

# Joint Public Health Board

## 3 February 2020

### Business Plan Monitoring Report

Choose an item.

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr L Miller, Adult Social Care and Health, Dorset Council  
Cllr L Dedman, Adult Social Care and Health,  
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council

**Local Councillor(s):** All

**Executive Director:** Sam Crowe, Director of Public Health

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**Report Status:** Public

**Recommendation:**

**Reason for Recommendation:**

#### 1. **Executive Summary**

This report provides a quarterly summary of progress in delivering the agreed outputs from the Public Health Dorset business plan for 2019/20. The report highlights that the public health team is making good progress in delivering the business plan for 2019/20. The team is beginning the process of refreshing the business plan for 2020/21. Because of the long-term nature of many of the public health interventions we are involved in delivering, the approach to refresh will be a relatively light touch review of current work rather than wholesale change. The major areas of change are expected to be in the Prevention at Scale work, as set out in the separate paper to this board. Joint Public Health Board Members are asked to endorse the recommended approach being taken for 2020/21.

#### 2. **Financial Implications**

No direct financial implications arise from this monitoring report. However, it does contain updates on progress in commissioning and providing our main public health services, which do impact on the overall budget position.

**3. Climate implications**

No direct implications. However, some of the public health interventions and projects within the business plan will positively reduce carbon emissions at individual and organisation level if implemented at scale, particularly active travel.

**4. Other Implications**

N/A

**5. Risk Assessment**

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk: LOW

**6. Equalities Impact Assessment**

EQIA assessments form part of commissioning for all public health services and are published in accordance with Dorset Council guidance.

**7. Appendices**

Appendix A: Business plan monitoring report

**8. Background Papers**

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Joint Public Health Board exists to provide oversight, assurance and governance around the effectiveness of the delivery of the public health function for Dorset and BCP Councils.
- 1.2 An important part of this role is understanding how the Public Health Grant allocation is used to commission effective public health services, and whether those services are providing value for money, and equitable delivery for our populations.
- 1.3 This monitoring report sets out a summary of progress against the Public Health Dorset business plan for 2019/20. The plan includes commissioned service deliverables, as well as a number of projects being delivered as part of the Dorset ICS Prevention at Scale plans.

## **2 Current Position**

- 2.1 The monitoring report (Appendix A) shows that most deliverables in the business plan are on track for the financial year 2019/20. The following paragraphs highlight particular areas of the business where an update to the Board should be helpful.
- 2.2 Numbers accessing LiveWell Dorset following an NHS Health Check are increasing compared with the previous quarter, but still below expectations. Overall numbers of health checks being delivered are improving. The final data for Q3 was not available at time of report preparation but a verbal update will be given in the meeting.
- 2.3 The work to competitively tender sexual health services alongside NHS England is almost ready to go live. A final decision on the approach to evaluation is being worked through with NHS England and the tender is expected to be formally published in January.
- 2.4 The pressures and risk in the integrated prescribing service for substance misuse affecting the Bournemouth area because of an increase in demand are reducing. The service provider is redesigning services to improve the efficiency of the service. Further updates will be provided next quarter.

- 2.5 Success rates in the LiveWell Dorset service reported at longer term follow up have reduced compared with previous quarters. A task and finish group is exploring how to better understand whether the drop off is due to the numbers in service increasing, with poorer follow up, or is down to delivery of service.

### **3 Case Management System for Substance Misuse Treatment Services (HALO)**

- 3.1 As of 2017, there has been one case management system in place for substance misuse treatment services across the pan-Dorset area: Halo, provided by Footwork Solutions. The contract for this has been managed by Public Health Dorset on behalf of the local authorities. The provider of this system has been the same for a number of years, and procurement advice is that it would be appropriate to test the market for alternative providers. There are several alternative systems and providers available.
- 3.2 However, although there are some national reporting requirements that any system would have to meet, there is a range of options for how these might be met. There could be a like-for-like standalone system, or integration with systems from a range of other areas of activity – primary care, mental health or social care, for example. Moreover, commissioning arrangements for substance misuse treatment services are currently under review, meaning it is unclear whether a pan-Dorset arrangement will still be as relevant in the future, if, for example, the two local authorities choose to commission services separately.
- 3.3 Therefore, although the current contract expires at the end of March 2020, the partners are not currently in a position to offer a vision for a replacement, and therefore it is proposed that any procurement is delayed until clarity is provided regarding the long-term model of substance misuse commissioning across the BCP and Dorset Council areas. The view of commissioners (which is subject to confirmation by Dorset Council) is that the current arrangement is legal, as the overall total spend is below the relevant threshold, and it offers value for money, as prices have not risen under the new contract, which is itself a saving on previous arrangements under the three separate local authorities.
- 3.4 The current proposal is for the contract to be extended to the end of March 2021, on the assumption that a decision will be made about commissioning responsibilities will be made by April 2020.

## **4 Health Protection.**

- 4.1 Health Protection is one of the 5 mandatory functions of Local Authority Public Health and this remains one of our key areas of business as usual. At the previous Joint Public Health Board we discussed that it was important for Board members to have clear oversight of this area of our work.
- 4.2 The Director of Public Health, through Public Health Dorset, is required to have assurance that plans are in place to protect the health and wellbeing of the residents Dorset and BCP Council areas.
- 4.3 Public Health Dorset works closely with the teams at Public Health England, NHS England and Dorset CCG, as well as colleagues in the Local Authorities to ensure there are plans, services and systems in place to respond to any kind of incident ranging from infectious disease outbreaks to major incidents.
- 4.4 There are several key groups who are key to the effective working around Health Protection issues including the Local Health Resilience Forum and Dorset Health Protection Network, which are co-Chaired and Chaired by Public Health Dorset. In addition, we attend the Dorset ICS Infection Prevention and Control network and are key members of any outbreak control group meeting linked to Dorset. If helpful, we could provide the Joint Public Health Board with the minutes of the Health Protection Network to get an overview of the issues being addressed by this group.
- 4.5 Immunisation and screening services (sometimes referred to as Section 7a services) are commissioned for the Dorset and BCP population by PHE team embedded within NHS England. The Director of Public Health receives a regular assurance report around the performance of these services and any issues linking to them which is relevant to our population.
- 4.6 It is evident that there are variations in uptake rates for some vaccination and screening programmes across the area and we are working closely

with the team and local Primary care teams to try to identify issues and improve uptake. We know that some of the variation reflects national trends but there may also be more localised issues. We propose that this could be presented to the Board in a more detailed report at a future date if of interest to members.

- 4.7 Public Health Dorset will continue to provide timely updates to Joint Public Health Board members if we become aware of any significant issues or incidents related to health protection that are beyond routine business, especially if it may attract any media interest.

## **5 Conclusion and recommendations**

- 5.1 This monitoring report shows that Public Health Dorset is making good progress in delivering against its business plan in this financial year. Board members are asked to note the progress, and to support the recommendations for a light touch review of the current business plan for 2020/21.

### **Footnote:**

Issues relating to financial, legal, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.