

Report for: Health and Wellbeing Board - 31 January 2016

Title: Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board – Terms of Reference

Report authorised by : Stephen Gerrard, Director of Law and Governance, Islington Council

Bernie Ryan, Assistant Director, Corporate Governance, Haringey Council

Lead Officer: Jonathan Moore, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Islington Council

Stephen Lawrence-Orumwense, Assistant Head of Legal Services, Haringey Council

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.
- 1.2 At the 3rd October 2016 meeting in common of the Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Boards, it was considered that a more formal joint arrangements would strengthen the governance of the wellbeing partnership and provide a platform for joint working and oversight and decision-making in the future. It was agreed that further work be undertaken with a view to potentially establishing a Joint Committee, with three or four joint meetings a year considered to be appropriate.
- 1.3 Discussions have taken taken place between Islington and Haringey Councils and terms of reference for the proposed Joint Committee have been prepared and attached. The Health and Wellbeing Board is invited to consider the draft terms of reference and to recommend that Islington and Haringey Councils formalise joint arrangements to commence from the start of the 2017/18 municipal year.

2. Recommendations

That the following be recommended to Full Council for approval:

- 2.1 That the Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board (i.e. a Joint Committee) be established to discharge on behalf of both boroughs the function of encouraging integrated workings between commissioners and providers of health and care in the two boroughs in so far as it relates to areas of common interest and for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of their populations
- 2.2 That the Terms of Reference of the Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board which is attached as Appendix 1 be approved.
- 2.3 That the Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board be amended to permit when appropriate delegation of more functions to the Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board.

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 has 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 On 31 January the Islington and Haringey Health and Wellbeing Boards will have their second meeting in common. As Islington and Haringey have not yet 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.

Draft Terms of Reference

- 3.4 Draft terms of reference of the proposed Islington and Haringey Joint Health and Wellbeing Board (i.e. Joint Committee) have been produced and are set out at Appendix 1. These state that the Joint Committee will encourage and promote local partnerships, collaboration and integrated working; provide strategic oversight to the Wellbeing Partnership; provide a mechanism to enable joint decision-making; and represent the collective interests of the boroughs. It is also intended for the Joint Committee to contribute to the development of the North Central London Sustainability and Transformation Plan.
- 3.5 It is proposed that most members of the constituent Health and Wellbeing Boards are members of the Joint Committee. To ensure equality between the boroughs, voting rights are limited to elected members, two CCG members, and Healthwatch, although in practice it is expected that decision-making will be on a consensual basis. The procedural rules governing meetings incorporates aspects of Islington and Haringey's current arrangements and the responsibility for hosting and clerking meetings is proposed to rotate between the boroughs.
- 3.6 As a joint committee of the local authorities, meetings of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board would be held in public and the usual local government transparency requirements would apply. The terms of reference enable members of the public to ask questions and submit deputations to Board meetings. Scrutiny of the Joint Committee would be the responsibility of each borough's scrutiny committee.
- 3.7 Should the Health and Wellbeing Board endorse the joint arrangements, the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board 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 approval of both authorities Full Council meetings and may require amendments to parts of their Constitutions relating to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Further development of joint arrangements

- 3.8 It is expected that the joint arrangements will develop over time. For this reason, it is suggested that the Constitutions of Islington and Haringey Councils should be amended to allow the respective Health and Wellbeing Board to incrementally delegate more functions to the Joint Committee. This would allow the Joint Committee to take on additional functions as appropriate, and could, for example, enable statutory documents, such as the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, to be developed at a cross-borough level in future.
- 3.9 It is proposed that the joint arrangements be reviewed after one year of operation to ensure that the Joint Committee operates effectively and for the benefit of both boroughs.

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. A Joint Health and Wellbeing Board will support the governance of the Partnership.

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

Appendix 1 – Draft Joint HWB Terms of Reference

9. Background papers

None.