



Update from the Partnership Board

Edition 4

March 2021

The Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership (HCP) Board met on Wednesday 31st March and we are pleased to provide you with this update summarising the discussions. As you'll be aware the HCP has been formally designated as an Integrated Care System from April 2021, with statutory status expected by April 2022.

Although the Covid Pandemic Incident Response has been reduced to level 3, we expect that both the hospital and out-of-hospital cells will continue in their current forms for the time being but will 'morph' into Provider and Place Collaboratives respectively. This will enable us to take the learning, experience, and best practise from the 'cell' structure and build on it, together.

We're delighted that the Covid Vaccination Programme continues to advance with over 1.5m doses administered across Cheshire and Merseyside. Our area has performed particularly well and we must pay tribute to the team running the programme – as well as everybody involved in it – for their epic work in ensuring maximum utilisation and minimal waste.

Planning guidance has now been published by NHSE/I and focusses on inequalities, recovery and integration. We will now work with partners to develop and submit our response. The Board will have oversight of this, and a paper detailing our plans will be considered at the next Board meeting which takes place on Wednesday 28th April, 2021.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackie Bene" followed by "Alan Yates".

Dr Jackie Bene, Chief Officer and Alan Yates, Chair

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)



There has been lots of progress on the Partnership's MoU following recent meetings and all partners have been involved in its development. We welcome the widespread support it has received and have changed the document to reflect feedback. Although 24 of the 39 parties have explicitly confirmed their support and 'signed up' to it, we have still to hear from the remaining 15. If you are one of the 15 yet to explicitly confirm your support, please do write to us and let us know. We will then publish it. You can find the latest MoU document [here](#).

Alan Yates described the approach for Trusts to establish their representation at the interim Partnership Board which would commence from 1st June 2021. It was important that the three constituencies were able to choose how they represented themselves as it was important that those representatives had the confidence of their constituency and had been identified by a consensual process.

'Getting Under the Skin' Research Programme and Race Inequality Action Plan

Chris Samosa, Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development talked to this item and updated on progress. A detailed presentation outlining the insight and subsequent response to the 'Getting under the skin' project was included in the papers and can be found [here](#). The research considered the impact of Covid-19 on our ethnic communities and developed a **communications campaign** to address it. The insight and assets have been shared freely, and widely, and have been very well received.



Chris also updated the Board on the action plan in response the HCP's pledges on race equality, diversity and inclusion. The chair, all executives and NHSE/I advisors to the Board have completed a two day cultural intelligence development programme and this will be spread across the partnership. We recognise that this is not just about making changes in our workplaces, but in our communities as well. The Partnership has made nine pledges and progress is ongoing. Although Chris Samosa is the executive lead for the programme, all executives have responsibility for implementation of the action plan.

The Board welcomed the report and commended the insight work and subsequent campaign. It is now important to make sure that inclusion and equality is threaded through all our work so it becomes standard, and not an 'add-on'. Chair, Alan Yates, confirmed that the Board too has responsibility to take forward the pledges. He commended the 'Getting under the skin' project and assets to all partners, and asks them to use it and share it. A quarterly report on progress will be made to the Board.

Improving Health and Wellbeing in Cheshire and Merseyside – Strategy 21-25



Sarah O'Brien, Director of Strategy and System Development explained that to date, the Partnership had not published its strategy, which was the result of engagement across the system, but was 175 pages long. This has now been streamlined into a shorter, sharper more strategic document, incorporating the NHSE/I-set objectives for ICSs; the experience from the Covid Pandemic; and key priorities.

The Strategy will now be updated to reflect the discussion at the Board meeting. Members were keen to see care to ensure inclusive language was used, a greater emphasis on quality and safety; relationship with Local Economic Partnerships (LEPs); more explicit reference to Health and Wellbeing Boards leading Place strategies; ensuring hospital trusts are included in ICPs and, taking into account earlier discussions around race equality, making sure this is reflected.

As the changes required will enhance the document and not fundamentally change the Strategy, it was approved subject to those changes and will be published as soon as the revisions are made. The updated Strategy will be included in next month's Board meeting for noting.

Transformation Programmes Evaluation

Sarah O'Brien explained that a panel had reviewed the 14 bids received for transformation funding and made a recommendation to support eight, although further discussion is required on the financial support for each programme. It was agreed that it was important to get the money into system earlier in the financial year than previously to provide stability to the ongoing programmes. Sarah will be meeting with the SROs for the programmes to firm up objectives for the year and clarify governance processes. A detailed paper will be considered at next month's Board meeting once those discussions are complete.



The recommendations in the paper and the process described were agreed by the Board.

Update on Marmot

Eileen O'Meara, Director of Public Health at Halton and on behalf of Champs Public Health Collaborative, gave a presentation updating the Board on progress with this work. You can see the presentation [here](#).

She explained that the project had been commissioned by Champs public health collaborative, but work paused during the pandemic. However, all Health and Wellbeing Boards across the Cheshire and Merseyside footprint have signed up to becoming a Marmot community.



The key tasks now are to:

- Develop indicators for ongoing monitoring of inequalities in health and key social determinants of health
- Identify opportunities to reduce inequalities through system wide levers e.g specific focus and analysis on what health care organisations and workforce can do and how they can take action
 - Make recommendations about how to reduce inequalities and provide practical advice and input e.g. development of detailed tool kits, guides and practical materials
- Develop a model of what good looks like with academic partners and organisations and places
- Indicate where capacity and roles across the system need to be developed and assist with capacity buildings as required e.g. workshops for LAs, PCNs.

Next steps:

- Take update on proposed Marmot work to HCP
- Introduce plan to HWBBs
- Launch health inequalities work with local academic partners in July
- Start to develop detailed work plan with partners
- Have plan signed off by partners
- Commence implementation September 2021.



cheshireandmerseysidepartnership.co.uk



@C_MPartnership