

Health Scrutiny Committee

14 October 2015

Effectiveness of the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board

Summary

1. Suffolk's Health and Wellbeing Board brings together the county's health, voluntary, police and public sector to deliver better health outcomes for Suffolk people. It was constituted as a result of the Health & Care Act 2012 and ran in shadow form until April 2013, when it came into force as a statutory committee of the County Council.
2. At its meeting on 20 January 2015, the Health Scrutiny Committee expressed a desire to scrutinise the effectiveness of the Health and Wellbeing Board. This scrutiny item provides the Committee with an opportunity to review the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board and consider its effectiveness in delivering better health outcomes for Suffolk people.
3. In order to examine this in more detail, the Chairman and Vice Chairman agreed that the Health Scrutiny Committee should focus on two "key measures" from the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Suffolk, to investigate how the Board's decisions are taken forward, and what impact they are having on the ground. The Chairman and Vice Chairman agreed that the following key measures should be considered:

Key Measure 2.1.1 - Decreased smoking prevalence in adults >18 yrs;

Key Measure 2.4.4 – Less statutory homelessness

Objective of Scrutiny

4. The objective of this scrutiny is to consider how the Health and Wellbeing Board is working to make a difference to health outcomes for Suffolk people.

Scrutiny Focus

5. The scope of this scrutiny has been developed to provide the Committee with information to come to a view on the following key questions:
 - a) How does the Health and Wellbeing Board operate, in practice, in Suffolk?
 - b) What does the Board see as its key purpose?
 - c) What process does the Board use to develop the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)?

- d) How do partner organisations use the JSNA to inform their planning and commissioning?
 - e) How do they evidence that they are doing this?
 - f) How are strategies and actions agreed at Board meetings communicated and progressed within the various partner organisations?
 - g) How does the Board demonstrate that it is accountable, engaged and correctly focussed?
 - h) Following the Board's agreement of key measures 2.1.1 and 2.4.4:
 - i) How were they taken forward?
 - ii) How does the Board monitor the impact of this work and the progress towards achieving outcomes?
 - iii) How does the Board work collectively to identify and resolve "blocking points" in achieving outcomes?
 - iv) What difference has it made to date?
6. Having considered the information, the Committee may wish to:
- a) make recommendations to the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board;
 - b) make recommendations to the Director of Public Health;
 - c) identify areas of good practice;
 - d) seek further information or identify issues which may warrant further scrutiny.

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Local Councillor(s): All Councillors

Background

7. The Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board is integral to the delivery of several statutory duties in Suffolk, including the requirements to improve the health of the public and encourage integrated working, and to publish a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (the Strategy). It is also a fundamental part of the delivery of the health and care transformation programme in Suffolk.
8. In addition to its statutory minimum membership (of one local elected Member, a representative of each of the Clinical Commissioning Groups and HealthWatch, and the Directors for Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Public Health), the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board includes the Police and Crime Commissioner and representatives of the District and Borough Councils, the voluntary sector and Suffolk Constabulary. Elected members and officers have equal voting rights, in accordance with regulations.
9. The Board is supported by a programme office which is an alliance of officers from member organisations that drive the delivery of the Strategy through the core business of their organisations. The Health and Wellbeing Board meets 6 times a year in public and runs a programme of policy and development workshops for members of the Board, the programme office and invited guests.
10. In May 2013, the Board launched the "Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Suffolk", a 10 year strategy to improve health and decrease health inequalities in Suffolk. The Strategy outlines 4 key outcomes, each with emerging priority areas supported by a set of cross cutting principles and supporting documents. In line with the original plan the intention is to review the priorities at the end of 2015.
11. The Strategy has a set of agreed indicators and action plans for each outcome area, each outcome being led by an identified member of the Board. The content of the action plans is prioritised annually and progress is reviewed quarterly by the Board on an exception basis.
12. Due to the long-term and complex nature of the Board's business, measuring impact has proved challenging, and for many of the outcomes it is acknowledged that progress will not be seen immediately. However, the Board has given a commitment to developing local indicators based on best evidence and research in order to demonstrate progress.

Main body of evidence

13. In order to provide evidence to the Committee to enable it to come to a view on how strategies agreed by the Board are translated into actions, and what difference the Board makes on the ground, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman chose two key measures from the Strategy, for the Committee to examine in detail.
14. Initially, "*Outcome 2 - Suffolk residents have access to a healthy environment and take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing*" was chosen from the four Outcomes set out in the Strategy. Evidence Set 1 provides an overview of Outcome 2.
15. Under Outcome 2, there are four "priorities for action", each of which have a number of "key measures or indicators" upon which progress will be measured, as set out overleaf:

Priority Areas	Key Measures (Indicators)
2.1 Creating an environment where it is easy to make healthy choices and take responsibility for own health;	<p>2.1.1 Decreased smoking prevalence in adults >18 yrs;</p> <p>2.1.2 Increased uptake of NHS health checks in those eligible;</p> <p>2.1.3 Increased detection and treatment of Chlamydia infection (15-24 yr olds);</p> <p>2.1.4 Increased uptake in cancer screening;</p> <p>2.1.5 Decreased killed or seriously injured casualties on Suffolk roads;</p>
2.2 Increasing the levels of physical activity and encouraging greater use of our natural environment;	<p>2.2.1 Reduction in prevalence of obese adults;</p> <p>2.2.2 Increase in the proportion of physically active adults;</p> <p>2.2.3 Increased utilization of green space for exercise/health reasons.</p>
2.3 Decreasing the harm caused by individuals and communities;	<p>2.3.1 Decreasing the rate of alcohol related hospital admissions;</p> <p>2.3.2 Reduced crime and antisocial behaviour;</p> <p>2.3.3 Reduction in reoffending.</p>
2.4 Improving access to suitable housing	<p>2.4.1 Decreased No. of households in fuel poverty;</p> <p>2.4.2 Increased proportion of affordable homes available;</p> <p>2.4.4 Less Statutory homelessness;</p> <p>2.4.4 Decreased proportion of households in temporary accommodation;</p> <p>2.4.5 Decreasing excess winter deaths.</p>

16. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman chose Key Measures, 2.1.1 and 2.4.4 as the two indicators which the Committee would focus upon in order to investigate how the Board's decisions are taken forward and what impact they are having on the ground.

17. The following written evidence has been provided in response to the key areas for investigation set out at paragraph 4 above, and is appended to this report:

Evidence Set 1 provides an overview of Outcome 2 of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Evidence Set 2 has been provided by the Director of Public Health, Suffolk County Council on behalf of the Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Glossary

ACS Adult and Community Services

CCG Clinical Commissioning Group

CYP Children and Young Peoples' Services

HNA Health Needs Assessment

JHWS Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

JSNA Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

SALT Speech and Language Therapy

SEND Special Educational Needs and Disability

SSHP Suffolk Strategic Housing Partnership

The Strategy Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

VCS Voluntary and Community Sector

Supporting information

Cabinet; 19 May 2015; Agenda Item 7 “How Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board is meeting the county’s health and wellbeing priorities”: Available from:

<http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/meeting.aspx?d=19/May/2015&c=The Cabinet>

“Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Suffolk”. Available from:

<http://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/health-and-wellbeing-board/>

