



# Title of report: Health and Wellbeing Board membership

**Meeting:** Health and Wellbeing Board

**Meeting date:** Monday 18 May 2026

**Report by:** Democratic Services

## Classification

Open

## Decision type

This is not an executive decision

## Wards affected

(All Wards)

## Purpose

For the Health and Wellbeing Board to confirm the number of seats on the board allocated to NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board, for recommendation to full Council.

## Recommendation(s)

**That the following change to Herefordshire Council's constitution be recommended to full Council:**

- a) Paragraph 2.8.9, bullet point 8 be amended to read 'Three nominated representatives from the Integrated Care Board'.

## Alternative options

1. The current composition of the Health and Wellbeing Board could remain unchanged but this would not address the request from the NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board, as referenced in paragraph 4 below.

## Key considerations

### **NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board nominations**

2. The Health and Wellbeing Board considered a report on board membership on 15 September 2025 and resolved to recommend to full Council that Herefordshire Council's constitution be amended to make provision for two representatives from the NHS Herefordshire and

Worcestershire Integrated Care Board, and to clarify arrangements for the appointment of the vice-chairperson; [link to minute 23 of 2025/26](#). These changes are due to be considered at the Annual Meeting of Council on 22 May 2026, along with other updates and amendments to the constitution.

3. In April 2026, NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board (ICB) requested that it be permitted to nominate three representatives to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). This is to provide greater flexibility and to ensure that the ICB is represented adequately at HWB meetings, particularly in circumstances where its Chief Executive is unable to attend in person.
4. If this change is recommended by the HWB and agreed by Council, the ICB has indicated that its intention to nominate Vicky Morris, Non-Executive Member with a Focus upon Quality and Delivery; [link to the profiles of ICB board members](#).

### **Future board membership options**

5. In view of developments arising from the [Neighbourhood Health Framework \(link\)](#) and [Fit for the future: towards population health delivery models \(link\)](#), the HWB may wish to explore further membership options as part of future board development sessions in order to reflect new partnerships and collaborations.

### **Community impact**

6. The Code of Corporate Governance encourages better informed longer-term decision making using resources efficiently and being open to scrutiny with a view to improving performance and managing risk. The principles which underpin governance include ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement, and implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability. Ensuring that the Health and Wellbeing Board membership includes appropriate representation from partners across the health and care system supports the council in meeting these principles.

### **Environmental impact**

7. Herefordshire Council provides and purchases a wide range of services for the people of Herefordshire. Together with partner organisations in the private, public and voluntary sectors we share a strong commitment to improving our environmental sustainability, achieving carbon neutrality and to protect and enhance Herefordshire's outstanding natural environment.
8. Whilst this is a report on constitutional arrangements and will have minimal environmental impacts, consideration has been made to minimise waste and resource use in line with the council's Environmental Policy (e.g. agenda documents are made available to board members electronically, minimising the use of paper and other consumables).

### **Equality duty**

9. The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the council to consider how it can contribute positively to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that it is paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.
10. As this report concerns the technical composition of the board, it is not considered that it will have an impact on the equality duty.

### **Resource implications**

11. The constitution is regularly reviewed and updated, so there are no additional resource implications for the council arising from this report.

## Legal implications

12. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (as amended by the Health and Care Act 2022), paragraph 194 (2) identifies that:  

‘The Health and Wellbeing Board is to consist of—

  - (a) ... at least one councillor of the local authority...
  - (b) the director of adult social services for the local authority,
  - (c) the director of children's services for the local authority,
  - (d) the director of public health for the local authority,
  - (e) a representative of the Local Healthwatch organisation for the area of the local authority,
  - (f) a representative of each relevant integrated care board, and
  - (g) such other persons, or representatives of such other persons, as the local authority thinks appropriate.’
13. Paragraph 194 (8) states that ‘The Health and Wellbeing Board may appoint such additional persons to be members of the Board as it thinks appropriate.’
14. The Health and Wellbeing Board is a committee of Council under s102 of the Local Government Act 1972. Although it has been granted the right to make additional appointments itself, its procedural requirements are subject to Council approval.

## Risk management

15. There is a reputational risk to the council and health and care system partners if the Health and Wellbeing Board does not operate effectively and transparently. The regular review of governance arrangements, including board membership, should help to mitigate this risk.

## Consultees

16. None.

## Appendices

None.

## Background papers

None identified.