

Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board

23 June 2021

Update on the Integrated Care System

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr L Miller, Adult Social Care and Health

Local Councillor(s): All wards

Executive Director: S Crowe, Director of Public Health

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation: Board members are asked to support the recommendation to hold a development session in the next two months to consider how the Board will work with the place-based partnership forum of the ICS, and its statutory body.

Reason for Recommendation: Health and Wellbeing Boards are the statutory boards responsible for promoting prevention and integration, as well as being leaders for improving health and wellbeing at a place level. The draft legislation and policy development driving the creation of Integrated Care Systems as legal entities requires both a statutory ICS board, and a place-based partnership board to collaborate to improve health outcomes for Dorset residents. As decisions about the governance and form of the Dorset ICS take shape over the next few months, it is essential the Health and Wellbeing Board has development time set aside to discuss and agree how it will work alongside the new ICS structures, and continue to work for better outcomes for Dorset residents.

1. Executive Summary

The integration of health and social care is a long-standing ambition of Government. National policy direction has been heading firmly in this

direction ever since the requirement for all local health and care systems to publish a Sustainability and Transformation plan, back in 2016. In Dorset, early progress on integrated working enabled the partnership, known as Our Dorset, to be recognised as one of 10 shadow Integrated Care Systems in England, in 2018.

The Government White Paper *'Integration and Innovation: working together to improve Health and Social Care for all'* published on 11 February 2021 now sets out the next stage of proposed legislative reforms, which would see the formation of a statutory Integrated Care System (ICS) including:

- a statutory Health and Care Partnership that brings together a wider group of partners to confirm their shared ambition for the health of their population and develop overarching plans across health, social care and public health;
- a statutory ICS body to lead and oversee planning and delivery of NHS services across the whole system. The ICS body will hold the NHS budget for the system and will maintain the appropriate governance and systems to ensure the proper management and accounting for public money.

This briefing paper for the Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board is intended to provide a summary of the next steps in the development of Integrated Care Systems. However, it is also intended to highlight some important proposed policy developments, including the formation of the statutory Health and Care Partnership, as outlined above. This is because within the current Dorset system, two Health and Wellbeing Boards already exist as statutory boards, responsible for the promotion of prevention and integration at a place-based level.

The proposal to create a new, statutory partnership for the ICS, with an agreed health care and public health plan, will require Health and Wellbeing Boards to consider how they will work with the partnership to ensure their leadership role in improving health and wellbeing for local residents continues to be recognised, with an agreed focus on the right outcomes for Dorset residents reflected in the ICS partnership plan.

The Health and Wellbeing Board should also consider how it will continue to influence the ICS going forwards including through the statutory ICS body. For example, when the Sustainability and Transformation Plan was developed, the Health and Wellbeing Board led the development of the

Prevention at Scale portfolio within the shadow ICS. Building on this strong progress with the Prevention at Scale work is a prerequisite for a successful statutory Integrated Care System and place-based partnership approach.

2. Financial Implications

No direct financial implications arising from this paper, or recommendation. However, having a strong and successful Integrated Care System will ensure consideration of how the Dorset pound is best used to achieve improved outcomes for residents. Decisions about how the NHS locally uses its recurrent revenue will have implications for Dorset Council services, not least where joint commissioning or integrated services are expected to develop going forwards.

3. Climate implications

No direct implications arising from this decision. However, all ICS organisations should be challenged as to how they will work together at a local level to achieve targets around net carbon zero, see <https://www.england.nhs.uk/greenernhs/a-net-zero-nhs/>. Dorset Council has also declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency, with a developing strategy, while other Board members will also contribute to the local public sector efforts to become sustainable. Working together through a strong ICS is one way of sharing expertise and challenging one another to go further, faster.

4. Other Implications

There are several other implications arising from having a strong ICS partnership going forwards, including improving public health and children's outcomes, safeguarding, efficient use of estates and assets.

5. Risk Assessment

There is a medium risk that failure to properly agree how the Health and Wellbeing Board will work alongside the statutory Integrated Care System risks confusing strategic priorities at place level, and not making the most of a strong place-based partnership approach to improve outcomes and tackle inequalities in health.

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

Current Risk: Medium

Residual Risk: Low

6. Equalities Impact Assessment

No equalities impact assessment has been carried out at this stage, as the development of the ICS is in progress, and an EIA will be done on any proposed changes for the system. However, having the Health and Wellbeing Board well placed to play a key role in the partnership board will ensure that equalities considerations are actively considered, as part of the Board's remit to improve health outcomes and tackle inequalities in health.

7. Appendices

Appendix A: ICS next steps paper – a report setting out the current requirements for becoming a legal entity by April 2022, developed for all local health and care organisations. 17 May 2021, Dorset CCG.

8. Background Papers

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.