schools’ framework which provided a whole system approach whereby physical activity was embedded across the whole school and she played a video as an example from one of the schools they had been working with. The Head of Operations then went on to give more detail about the

programme and the work that had been taking place and whether this model could work in other systems/health and social care settings and a brief discussion ensued.

The Head of Engagement informed the meeting of an event they were holding around the Creating Active Schools framework on 25 September at the Guildhall to share the findings and next steps. Finally, the Chairman pulled together the next steps for the Board.

RESOLVED:

To note the contents of the report and progress in Shropshire regarding improving levels of activity.

21 Joint Commissioning - Winter Support Service & Prevention Commissioning

The Board received the report of the Place and Personalisation Team Manager – copy attached to the signed Minutes – which updated the Board around the work of the Winter Support Service and prevention Commissioning.

The Assistant Director – Joint Commissioning introduced the report of which there were two elements, one was an update on the previous years' winter support service and how that had informed the way forward. It had been the third year that a specific winter support service had been commissioned, and each year it was evaluated and reviewed in quite a lot of detail and every year informed what the next year would look like. The service was provided in collaboration with VCS partners. She drew attention to the detail within the report around some of the outcomes. She reported that they had a proposal for some winter funds to support this work, however what they really wanted to do was to provide this type of service all year round.

Turning to the Wellbeing and Independence Advice Service, the Assistant Director – Joint Commissioning explained that this service was funded through the Better Care Fund and was very much focussed on preventative work and was delivered by a consortium for the voluntary sector. This service was currently being reviewed as part of the Better Care Fund. She reported that the contract for this was due to expire in March 2024 however there were also other areas where they had to ensure they were reviewing and looking to align it in terms of that concept of that one Shropshire/Front door element looking at a locality based level and ensuring we are delivering across the Shropshire Plan but also the forward plan as part of the ICS and the ICB work that has been done collaboratively. They were looking to pull together a service specification that was much more fit for purpose, which was a big piece of work to do.

Finally, she drew attention to the recommendations and next steps moving forward in order to meet the needs of individuals as well as the system partner strategies and priorities. A brief discussion ensued and in response to a query, the Assistant Director – Joint Commissioning explained the plans for making this sustainable and how the capacity would fit in with the capacity and demand modelling for the system. Some of the work going on was with system partners who were supporting looking at the demand and capacity work and it was felt that in turn this would inform what they needed to invest in moving forward.

RESOLVED:

To note the recommendations as set out in the report.

22 Joint Commissioning - Better Care Fund

The Board received the joint report of the Head of Joint Partnerships and the Assistant Director – Joint Commissioning – copy attached to the signed Minutes - which informed the Board that the final Better Care Fund Planning Templates had been submitted on 28 June 2023 and which had been approved nationally.

RESOLVED:

To approve the Better Care Fund along with Appendices A to D.

23 Safeguarding Annual Report 2021/22

The Board received the report of the Executive Director for People – copy attached to the signed Minutes – which set out the Safeguarding Annual Report for 2021/22.

The Executive Director informed the Board that Shropshire was one of only three local authorities in the country to have this type of Board which combined the Safeguarding Adults Board with both the Children's Safeguarding Partnership and the Community Safeguarding Partnership.

The Executive Director acknowledged that the report has been outstanding for some time due to a capacity issue within the business unit and it was hoped to present the 2022/23 annual report to this Board prior to Christmas.

RESOLVED:

To note the contents of the report and to bring it back to the Board alongside the 2022/23 annual report.

24 Trauma Informed update

The Board received the joint report of the Head of Joint Partnerships and the Personalised Care Programme Manager – copy attached to the signed Minutes – which described the continuing work of the Trauma Informed Steering Group and highlighted the important connectivity to the Shropshire Plan Healthy People and Health and Wellbeing priorities.

RESOLVED:

To note the recommendations contained in the report.

25 Chairman's Updates

The Chairman had no updates to report.

26 JSNA - Place based needs assessment (PBNA) and themed JSNA's

The Board received the report of the Public Health Intelligence Manager – copy attached to the signed Minutes – which presented the Board with an update on Shropshire's JSNA, progress to date, future direction of the JSNA and timescales, for information.

27 ICS strategy update - Joint Forward Plan

The Board received the report of the Director of Partnerships – copy attached to the signed Minutes – which provided an update following the development and publication of the Joint Forward Plan, for information.

28 Health Protection update

The Board received the report of the Consultant in Public Health - copy attached to the signed Minutes – which provided an overview of the health protection status of communicable, waterborne and foodborne disease, for information.

The Executive Director of Health, Wellbeing and Prevention informed that Board that the vaccination programme for flu and covid had been brought forward and the Chairman stressed the importance of getting the message out.

29 Pharmacy Updates

There have been changes to the supplementary opening hours of:

- Hillside Pharmacy, 18 Sandford Avenue, Church Stretton - effective from 1st September 2023.
- Boots UK LTD, Meole Brace Retail Park, Hereford Rd, Shrewsbury - effective from 23rd July 2023

In addition, there has been a change to the Pharmaceutical List – Lloyds pharmacy in Sainsbury's, Meole Brace Retail Park, Hereford Road, Shrewsbury has ceased to provide services and has been removed from the pharmaceutical list as of 14.06.23

AOB

The Chief Officer Shropshire Healthwatch informed the meeting that they would shortly be publishing two reports, one about people's experiences of making complains across Health and Social Care and the other one about diabetes, which it was hoped would feed into the Diabetes Transformation programme and she requested that they both be presented to the next meeting of the Board.

The Portfolio Holder for Children & Education informed the Board that the Armed Forces Outreach team had been nominated for a national award for the health and wellbeing category of the Veterans UK Awards.

Signed (Chair)

Date: