

**Report for:** Health and Wellbeing Board – 3 October 2016

**Title:** Future Joint Health and Wellbeing Board Meetings

**Report**

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**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

1.1 The London Boroughs of Islington and Haringey have developed a joint health and care initiative known as the Islington and Haringey 'Wellbeing Partnership'. The 'Wellbeing Partnership' is the coming together of NHS organisations and local authorities in Haringey and Islington. It is driven by a shared recognition that major changes are needed to ensure that health and care services are of the right quality and capable of meeting the future needs of our local communities. To continue to develop this partnership arrangement, the Islington and Haringey Health Wellbeing Boards are asked to consider the frequency of joint meetings and the possibility of formalising joint arrangements. This will enable joint consideration of health and care issues, provide effective oversight of the Wellbeing Partnership, and support the development of cross-borough working relationships.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 To determine the frequency of joint meetings between the Islington and Haringey Health and Wellbeing Boards and the need for a joint committee.

**3. Background Information**

3.1 Haringey and Islington have set up a wellbeing partnership. The current Wellbeing partner organisations are: Haringey Council, Islington Council, Whittington Health, Camden & Islington NHS Foundation Trust, Islington Clinical Commissioning Group, and Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group. It is envisaged that other health providers and stakeholders will join the partnership. The partnership have agreed the following principles:

- a) Partner organisations will work together for the benefit of local people;
  - b) We will involve local people in our design, planning and decision-making;
  - c) Partner organisations will find innovative ways to cede current powers and controls to explore new ways of working together;
  - d) We will be open, transparent and enabling in sharing data, information and intelligence in all areas including finance, workforce and estates;
  - e) Partner organisations have agreed to find ways to 'risk share' during transformational change;
  - f) We will find ways to share joint incentives and rewards;
  - g) Partner organisations will make improvements by striving to be the best, together; and
  - h) We will be rigorous in ensuring value for money and financial sustainability.
- 3.2 To continue to develop and strengthen the partnership, both the Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Board have decided to convene this joint meeting to discuss, amongst other matters, the partnership initiative in the context of other developments in the health and care economy. As Islington and Haringey have not entered into formal joint arrangements these are technically separate meetings of each Board held concurrently. Each Board may make decisions related to its own functions, but functions cannot be exercised jointly. The usual procedure rules governing each meeting are applicable, including quorum and voting rights. Separate minutes will be produced for each meeting.
- 3.3 The Boards are invited to consider the frequency of the joint meetings. It is suggested that three or four joint meetings in the municipal year would be appropriate. They will be held as separate but concurrent meetings of each Board unless it is decided to enter into formal joint arrangements. With these additional meetings, the Boards may wish to adjust the frequency of their usual meetings schedule.
- 3.4 It is proposed for the joint meetings to be hosted alternately by Islington and Haringey to ensure a balanced use of resources.

#### Formalising Joint Arrangements

- 3.5 The Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Boards may wish to give consideration to formally establishing a joint committee. This could further strengthen the wellbeing partnership and provide a platform for joint working and oversight and decision-making in the future. The establishment of a joint committee would require consideration of matters such as terms of reference, decision-making powers, membership, quorum, meetings, voting, administrative support and lead borough arrangements.
- 3.6 Any joint committee would need to be established in accordance with the constitutional requirements of both authorities. The arrangements for the joint committee including the terms of reference would require the approvals of both authorities and may require amendments to parts of their Constitution relating to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

#### **4. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

##### Strategic outcomes

- 4.1 Both Islington and Haringey Health and Wellbeing Boards have expressed their support for the Wellbeing Partnership. The Partnership is intended to support the populations of both boroughs to live healthier, happier and longer lives; improve health and care services so that people experience more joined up, better quality services at the right time in the right place; and make sure the local health and care system delivers high value care, and is financially sustainable. Islington and Haringey have similar populations, with similar health and care needs, and a shared ambition and vision to provide high-quality, integrated, people-centred services.

#### **5. Statutory Officer Comments (Legal and Finance)**

##### Finance

- 5.1 Holding joint meetings will have resource implications which will need to be met from existing budgets. However, the Wellbeing Partnership will support the financial sustainability of local health and care services.

##### Legal implications

- 5.2 Section 198 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 provides that two or more Health and Wellbeing Boards may make arrangements for any of their functions to be exercisable jointly. In addition, Section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables two or more local authorities to set up a Joint Committee to discharge their functions jointly. As mentioned above, the establishment of and the arrangement for the joint committee would require the approval of both local authorities.

#### **6. Environmental Implications**

None.

#### **7. Resident and Equalities Implications**

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.

The holding of joint meetings is a governance matter and does not have direct resident and equalities implications. However, the Wellbeing Partnership will help to tackle health inequalities in both Islington and Haringey.

**8. Use of Appendices**

None.

**9. Background papers**

None.