
Meeting of the Cabinet – 26th October 2017

Report of the Strategic Director People

Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) Memorandum of Understanding document

Purpose

1. During the past 18 months the Black Country health system has been developing a local plan which seeks to establish a new way of working, focussing on delivering health and care services within a 'place' based model
2. Proposals have been set out in a report entitled "Better Health and Care in the Black Country and West Birmingham"
3. For this agenda to be taken forward the Council is being asked to contribute to the design and delivery of the local plan by becoming a signatory to a memorandum of understanding (MoU) which defines the local approach
4. This report seeks cabinets approval to become a signatory to the MOU

Recommendations

5. It is recommended that:-
 - Cabinet consider the proposals contained within the Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) Memorandum of Understanding document
 - Cabinet approve the development of a Memorandum of Understanding and the Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership in principle
 - Cabinet approve that the Strategic Director People undertake further discussions and negotiations with Black Country local authorities in order to explore how the Council could work collaboratively and in partnership with key stakeholders to ensure the effective delivery of health and care services within a 'placed' based model within the borough.

Background

6. In 2014 the Health Secretary set out a new policy direction for the delivery of national health services in England called the NHS Five Year Forward View. The intention was to deliver
 - A more sustainable local health and care economy
 - Improved quality and experience of care
 - Improved population health

- A more capable local economy, equipped for self-improvement
- Reduced per capita expenditure

7. A refreshed paper in 2017 *Next Steps on the Five Year Forward View* confirmed the commitment to achieving integrated care and advocated the acceleration of the integrated way of working through partnerships of care providers and commissioners in Sustainable Transformation Partnerships (STP).
8. The Government determined that locally Dudley would be part of the Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP), together with Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Walsall. They asked local leaders to come together to design a new commissioning landscape that will support the delivery of new provider alliances and new integrated health and care models across the patch.
9. Over the past 18 months the local health system has developed a plan which was published on 21 November 2016 and set out a new way of working for health and social care services locally, focussing on delivering health and care services within a 'place' based model. The plan has been submitted to NHS England for evaluation.
10. Whist officers from Dudley Council have consistently attended the STP meetings they have not made any commitments to, or endorsed any of the plans.
11. In order to move the collaboration agenda forward the health led Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) have asked Dudley and the other Black Country Local Authorities to sign up to a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as constituent partners.
12. The MoU aims to secure agreement from all partners and a commitment to sustained engagement to deliver STP plans in order to realise a transformed model of care across the Black Country.
13. The intent of the agreement is to seek a commitment from partners to the common purpose of delivering a clinically, socially and financially sustainable health and care system that will improve the health and wellbeing of the population and address inequalities.
14. The MoU is not a legally binding document nor does the Partnership have any authority to make binding decisions on behalf of the Council. Collective decisions made by the Partnership will require ratification by the Council.

15. **The current position**

Officers from Dudley Council have consistently attended the Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership meetings. Whilst they have participated in the discussions, they have made no commitments to nor endorsed any of the health led system plans.

16. **Consultation (Customers and Other Stakeholders)**

There is on-going engagement through the Black Country Sustainability Transformation Partnership. Ultimately a comprehensive communications and engagement plan will be developed to include all key stakeholders including health partners, local residents, carers and staff to consider the impact of the plans as they develop on Dudley citizens.

17. Decisions made by the Partnership which will have an impact on Dudley residents will require formal consultation and ratification by the Council.
18. The contents of this report will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
19. **Alternative Options**

The Council could decline to sign up to the Memorandum of Understanding. Should it exercise this option then its influence as a member of the Black Country Sustainability Transformation Partnership will be compromised.

20. If cabinet agree that the Council becomes a signatory to the MOU it will be better placed to work with health and social care partners across the Black Country to shape and influence local place based decision making.

Finance

21. It is expected that delivery of the STP objectives is seen as the core business of each member organisation, and each will therefore commit in-kind resources to deliver of the STP objectives without recourse for additional resource to the system.

Law

22. The MoU is not a legally binding document nor does the Black Country Sustainability Transformation Partnership have any authority to make binding decisions on behalf of the Council.
23. The partnership is undertaking an impact assessment to consider the impact of Data Protection on the STP plans on all partners within the system.

Equality Impact

24. An initial Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and the adverse or negative impacts have been identified. Mitigating actions have will be specified where appropriate.

Human Resources/Transformation

25. The Partnership may, from time to time, agree that system objectives cannot be delivered as described above, and that some additional resourcing is required to be deployed for system benefit. In such circumstances, Partner organisations are expected to contribute in a way that is considered fair and proportionate. This will be agreed on a case by case basis and approval sought from Cabinet.



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Appendices

The Black Country Sustainability & Transformation Partnership Memorandum of Understanding V5