

Joint Public Health Board

25 July 2023

Healthcare Public Health Memorandum of Understanding

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Jane Somper, Adult Social Care, Health and Housing, Dorset Council

Cllr David Brown, Health and Wellbeing,
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

Brief Summary:

Public Health advice to the NHS is one of the mandated public health functions set out in legislation. There is no detailed definition of what the NHS 'core offer' should be.

The shared service and Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) agreed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2013/14. This described what support the shared service could provide. The intention was to agree an annual workplan linked to the MoU. This was never formally refreshed after 2014/15.

The Dorset Integrated Care Board (NHS Dorset) succeeded the CCG in July 2022. It is now time to develop a new MoU that sets out how the shared service will work with the ICB and NHS partners. A presentation to the Board will highlight work to date.

Recommendation:

The Joint Public Health Board to note work developing an MoU with NHS Dorset.

Reason for Recommendation:

An MoU with NHS Dorset will mean agreed understanding of:

- expectations
- arrangements, and
- resources

for how the shared service delivers public health advice to the NHS.

1 Scope of the MoU

- 1.1 National guidance has suggested frameworks for public health to work with the NHS. See links in section 8. These vary.
- 1.2 Public Health Dorset has developed a business plan. Our initial discussions use this as the framework, focusing on healthcare public health.

2 Financial Implications

- 2.1 Public health advice should assist the ICB in their duties. This includes enhancing productivity and value for money. These benefits may apply to both the ICB and the wider Integrated Care System.
- 2.2 As a mandated function we use staff and other resources from within the shared service to deliver this. Much of this work sits within the healthcare public health of our business plan. Excluding LiveWell Dorset staff, at times up to a fifth of staff time is spent on this area.
- 2.3 The MoU will provide a shared understanding of resources. It will support discussion about shifting capacity or extra resourcing.

3 Wellbeing and health implications

- 3.1 Public health advice to the NHS should help protect and improve the health of local people. The advice should assist the ICB in their duties, which include to:
 - Improve outcomes in population health and healthcare and
 - Tackle inequalities in outcome and access

4 Environmental implications

- 4.1 Public health advice should assist the ICB in their duties. This includes helping the NHS deliver broader social and economic development within the local area.
- 4.2 Public Health Dorset is working with partners to develop a maturity matrix on the role of the NHS as Anchor Institutions. This includes consideration of sustainability and environmental impacts.

5 Other Implications

- 5.1 No other implications are identified in this paper.

6 Risk Assessment

- 6.1 Having considered the risks associated with this financial monitoring, the level of risk has been identified as:
Current Risk: LOW
Residual Risk: LOW

7 Equalities Impact Assessment

- 7.1 Public health advice to the NHS should assist the ICB in their duties. This includes tackling inequalities in outcome and access.
- 7.2 Any change as a result of public health advice will be subject to an equality impact assessment. Equality Impact Assessment does not apply to the arrangements for public health advice.

8 Appendices

Nil

9 Background Papers

- [The Local Authorities \(Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives\) Regulations 2013 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Guidance on healthcare public health advice to CCGs - gov.uk, 2012](#)
- [Quality in public health: a shared responsibility - gov.uk, 2019](#)
- [Delivering a quality public health function in integrated care boards – NHS England, 2022](#)

