

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>20 MARCH 2012</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF NATIONAL LEARNING SET ON GOVERNANCE</b>

**CLASSIFICATION:** Open

### **Wards Affected**

County-wide

### **Purpose**

To consider issues emerging from the national learning set on governance.

### **Recommendation**

**THAT:** the Board notes work to date and considers whether there are any actions it wishes to take in response to the emerging findings from the national learning set on governance.

### **Key Points Summary**

- Herefordshire was selected as an early implementer for health & well being boards and was invited to join one of 8 national learning sets. It was agreed by the board to nominate governance given Herefordshire's unique experience of deep partnership.
- The purpose of the learning sets is to help inform and engage stakeholders as well as shape emerging policy. Each learning set has agreed to disseminate their learnings: the governance learning set plan to produce an aide memoir for other boards
- This report highlights progress and emerging themes.

### **How will your report meet the vision and guiding principles of the HWBB?**

- 1 The vision and guiding principles for Herefordshire's HWBB have been used to help inform debate within the learning set and will be used to test the relevance of any emerging themes.

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 2 To allow the Board to respond to and take account of any good practice generated by the national learning set on governance.

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from  
Joanna Newton on (01432) 260330

## Introduction and Background

- 3 The national learning sets were set up in 2011 to encourage stakeholder engagement in the development of Health & Wellbeing boards. Sponsored by the Department of Health, the learning sets have been led by John Wilderspoon, national director for HWBB, supported by the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement.
- 4 A national launch in November 2011 has been followed up by discussion within each learning set using a webinar format. A national half way review in February 2012 will be followed up by a final event in April. Delegates are clear on the benefit of sharing being captured with defined outputs and opportunities have arisen to directly advise on policy development and guidance. Details of learnings from all the learning sets are available and currently each learning set is conducting a Friday webinar to disseminate learning and answer questions. The link is <https://nhs.webex.com/nhs>

Other links:

<http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/learning-sets-launch/> - launch site

<http://twitter.com/#!/search/%23HWBlearn> - Twitter link

- 5 Membership is drawn from a variety of local authority settings both unitary and two tier authorities with likewise representation from officers, lead members, public health and PCT chairs

## Key Considerations

- 6 The learning set for governance determined to focus on 3 topics:
  - What are the areas of responsibility for HWBB?
  - Where should HWBB be positioned in the system to exert real influence?
  - How will HWBB hold partners to account for delivery of strategic priorities?
- 7 The learning set has acknowledged that HWBB will be the key local system leader for setting the strategic direction for health and well being to local populations. Specifically this will include leading on HWB strategy with full participation needed from senior leaders of commissioning bodies and partners. This recognises the unique position of local authorities to lead and inform place-based strategies.

### 8 **Topic 1 – Area of responsibility**

Key learnings / considerations:

- The need to engage existing, new and emerging players (e.g. National Commissioning Board, clinical commissioning groups, Healthwatch ) to develop a shared vision, values and agree areas of responsibility
- The need to agree a core list of priorities to improve outcomes health and wellbeing built around the JSNA process
- The need for step change in some cases from pre-existing models to deliver real improvements in outcomes
- The need for freedom and flexibility to allow local determination of membership tested against certain principles e.g. decision makers v influencers, and representation of district

v county Councillors

9 Recognition of the need to invest in board development to achieve the above.

## **Topic 2 - Location in the system**

The complexity of location within the system varies widely across the country from the relatively simple Herefordshire model with a single unitary authority and one CCG to another involving 1 county council, 6 district councils and 8 CCGs.

Key learnings/considerations:

- The need to define function before determining form
- In two tier authorities or where multiple CCGs will exist the challenge of aligning representation with a corporate governance model taking account of the need to keep boards to a manageable size.
- Clarity over governance and accountability structures is needed e.g. relationship to HOSC, NCB and CCG boards.
- Membership will need to be defined at a local level due to varying complexities and being sensitive to local political situations. However investment in stakeholder engagement is recommended to ensure that principles are agreed against which membership can then be tested, i.e. what do we want to achieve and therefore who will need to be involved. Given the strategic nature of the HWBB consideration also needs to be given to sustainability of leadership and membership in the light of changes to administration or elected CCG board membership
- Recognition that HWBB are operating within a changing context with the anticipated approval and implementation of the health & social care bill and localism bill. In some areas the LSP has been disbanded or merged with the HWBB. A wider partnership discussion is therefore recommended to capture the potential impact and / or overlap with other partnership groups e.g. community safety, LSP

Appendix 1 identifies how learning set members are approaching location within the system

## **10 Key learnings/considerations for Herefordshire**

Whilst our early investment in board development has allowed discussion to address many of the considerations the HWBB may wish to consider the following as part of self evaluation:

Are we clear of the relationship with the LSP and how they will collaborate going forward?

How do we engage with providers to inform any future strategic health decisions?

How does the HWBB work with current and emerging localities infrastructure?

How will the NCB arrangements and accountability impact on the work of the HWBB?

## **11 Next Steps**

Topic 3 on accountability to be debated this month. An aide memoir for HWBB is under production for early summer in conjunction with the NHS Confederation

## **Community Impact**

12 The Board may wish to review or affirm current membership and links to the LSP.

## **Equality and Human Rights**

13        There are no equality and human rights implications.

## **Financial Implications**

14        There are no financial implications.

## **Legal Implications**

15        None identified.

## **Risk Management**

16        There are no risks identified at this time but the board is asked to note the outcome of the third topic on accountability at a later date.

## **Consultees**

17        None

## **Appendices**

18        Topic 2 – location of HWBB. A summary of learning set member approaches to date

## **Background Papers**

None identified.