

Minutes of the meeting of the Essex Health and Wellbeing Board, held in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH at 10:00am on Wednesday 18 September 2019

Present:

Board Members

Councillor John Spence
Andy Brogan

Dr Hasan Chowhan
Councillor Terry Cutmore
Dr Anna Davey
Cllr Peter Davey

Ian Davidson

Dr Mike Gogarty

Councillor Ray Gooding

Dr Angus Henderson*
Nick Hulme
Brid Johnson
Gavin Jones*
Dr 'Boye Tayo
Alison Wilson
Simon Wood

Essex County Council (**Chairman**)
Non-acute Providers (substitute for Sally Morris)
North East Essex CCG
Borough/City/District Councils
Mid Essex CCG
Voluntary Sector – Essex Association of Local Councils
Borough/City/District Councils (ECEA Rep)
Essex County Council (Director, Wellbeing, Public Health and Communities)
Essex County Council (substitute for Councillor Susan Barker)
West Essex CCG
Acute Hospital Trusts
Non-Acute Providers
Essex County Council
Basildon and Brentwood CCG
Voluntary Sector
NHS England

Co-opted Members

Pippa Brent-Isherwood

Phil Picton

Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (substitute for Roger Hirst)
Independent Chair, Essex Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards

Other Attendees

Jo Cripps
Peter Fairley
Victoria Fennell
Susannah Howard
Iain MacBeath

Caroline Russell
Professor Michael Thorne
Judith Dignum

Mid and South Essex STP
Essex County Council
Mid and South Essex STP
Suffolk and North East Essex CCG
Joint Lead, Hertfordshire and West Essex STP
Mid and South Essex STP
Mid and South Essex STP
Essex County Council
(Board Secretary)

* for part of meeting

1. Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

The report of Membership, Apologies and Declarations was received.

The Chairman welcomed Simon Wood, Director of Strategy and Transformation, NHS England and NHS Improvement (East of England), to his first meeting as representative of NHS England. The Chairman thanked NHS England for his appointment, noting that this was not routine with regard to attendance at Health and Wellbeing Boards.

He also welcomed Professor Michael Thorne, newly-appointed Independent Chair of Mid and South Essex STP

It was noted as follows:

1) Apologies for absence had been received from:

Board Members

Cllr Susan Barker

Jacquie Foile

Dr Sunil Gupta

Lorraine Jarvis

Sally Morris

Cllr Chris Whitbread

Essex County Council

(substitute Cllr Ray Gooding)

Voluntary Sector - Voluntary Action

Epping Forest

Castle Point and Rochford CCG

Voluntary Sector – Chelmsford CVS

Non-Acute Providers

(substitute Andy Brogan)

Essex County Council

Other apologies

Terry Huff

Accountable Officer, Castle Point and
Rochford and Southend CCG

2) There had been one change in membership since the last meeting:

- Simon Wood, Director of Strategy and Transformation, NHS England and NHS Improvement – East of England, had been appointed to represent NHS England.

2. Minutes and Progress Report on Action Arising: 17 July 2019

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 17 July 2019 were agreed as a correct record, and the progress report on actions arising since that meeting was noted.

3. Public Questions

None received.

4. Brexit (HWB/18/19)

The Board received a briefing from the Chief Executive of Essex County Council outlining the preparation work in relation to Brexit and seeking feedback on key risks and issues. The Council was confident, though not complacent, that it

would be well-placed to respond effectively to any challenges, whatever the eventual nature of the country's withdrawal from the EU. Members were pleased to learn that preparations had been undertaken in collaboration with partners, offering further evidence of a cultural shift in favour of joint working.

The following issues arose from consideration of the briefing:

- Efforts would continue to support health and care staff who were EU nationals to apply for settled status. Contingency plans were in place to manage any instances of care provider failure and these had proved effective when required in the past.
- NHS Trust Directors had been encouraged to approach medium-sized care homes to discuss ways of managing in the event of staff shortages.
- The important role for local (town and parish) councils in assisting with communications to residents was acknowledged and their willingness to be involved welcomed.

The update was **noted**.

5. Draft Better Care Fund Plan 2019/20 (HWB/19/19)

The Board considered a report seeking its endorsement for the Better Care Fund (BCF) Partnership's spending plan for submission to NHS England within the deadline of 27 September 2019. The Board noted that the plan had been approved by the Essex County Council Cabinet at its meeting the previous day (17 September 2019).

The following points arose from consideration of the report:

- Members praised the collaborative approach used in preparing and drafting the plan, which demonstrated that partners were learning to work together effectively.
- In response to concerns about funding post 2020, the Chairman advised that the position for 2020/21 was now clear. Beyond that date, Essex County Council had made representations to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government both in its own right and together with other authorities regarding the desirability of a three-year funding settlement.
- With regard to cross-border challenges (an issue which had been raised when the Plan was considered by the Essex County Council Cabinet), it was noted that these were now understood and action to address them ongoing. Any significant issues would be the subject of further report to the Board.
- The Board noted and supported the ambition to achieve beyond the level of the targets set out in the BCF Plan, with the aim of becoming exemplars in all areas.

Resolved:

That the Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan 2019/20 be endorsed for submission to NHS England by 27th September 2019

6. STP Draft System Plans (HWB/20/19)**Chairman's Statement**

The Chairman delivered a statement on behalf of Essex County Council in which he confirmed the Council's commitment to collaborative working, despite the challenges inherent in a local government area served by one ICS and two STPs. Expressing frustration at recent instances when key meeting dates had been rearranged by the ICS/STPs with no consultation or when events had clashed with each other or with meetings, he urged the ICS/STP leads in attendance to work together to ensure that this did not continue. In particular, Cllr Spence requested that a definitive calendar of ICS/STP Board meetings and Chairman's Groups be agreed for 2020.

STP Draft System Plans

The Board received a presentation by Jo Cripps (Mid and South Essex STP), Susannah Howard (Suffolk and North East Essex ICS) and Iain MacBeath (Hertfordshire and West Essex STP) concerning the draft submissions from the Essex ICS/STPs to the NHS Long Term Plan.

Noting the intention for local plans to be published by 15 November, Members considered how best to ensure meaningful engagement by the Board given that it was not due to meet again until 20 November. It was agreed that Members should communicate any concerns or issues of substance relating to the draft submissions to Peter Fairley as soon as possible for resolution and subsequent report back to the Board on 20 November.

The following issues arose during discussion:

- The need for a collaborative approach was highlighted, reflecting the fact that delivery of many of the agreed outcomes would rely on partners outside the NHS. It was also important to involve a range of stakeholders in setting and agreeing performance measures.
- There was a key role for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in combining the content of the various strategies and targets existing throughout Essex and translating them into consistent outcomes, thereby reducing variation. Leaders needed to be able to make and defend the case for focussing investment on areas of greatest need, resisting pressure from those who may be most vociferous but less needy.
- The progress made in Mid and South Essex over the last six to eight weeks, including the appointment of Professor Michael Thorne as Independent Chair, was welcomed.

- The City, District and Borough councils were well-engaged through the District Health and Wellbeing Boards, but there was a need to improve lines of communication to ensure that views could be shared more effectively, that the Boards played a part in priority setting and in order to maximise their role as a source of liaison with the local population. It was agreed that Ian Davidson and the Borough/City/District representatives on the Board would consider how to introduce more effective liaison without the need for additional meetings.
- The challenge of organising mental health provision in an area covered by one ICS and two STPs when each had different preferences was highlighted. It was noted that, as the Board was awaiting an appraisal of the various options for organisation, it was not currently in a position to express a view on this issue.
- Cross-Essex working on issues around Local Care and Health records, the workforce and population health management was noted. The particular importance of the latter was highlighted and it was noted that NHS England was keen to work with Essex County Council in establishing some form of collaboration across the region.

Resolved:

- 1) To note the draft submissions from the Essex ICS/STPs to the NHS Long Term Plan.
- 2) That details of any concerns or issues of substance relating to the draft submissions be communicated to Peter Fairley as soon as possible for resolution and report back to the next meeting of the Board on 20 November 2019.

Action

- 1) To communicate details of any concerns or issues of substance relating to the draft submissions to Peter Fairley as soon as possible for resolution and subsequent report back to the Board's next meeting on 20 November 2019. (Board Members/ Peter Fairley)
- 2) To consider how to introduce more effective arrangements for liaison with the District Health and Wellbeing Boards without the need for additional meetings (Ian Davidson/Board Borough/City/District Council representatives)

7. Sport England Essex Local Delivery Pilot Update (HWB/21/19)

The Board received an update on recent developments of the planning and preparation of the Essex Local Delivery Pilot. Enthusiasm for moving to the delivery phase of the Pilot was noted.

The following points arose:

- Members emphasised the need for interventions under the Pilot to have an impact on those who needed it most, and for any initiatives to be sustainable in the long term, not relying solely on external funding.
- A request was made for the sharing of information about activity outside the three main Pilot areas.
- There was a role for the organisations represented on the Board, many of which were large employers, in terms of modelling positive behaviours, facilitating and encouraging staff to live active and healthy lives.
- The importance of changing culture by facilitating ‘accidental activity’ (ie exercise that was not branded as such but was undertaken voluntarily, motivated by pursuit of an interest) was highlighted.
- Members discussed the possibility of maximising use of resources such as school playing fields and Adult Community Learning premises that were often unavailable outside school/work hours and during academic holidays. Despite the likely challenges associated with this, it was considered that efforts should be made to pursue it.

Resolved:

- 1) To note the update on recent Local Delivery Pilot (LDP) planning and preparation.
- 2) To note that the Board will receive regular updates on any awards made against the LDP grant.

8. North East Essex Alliance – Community Assets and Voluntary Services Mapping for Colchester and Tendring (HWB/22/19)

The Board was advised of the work undertaken by the North East Essex Alliance to map community assets and voluntary services in Colchester and Tendring.

Members expressed their support for the mapping exercise and commended it for adoption more widely. They commented on the wealth of community resources available in Essex, many of which remained relatively unknown, and the need to raise awareness of them in order to maximise the benefits that they could bring to communities.

The following issues arose during discussion:

- In response to comments by Councillor Cutmore, the Chairman asked Mike Gogarty and Peter Fairley to consider the necessary arrangements for briefing key colleagues and partners about the Discover 2020 Festival (a series of community events taking place across Rochford district in June 2020 aimed at celebrating the district’s rich and diverse history and heritage).

- The Board was informed about The Essex Map – an initiative by the Essex Voluntary and Community Services Alliance to produce a community asset map with the aim of helping local residents to discover and make the most of the wide variety of services available to them. The Alliance was keen for as many outside bodies as possible across Essex to come forward for addition to the map. The challenges inherent in the project in terms of the size of the task and keeping the content up to date were acknowledged.
- Councillor Davey praised the areas of focus set out within the Appendix to the report concerned with Community Assets in Colchester, namely Start Well, Feel Well, Be Well, Age Well, Stay Well, Die Well. He also referred to an excellent presentation given at the Essex Assembly on 11 September on the subject of strengthening communities through participation. It was agreed to circulate the slides to the Board.
- Referring to work being done by the Essex Association of Local Councils in support of its aim to embrace the health and wellbeing agenda, Councillor Davey advised that mental health training had now been offered to every parish and town council in Essex. To date, 33 councils had expressed an interest.

The report was **noted**.

Action

- 3) Arrangements to be determined for briefing key colleagues and partners regarding the Discover 2020 Festival taking place in Rochford district next year (Mike Gogarty/Peter Fairley)
- 4) Presentation slides from the ECC Chief Executive's address to the Essex Assembly on 11 September 2019 to be circulated to Board members (Board Secretary)

9. Partnership Mapping (HWB/23/19)

The Board received an update on partnership mapping and were asked to consider how best to create a forum for best practice without duplication.

Phil Picton spoke in support of the need for a streamlining of delegation arrangements within large organisations (especially STPs and CCGs) to ensure that representatives could speak with authority on their behalf when attending meetings with partners. This would improve the efficacy and timeliness of decision-making processes. The steps being taken by Mid and South Essex STP to acknowledge and address the issue were noted.

Councillor Cutmore praised the potential for increased effectiveness arising from a successful merger, citing the example of Castle Point and Rochford Joint Health and Wellbeing Board.

Noting that this would be Mr Picton's final attendance at a Board meeting pending his retirement, the Chairman and Ian Davidson thanked him for his outstanding leadership and paid tribute to his many achievements during his chairmanship of

the Essex Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards, particularly in terms of partnership working.

Resolved:

In the light of the complexity of the existing boards structure and the potential for duplication, the following be commended as best practice:

- 1) To consider how links between existing boards can be strengthened, including through better utilisation of cross-cutting support groups such as the Essex Strategic Co-ordination Group.
- 2) To review sub-groups and their purpose regularly.
- 3) To explore opportunities for more shared work, thematic plans on cross-cutting issues with other boards.
- 4) To look to make best use of existing boards for oversight of projects and initiatives, and to avoid creating boards to oversee projects or programmes where an existing board has the capacity to fulfil that role.

10. Health and Wellbeing Board Development Session (HWB/24/19)

The Board's views were sought on whether to hold a development session in January 2020.

Resolved:

That Members respond to Mike Gogarty by the end of September with their views on whether to hold an informal development workshop session in January 2020, and suggestions as to possible agenda items.

Action

Board Members to advise Mike Gogarty by the end of September of their views re holding a development session in January 2020, and potential topics for consideration. (All)

11. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Board would take place on Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 10.00am in Committee Room 1 in County Hall, Chelmsford.

12. Forward Plan

The Board noted the items planned for consideration at future meetings. The Chairman reminded Members that he was keen to increase the numbers of reports received from outside the County Council and he encouraged them to propose suitable items.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.50am

Councillor John Spence
Chairman
20 November 2019