

Public Health
4th Floor, 222 Upper Street, N1 1XR

Report of: Director of Adults Social Care

Meeting of: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 12 March 2024

Ward(s): All Wards

Subject: Healthy & Independent Lives - Improving joined up working & oversight.

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. The London Borough of Islington (LBI) and our Health, Care and Voluntary Sector Partners are committed to working alongside our residents to ensure they are supported to live healthy, independent lives, reducing, and tackling inequalities.
- 1.2. The report sets out the key collaborative and complementary areas of work that enable this ambition and sets out the opportunities to further align and develop our work jointly, to deliver greater improvements together at pace.
- 1.3. To support this, we need to evolve our governance and oversight, including the Health & Wellbeing Board, to ensure it is robust for the future.
- 1.4. This report sets out the actions being taken to progress this.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Islington's Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to:
- 2.2. To note the contents on the report and actions set out in Section 3
- 2.3. Provide any additional comments that would support the developments and actions outlined.

3. Background

- 3.1. The London Borough of Islington (LBI) and our Health, Care and Voluntary Sector Partners are committed to working alongside our residents to ensure they are supported to live healthy and independent lives, reducing, and tackling inequalities.
- 3.2. This is reflected in several key collaborative and complementary areas of work, including:
 - *Health & Well-being Strategy* – to improve our local population's health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.
 - *Fairer Together' Early Intervention & Prevention approach* - to work in partnership with our community to tackle inequality through high quality early intervention and prevention.
 - *Children and Families Board vision and programme* - to ensure Islington is a place where children and young people feel safe, belong, and thrive, leading to fulfilling lives.
 - *Islington Borough Partnership Vision & Programme* – to ensure Islington is a place where people live healthier, happier, longer, and more independent lives.
 - *North Central London Population Health & Integrated Care Strategy* - a collective system approach to improving the health and wellbeing of residents and a vision for an integrated system focused on prevention, early intervention, and proactive care, as well as tackling inequalities.
- 3.3. Those leading and involved in these areas of work recognise there are further opportunities to align and develop our work jointly, to deliver greater improvements and impact together at pace.
- 3.4. To support this, we need to evolve our governance and oversight, to ensure it is robust for the future. The following outline why now feels like the best time to make some changes:
- 3.5. Islington's Health and Wellbeing Strategy is being reviewed and refreshed. This provides an opportunity to review and refresh the Health & Wellbeing Board's (H&WBB) role in supporting this. Given the priority we have placed on prevention

and early intervention the review of the H&WBB would be designed to enable greater oversight and steer from political leadership and partners, across all the emergent prevention and early help work, alongside our population health approach to reducing health inequities.

- 3.6. The Fairer Together Early Help & Prevention work (e.g., Adult Coaching Offer & Access Islington Hubs, Young Black Men and Mental Health Programme) is at an implementation & delivery stage. There is now significant opportunity to align this with wider and complementary health and care developments led by Islington's Borough Partnership (IBP). Given the system partners involved are similar, bringing the work, meetings and governance together would reduce the risk of duplication of effort & resources and improve impact going forward.
- 3.7. The Children and Families Board have several priority programmes which would be supported by emergent early help, health, and care developments. As an example, the Children and Family Hubs, the Access Islington Hubs and the Health & Care Locality Teams have clear synergies and are at a good stage in their development to be aligned more explicitly.
- 3.8. The Islington Borough Partnership Board (IPB) has evolved into the locus and engine room for delivering the health and care ambition to ensure people live healthier, happier, longer, and more independent lives. It has strong and consistent representation (e.g., NHS Islington providers, social care, voluntary sector, Healthwatch, LBI housing, Integrated Care Board (ICB)) and direct relationship and mandate with NCL ICB to enable the delivery of the ambitions of the local and system Population Health & Integrated Care Strategies. It provides a stable and strong system leadership approach to developing, delivering, and tracking the impact of key programmes of work (including early help), that will drive improved health and care outcomes and reduce inequalities.
- 3.9. Given this the following next step actions have been agreed with partners and are being progressed:
- 3.10. Actions:
 - Refresh the approach and Term of Reference (TOR) of H&WBB, to include the oversight, tracking, delivery & impact of all relevant work associated with

Prevention & Early Help (including the Fairer Together Early Help work). It is proposed that we move to this way of working from the next H&WBB, with the timeline for amending the TOR being confirmed.

- Islington Borough Partnership (IBP) will become the 'Engine Room' with partners to drive the key ambitions to ensure Islington is a place where people live healthier, happier, longer, and more independent lives. This will include the Fairer Together early help work, with the associated governance and attendees merging with the IBP.
- A designated senior representative from the Children's & Families Board and LBI's Community, Wellbeing and Engagement Team to join the IBP to support further join up and collaboration across the work areas. In progress.
- Review and align the workstreams of Islington Borough Partnership, Fairer Together - Early Help programme and the Children & Family Board where there is natural synergy and the opportunity to deliver better together. E.g., Access Islington Hubs/Children & Family Hub/Health & Care Locality Teams. In progress.
- Align and develop a systemwide approach to using data, insight, and resident voice to inform developments and measure the impact of the work we do together. This action is in progress, aligned to Islington's Wellbeing Index developments, NCL's Population Health Outcomes Framework and our Key Performance Indicators for specific projects.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- The objectives of this report is to seek approval for updating and enhancing Islington's Health and Wellbeing Board's governance and oversight approach to ensure its resilience for the future and its ability to better serve our residents to live healthy, independent lives, reducing and tackling inequalities.
- The proposals outlined in this report do not entail direct financial implications. Instead, the focus is on fostering collaboration with our Health, Care, Voluntary Sector Partners, and other council departments, which presents potential for future cost savings as delivery methods become more streamlined. The extent of these savings if any remains to be determined and will become clearer as the refreshed approach

progresses.

Legal Implications

- There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.
- The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the 2012 Act) creates a framework for the establishment of Health and Wellbeing Boards.
- The Health and Care Act 2023 established Integrated Care Boards and Integrated Care Partnerships.
- Health and Wellbeing Boards are a statutory forum where political, clinical, professional and community leaders across the care (adults, children, public health), work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their population and reduce inequality.

Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

- Improving joined up working has environmental implications in line with those of standard council daily operations, namely energy and water use, resource use and waste generation, and staff transportation. Increased collaboration between different departments and external partners can have implications for council operations and positive environmental implications. Through streamlined processes and reduced duplication of efforts, there is potential for decreased consumption of resources. This optimization can lead to a more efficient use of resources and a reduction in waste generation.
- Furthermore, it's essential to acknowledge that climate change exacerbates inequality, disproportionately affecting vulnerable communities who often have fewer resources to adapt to its effects, leading to heightened social and economic disparities and negatively impacting public health outcomes. Therefore, it is recommended that the impacts of climate change on residents are considered as part of this work.

4.2. Equalities Impact Assessment

- The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1. To ensure we can continue to effectively work alongside our residents to ensure they are supported to live healthy and independent lives, we need to harness the key collaborative and complementary areas of work that enable this ambition and further align and develop our work jointly, to deliver greater improvements together at pace.
- 5.2. To do this we need to evolve our governance and oversight, including the Health & Wellbeing Board, to ensure it is robust for the future.
- 5.3. This report sets this out and the H&WBB is asked to:
 - Note the contents on the report and actions set out in Section 3
 - Provide any additional comments that would support the developments and actions outlined.

Appendices:

- Appendix 1: Summary Presentation for HWBB: Healthy & Independent Lives - Improving joined up working & oversight.

Background papers:

- N/A

Final report clearance:

Authorised by:

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