

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

10 FEBRUARY 2022

KENT AND MEDWAY JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Report from/Author: Wayne Hemingway, Head of Democratic Services

Summary

The report recommends that the Health and Wellbeing Board agrees to the disestablishment of the Kent and Medway Joint Health and Wellbeing Board (Joint Board), which will, in effect, be replaced by the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Partnership.

1. Budget and policy framework

1.1. The Kent and Medway Joint Health and Wellbeing Board (Joint Board) was established in 2018 as an advisory Joint Sub Committee of the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board and the Medway Health and Wellbeing Board under Section 198(c) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The decision to disestablish the Joint Board is a matter for both the Medway Health and Wellbeing Board and the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. Background

2.1. The implementation of the Integrated Care Board (ICB) has been delayed in parliament (the Health and Care Bill) and is now expected to go live in July 2022.

2.2. The Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) will be a Joint Committee between the ICB, Kent County Council and Medway Council, and will, in effect, replace the existing Joint Board. Following discussions between these partners, for which Medway is represented by the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, it is recommended that the Joint Board is disestablished on 31 March 2022, in preparation for the formal establishment of the ICP in July 2022. As part of these interim arrangements, it is also proposed to run the ICP in shadow form until July 2022, for which discussions are ongoing.

2.3. As stated in paragraph 1.1 above, the Joint Board was established in 2018 as an advisory Joint Sub Committee of the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board and the Medway Health and Wellbeing Board. This was originally time limited for a

period of two years. Both the Medway and Kent Boards agreed to extend this for a period of four years from 1 April 2020. However, this arrangement can be reviewed annually, therefore, it is recommended to disestablish this Joint Board. Members are advised that Kent County Council has already taken the decision to disestablish the Joint Board (16 September 2021).

3. Advice and analysis

- 3.1. As set out in the previous agenda item, Kent County Council, Medway Council and district/borough councils are important partners and stakeholders in the new ICB and ICP.
- 3.2. Discussions are ongoing regarding the issues of membership, terms of reference and arrangements for the ICP and a report will be submitted to Medway's Full Council to seek formal agreement on these matters in due course. Such agreement will also be sought from Kent County Council and the ICB, given this will be a Joint Committee.
- 3.3. No changes are being sought to the role of Medway's Health and Wellbeing Board, however, it will be necessary to seek approval to make changes to the membership in due course, once the ICB is formally established in place of the existing CCG. In addition, once the ICB is formally established, it will be necessary to review the Board's terms of reference so that any references to the existing CCG are amended as necessary.

4. Risk management

- 4.1. No risks were identified from the proposal to set up joint arrangements between the Kent and Medway Health and Wellbeing Boards. Similarly, given the Joint Board is a non-decision making body, there are no specific risk management implications arising from these proposals. However, the ICP cannot be formally established until the Health and Care Bill received royal assent.

5. Consultation

- 5.1. There is ongoing engagement with all partners and stakeholders on the development of the ICB/ICP. Regular discussions are being held at a range of forums with council participation. Support for submitted documents is achieved via the existing system-wide K&M Partnership Board.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1. The cost for supporting the Joint Board was shared, with each local authority supporting the Board for one year in turn within existing resources. The Joint Board itself did not have a budget.

7. Legal implications

- 7.1. In the case of the Joint Board, the scope for two or more Health and Wellbeing Boards to establish arrangements to work jointly, whilst not mandatory, was provided in section 198 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Section 198 allowed for the joint exercise of functions by a Joint HWB or by a Joint Sub Committee or, as was the case for the Joint Board, for the establishment of a Joint Sub Committee to advise the participating HWBs on any matter related to the exercise of their functions.
- 7.2. The ICP will be established as a Joint Committee of the Integrated Care Board, Kent County Council and Medway Council. The Health and Care Bill proposes that Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 shall contain the following provision: “An integrated care board and each responsible local authority whose area coincides with or falls wholly or partly within the board’s area must establish a joint committee for the board’s area (an “integrated care partnership”)”.
- 7.3. Whilst it is proposed to run the ICP in shadow form until July 2022, it cannot carry out any functions until it is formally established by the ICB, Medway Council and Kent County Council as a Joint Committee.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to disestablish the Kent and Medway Joint Health and Wellbeing Board on 31 March 2022.

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Appendices

None

Background papers

None