

Contribution of Devon Integrated Care Board to the implementation of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, April 2024

Report of the Director of Public Health, Communities and Prosperity

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

1) Recommendation

That the Health and Wellbeing Board note the Devon response to the NHS England regarding the NHS Devon Integrated Care Board (ICB) contribution to the implementation of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2) Background / Introduction

NHS England undertake an annual survey of Health and Wellbeing Boards regarding the contribution of ICBs to the implementation of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to gauge how effectively the ICB have contributed to strategy ambitions. The response on behalf of the Devon Health and Wellbeing Board was made in March 2024 and is set out below.

3) NHS Devon ICB Contribution to the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy – our survey response

How effectively has the ICB worked with its NHS and wider system partners to implement the local Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

Very effectively (multiple choice response)

Please provide further comments, including identifying existing good practice and making suggestions for how, if necessary, the effectiveness of the ICBs working with NHS and wider system partners could be improved.

The ICB has worked very effectively with Devon County Council and other Integrated Care System and wider partners in the implementation of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

NHS Devon ICB plays an important role on the Devon Health and Wellbeing Board. The Chair of NHS Devon, Dr Sarah Wollaston, is the vice chair of the Devon Health and Wellbeing Board. NHS Devon ICB contributes to both the formulation and delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, with a specific leadership role in relation to the 'focus

on mental health' (building good emotional health and wellbeing, happiness and resilience), and 'maintain good health for all' (supporting people to stay as healthy as possible for as long as possible) priorities. NHS Devon ICB has a health inequalities team and roles, which align to Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy vision and principles and provide support and additional funding to support work within Local Care Partnerships. This team has also been actively involved in developing NHS Devon ICBs community-focused work, which has involved strengthening the role of the ICB as an anchor institution, and contributing directly to community development projects, which accords with our Health and Wellbeing Board's priority around healthy, safe, strong and sustainable communities, and creating conditions for good health and wellbeing where we live, work and learn.

NHS Devon ICB contribute directly to Devon Health and Wellbeing Board meetings, with a standing quarterly update on ICB and ICS development. This standing item summarises ICB activity in the context of Health and Wellbeing Board priorities. Further to this during 2023-24 the ICB has led or co-led by the ICB through the board include:

- Devon Joint Forward Plan (April 2023)
- Better Care Fund Update (April 2023, July 2023, October 2023, January 2024)
- Devon Joint Forward Plan Refresh (January 2024)
- Development of Devon Community Pharmacy Strategy (January 2024)

During 2023-24 NHS Devon ICB have also been instrumental in engaging the Health and Wellbeing Board in the Development of the Devon Community Pharmacy Strategy, including coordinating a workshop for board members in February 2024 and aligning with work on the forthcoming refresh of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. As commissioners of these services, NHS Devon ICB have played a vital role in the alignment of needs assessment processes across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay to achieve consistency in approach across the wider ICS area.

NHS Devon ICB are well represented on other strategic partnerships across Devon who also jointly to the work on priorities in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and relevant cross-cutting issues, including the Safer Devon Partnership, the Devon Children and Families Partnership and the Torbay and Devon Safeguarding Adults Partnership. These strategic partnerships, including the Integrated Care Partnership itself, come together through quarterly chair and manager meetings to achieve clear alignment and coordination across partnerships, During 2023-24 these have focused on cross-cutting topics which are particularly relevant to the Health and Wellbeing agenda including violence reduction, prevention and trauma.

In terms of potential improvements and reflecting the significant challenges both local authorities and the NHS as organisations face, the continuation and expansion of NHS work in relation to prevention and the fourth core aim of integrated care systems to help the NHS support broader social and economic development will continue to be useful. In particular, the ICBs contribution to work on Cardiovascular Disease Prevention, Population Health Management, community development and wider prevention activities are going to be critical in the year ahead. We would encourage NHS England to ensure ICBs have sufficient flexibility to contribute to this work by reducing demand and pressure (often created by short deadlines) for centralised reporting and reducing bureaucracy.

What positive steps has the ICB taken in implementing the local Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

Over the last five years, initially through long-term plan work in Devon in 2019 and 2020, and more recent work on the Integrated Care Strategy and Joint Forward Plan in 2022 and 2023, a very clear line has been drawn between ICB and Health and Wellbeing Board priorities, and this is continuing through the refresh of the Devon Joint Forward Plan, which was the subject of board discussion in January 2024. ICB priorities, as reflected in the Integrated Care Strategy and the Devon Joint Forward Plan, directly reflect the priorities in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the challenges and needs highlighted in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. This also reflects the fact that they are both drawn on the same evidence base and cross-organisational approach to needs assessment and analysis within the ICS. Members of and officers supporting the Devon Health and Wellbeing Board have directly contributed to the writing of Integrated Care Strategy, Joint Forward Plan, and wider ICB strategy and policy documents, establishing a direct link between HWB and ICB strategies. This is strengthened through the composition of the Devon Integrated Care Partnership, which is chaired by the chair of the Devon Health and Wellbeing Board and includes the chairs of the Plymouth and Torbay Health and Wellbeing Boards as members.

Work on priority setting within Local Care Partnerships and Primary Care Networks have also directly used the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to set local priorities and direct local programmes of work. The One Devon Outcomes Framework which directs the work of NHS Devon ICB which reflect the challenges and priorities highlighted in the Integrated Care Strategy has been co-designed by Devon County Council and NHS Devon ICB and aligns both the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the outcomes reporting processes for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The current Devon Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy cover the period 2020-2025, and work will commence on a refresh later in 2024. This will provide a further opportunity to align the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy with current and emerging NHS Devon ICB and Devon County Council challenges and priorities. This will be further enhanced by the very close links which already exist between the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Forward Plan.

What more could the ICB do to support implementation of the local Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

As noted in the answer to question four, and reflecting the common challenges NHS organisations and local authorities face, the continuation and expansion of NHS work in relation to prevention and the fourth core aim of integrated care systems: 'help the NHS support broader social and economic development', will continue to be useful. In particular, the ICBs contribution to work on Cardiovascular Disease Prevention, Population Health Management, community development and wider prevention activities are going to be critical in the year ahead. We would encourage NHS England to ensure ICBs have sufficient flexibility to contribute to this work by reducing demand and pressure (often created by short deadlines) for centralised reporting and reducing bureaucracy.

Further to this there is an ongoing need to ensure appropriate democratic representation and cross membership between relevant ICB and wider integrated care system committees, and local Health and Wellbeing Boards. This includes ensuring that any new committees, particularly in relation to population health, inequalities, and prevention, and that there are reporting links and common membership with local health and wellbeing boards as appropriate.

4) Options / Alternatives

Nil

5) Consultations / Representations / Technical Data

Nil

6) Strategic Plan

The JHWS priorities align to the Devon County Council Plan 2021 – 2025: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/strategic-plan/>. This report demonstrates the NHS Devon contribution to the delivery of these priorities.

7) Financial Considerations

Nil

8) Legal Considerations

Nil

9) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change, Sustainability and Socio-economic)

Nil

10) Equality Considerations

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and the contribution of NHS Devon ICB to its implementation including a focus on promoting health equality.

11) Risk Management Considerations

Nil

12) Summary / Conclusions / Reasons for Recommendations

Nil

Contact for enquiries:

Name: Simon Chant

Telephone: 01392 386371

Address: simon.chant@devon.gov.uk