



## Adults and Wellbeing

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Dear Sarah,

### Herefordshire Health and Wellbeing Board Comments on Herefordshire and Worcestershire Draft STP Plan Submission 03 July 2017

I have been asked by the HWB to write to you, summarising the board's views regarding the STP plan.

The Herefordshire Health and Wellbeing Board welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sustainability and Transformation Partnership's (STP) plan at this latest stage in its development.

The board has received regular reports and presentations on the developing STP plan since the national process was first announced in December 2015. Sarah Dugan, as the lead Accountable Officer for the STP, and members of the STP project team, have attended these discussions. Every opportunity has been taken to answer board members' questions.

The Herefordshire Health and Wellbeing Board also met with the Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Board on 13 June 2017 in a private joint development session to further discuss the STP plan.

Throughout these discussions, a number of points have been raised consistently by board members as being areas where further focus or strengthening was required within the plans:

- Herefordshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities – The board has examined the draft STP plan and approach to provide assurance that the latest draft document has full regard to the priorities identified in the strategy. These priorities are:
  - Mental health and wellbeing and the development of resilience in children, young people and adults;
  - For children, starting well with pregnancy, maternal health, smoking in pregnancy, 0-5 immunisations, breastfeeding, dental health, pre-school checks, children with disabilities, young offenders, young people not in education, employment or training, looked after children;
  - For older people, quality of life, social isolation, fuel poverty;
  - For adults, long term conditions, lifestyles (alcohol, weight, active lifestyles, smoking prevention, mental health);
  - Special consideration, reducing health inequalities - carers, returning veterans and armed forces families, the homeless, non-English speaking communities, women -

- domestic abuse and sexual violence, families with multiple needs, those living in poverty, travellers, people with learning disabilities;
  - Impact of housing, fuel poverty and poverty and the impact of health and wellbeing; and
  - Hidden issues, alcohol abuse in older men and women and young mothers.
- Mental health and children and young people – The board note that there is very limited reference to these important issues, which represent the first priority within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This will need to be addressed in future drafts.
  - Triple Aim – The board welcomes the conceptual basis of the STP plan, expressed in the triple aim of population health and wellbeing, quality services, and financial sustainability, with the recognition that these three are mutually interdependent. The board feels that the aspects of population health and wellbeing need to be more explicitly presented in the revised plan, with greater emphasis on people maintaining and regaining their independence, rather than just a focus on self-care.
  - Housing – The board believes that housing and social exclusion are central securing individual wellbeing outcomes and has asked for the STP plan to include reference to closer working on housing across the whole system. This connects with the need, highlighted by the board, for connections to be reinforced with the voluntary sector and with the police, as well as other key partners.
  - Transport – Members of the board believe that the very rural nature of the county must be recognised as a central factor in maintaining good access to services. The STP plan needs to have a clear travel component, recognising that many of the issues may be very locally specific, and should connect to the transport teams within the council. In so doing, the plans should have regard to the distinction between inconvenience and inaccessibility, linking to wider work around social exclusion and also the scope to provide more services through telecare.
  - One Herefordshire – The board notes that there continues to be a close alignment between the One Herefordshire work and that being undertaken through the STP. It is felt to be a great strength that Herefordshire is speaking with one voice in influencing the overall direction. The board is reassured that the two processes are mutually reinforcing and supportive. Nonetheless, the board recognises that Herefordshire cannot solve its problems alone and that there will be a need to work across a greater footprint to tackle some issues. Worcestershire is the prime partner, but will not be the only partner engaged with.
  - Details of STP plans – Members of the board have regularly asked for the detail of the plans. They have been broadly in agreement with the high level aims, but have wanted to see more detail about specific impact on local residents.

The STP has been amended during the period of time that the Board has held its meetings. The Board will next discuss the STP in public session at its meeting on 18 July.

Yours sincerely,

*Martin Samuels*

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Herefordshire Council