

Wellbeing Board

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Report title	Wellbeing Board High Level Deliverables Update
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Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- (1) Consider the progress to date on 2022/23 High Level Deliverables
- (2) Review the High Level Deliverables for 2023/24.
- (3) Agree to continue to receive an update on the High level Deliverables at each future Board meeting.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This paper outlines the progress made against high level deliverables agreed by the Wellbeing Board in July 2022.
- 1.2 The paper also provides updated high level deliverables for 2023/24. It is proposed that the Wellbeing Board will be provided with regular updates on the progress against these HLD's.

2. Health and Communities in 2022/23

- 2.1 In July 2022, the Wellbeing Board approved the High levels Deliverables below and provide an update on impact and progress against each deliverable, along with partners involved.

HLD	Associated Milestones
Conclude the Mental Health Commission and take forward the recommendations with internal and external partners	Develop a Commission report, which sets out key recommendations to support pursuit of a mentally healthier region;
	Develop and publish key outputs from the recommendations of the MH Commission by March 2023, including a Mental Health Work Programme and documented delivery arrangements
Develop and deliver a work programme to promote and enhance an evidence-based approach to preventing and tackling health inequalities in the WMCA and amongst other regional partners.	Work with Transport and Housing on embedding HiAP approach to impact health outcomes through monthly meetings, shared work programme and disseminate impact and evaluation reports to DsPH, OHID and NHSEI
	Pursue exemplar region in improving the health outcomes of disabled people by getting 2-3% more disabled people active and convening the system on disabilities related issues through workshops
	Promote wellbeing and prevention through implementing innovation pilots around social prescribing and developing a strategic sustainable relationship with Sport England on health inequalities through a shared agreement
	Deliver Health of the Region update report by April 2022, develop online data hub by October 2022, run HOTR Roundtable bi-monthly and establish working group for a new HOTR report to be completed in October 2023
	Support the promotion of health tech and drive investment for prevention in region through pursuit of remote diagnostics and Smart City region, through the Levelling Up work and Radical Health Prevention Fund as well as convening system through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monthly engagement with Smart City partners - Develop proposals for region with LA partners through Radical Health Prevention Fund - Procure/develop regional remote diagnostics
	Complete the design sprint projects, i.e. Accessible Housing Design, Digital Inclusion and Community Decision Making, by working with partners and setting out recommendations by January 2023 and presented to WB Board by March 2023.

	Co-produce a 'Race to Thrive' model with partners to contribute to addressing racial disparities in pathways into work and MH support at work.
Continue to deliver and extend the Thrive into Work programme and move to embed it as business as usual in primary and community care.	Form and support Coalition Panel led by an independent Chair by June 2022
	Apply for IPS Expansion Funding for funding beyond 2023 by submitting business case before August 2022
	Develop and deliver plans for sustainability of programme post grant funding by March 2023 to the Well-Being Board.
Continue delivery of Thrive at Work programme as it transitions to becoming a more self-sustaining and autonomous project	Review and refresh the Thrive at Work model, allied to other effective "health and work" initiatives like This is Me, MHFA and the broader refresh of MHPP by December 2022
	Develop a plan for the financial sustainability of the Thrive at Work model, in conjunction with MHPP by September 2022

2.2 Our Key achievements in 2022/23

- Delivering on Thrive into Work IPS trials, showing greater than expected outcomes on employment (see evaluation report [here](#)) and securing £8m in funds for next two years to extend the work through DWP Grant.
- Secured £1.6m funding from the Health Foundation to host the Combined Authorities Improving Health and Reducing Inequalities programme, which will run across 8 Combined Authorities and Mayoral Regions nationally for 3 years.
- Secured a long term partnership with Sport England, looking to bring additional investment into the region to use sport and physical activity as a lever to improve health and wellbeing.
- Received £70m in Commonwealth Games Legacy Enhancement Funds, of which almost £8.5m will be used towards sport, physical activity and mental wellbeing.
- Concluded the West Midlands Mental Health Commission, with recommendations that have implications for regional health and care partners, including those in the voluntary and community sector.
- Ran a series of successful workshops with the Kings Fund, exploring through various thematic areas, the role the WMCA and Mayor can play in facilitating action on health outcomes in the region. The final report was published earlier this year, see Appendix A.
- Hosted the Thrive at Work Awards, where we heard impressive stories of organisational behaviour change on employee wellbeing.
- Worked with WM5G to secure ~£10m in funds to invest in health tech initiatives in the region.

3. Proposed high level Deliverables for 2023/24

- 3.1 As we progress into 2023/24 the team have been focused towards reducing health inequalities and maximising the impact on health outcomes through the CA's current devolved responsibilities on transport, housing, skills and economic growth.
- 3.2 The Trailblazer devolution deal for health, and particularly the health improvement duty, would have meant bigger changes in the way we organise ourselves and perhaps the way the Wellbeing Board governance is structured. While the opportunity on the health duty has passed, this is not yet reflected in the proposed HLDs, health devolution still offers other opportunities that we can take forward.

- 3.3 We also propose to explore the function of the Health of the Region Core Group and the Roundtable. Given the commitments from the 2020 Report have largely been completed or even exceeded, the focus needs to shift to the report due later this year, which will focus on WMCA actions on health through health in all policies.
- 3.4 Our proposed High levels Deliverables for 2023/24 are below. We will table an update on impact and progress against each deliverable, along with partners involved at every future Wellbeing Board meeting.

HLD	Milestones
Enable healthy, thriving communities through implementing a health in all policies approach and helping drive resources into specific areas of unmet need	<p>Establish good practice, and identify issues and challenges for housing and transport in embedding HiaP. Complete an accessible housing project reporting to the Wellbeing Board</p> <p><i>Support the Health of the Region Core Group to develop community-relevant issues into actionable solutions. Reporting to quarterly meetings.</i></p> <p><i>Work with the Wellbeing Board, Health Leaders and WMCA Executive team to establish the governance and implementation terms of the TDD Health Duty</i></p>
Support the delivery of initiatives that tackle health inequalities with health system partners, including Mental Health Commission and Commonwealth Games Legacy programmes of work	<p>Deliver the Health Foundation Combined Authority Inequalities programme as per grant requirements. Report back to Health Foundation, other Combined Authorities and the Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>Oversee delivery of Mental Health Commission implementation and CWG Sport PA projects and report to Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>Publish new Health of the Region report in December 2023 and <i>hold annual roundtable with Community by April 2024.</i></p> <p>Sign long-term partnership agreement with Sport England and develop co-investment plan, obtain Wellbeing Board approval by July 2023</p> <p>Strengthen disabled people's voices in regional decision making by increasing the number of members and agreeing purpose and direction. Report the to the Wellbeing board.</p>
Enable healthy, productive workforces and deliver evidence-based initiatives focusing on 'good work' as a determinant of health	<p>Deliver the Thrive at Work programme as per MHPP guidelines. 21 signups & 21 accreditations per quarter</p> <p>Deliver the Thrive into Work programme as per DWP guidelines. 3,369 starts, 1,143 job outcomes.</p> <p>Support the implementation of the Real Living Wage Region. Initiate a campaign and <i>work with Core Group members and the Mayoral team to land with stakeholders in region. Report back to Health Of The Region Core Group and Wellbeing Board</i></p>

4. Current Programme Updates

WM Mental Health Commission

- 4.1 Please see separate paper (final report) on the agenda for the Wellbeing Board meeting.

Health Inequalities and Health in all Policies

4.2 Health of the Region (HOTR)

- a. At our in-person Health of the Region Roundtable in January, we updated the participants on the commitments to action from the 2020 report and how most of the commitments had either been achieved or surpassed by our partners.
- b. The HOTR Core Group has since agreed to take forward collective campaigning activity around the Real Living Wage via its networks across the region. Within the

WMCA, the Mayor has also agreed to take this up as a challenge and an aim for the region, especially given it is one of the key recommendations of the West Midlands Mental Health Commission as well.

- c. The next Health of the Region Report later this year, will focus specifically on our approach to Health in All Policies within WMCA. It will start by highlighting the progress regionally (or lack thereof) on the Health Inequalities identified in the 2020 report. It will then focus specifically on the metrics WMCA can influence, and then present the case for our HiAP approach reporting into the West Midlands Outcomes Framework and to the Wellbeing Board. We will aim to publish this report before December 2023.

4.3 Healthtech / Medtech

- a. **Smart City Region:** We are continuing to work closely with colleagues in WM5G (a subsidiary of the WMCA) around the SCR proposal, part of the Trailblazer Deeper Devolution / Levelling Up ask, which is made up of five substantive workstreams –
 - Remote monitoring (home sensors for up to 5000 adults aged 65+ needing ongoing social care)
 - Diagnostics (faster diagnostic procedures, with an initial focus on bowel cancer, taking advantage of advanced connectivity)
 - Preventative healthcare (digital solution for employee health and wellbeing, enhancing productivity, potentially bolted onto Thrive at Work)
 - Exemplar smart hospital (demonstrating the benefits of enhanced connectivity)
 - Learning Network (to support the scaling and acceleration of these innovations), being launched on 29th June.

The (internal) full business case has now been approved via the WMCA's Single Assurance Framework and will be considered by the WMCA's Investment Panel on 26th June and the Investment Board on 17th July. Externally, the full business case has been considered by DLUHC officials and revisions / comments are currently being worked through. DLUHC funding is expected in October 2023, squeezing the first year's funding (of this two-year programme). Various MoUs (between WMCA and WM5G, and also with the three local ICBs) are being drafted to capture agreements around the transfer, matching and use of funds (totalling £13m).

- b. To note, the West Midlands Innovation Accelerator has now announced its winners, which includes support for Health / Med Tech. Further information can be found here: <https://www.wmca.org.uk/what-we-do/economy-and-innovation/west-midlands-innovation-accelerator/>.
- c. **Digital Health Devices:** As part of a wider programme around digital inclusion led by skills colleagues, we have secured some funding for digital health devices – namely smart watches with multiple health tracking functions – which will be distributed by our partners, The Active Wellbeing Society, via their social prescribing service and their 'share shacks' to participants with hypertension, chronic depression and / or diabetes. The impact will be tracked, and an evaluation is due in January 2024.
- d. To note, we are continuing to support and help shape local developments in the area of digital health captured in the Trailblazer Deeper Devolution Deal – namely the interoperability of electronic shared care record platforms and related innovations to potentially pilot (e.g. an 'AI lab') – ready to help secure any potential funding.

4.4 Health Inequalities Design Sprints

- a. **Accessible Housing** –There is a growing interest in the breadth of this potential work to gain a better understanding of the impact of elderly as well as disabled people. Also, in understanding the environmental impact including climate adaptability for which the £30k Health and Communities and Inclusive Growth Funding does not cover the scope of this work. Hence, internally we have agreed to initially establish baseline audit of current local authority and housing provider practice and use this as a basis to inform next work phases. The Request for Quotation for this work will be out in July 2023.
- b. **Community Decision Making:** The CDM project is now drawing to a close, with the New Economic Foundation’s final report currently being reviewed by project partners. In answer to the project’s key question of how to create a replicable community-based decision-making model within NHS strategic processes, the project underlined the value of –
 - Finding people who are deeply connected to their community and are trusted
 - Understanding barriers to trust between organisations
 - Avoiding membership fees for community organisations
 - Power and voice being distributed within the collaborative network
 - Enabling influence and allowing for flexibility with funding to respond to needs
 - Having slim governance and reporting requirements for small projects

An overview slide-deck s included in the Appendix B.

4.5 **Work with Transport for West Midlands and Housing on embedding HiAP**

- a. Following the HiAP input by the health and communities' team to influence the TfWM Local Transport Plan to evidence its role in improving health by reducing health inequalities, TfWM work continues with Local Authorities to develop Local Transport Strategies.
- b. Alongside this policy influence, the Health and Communities team have secured £72k from the DfT’s Capability and Ambition Fund to work with Solihull MBC Public Health and Transport and community organisations to shift the emphasis to community referring to the programme, given the limited capacity in the North Solihull Primary Care Trust.

4.6 **Improving outcomes for disabled people region**

- a. Due to the discussions on the Health Devolution Deal, the progress on becoming an exemplar region for disabled people as been stalled. Work has started on decoupling from the health devolution deal, so that the exemplar region work stream is stood up and this includes:
 - b. Finalising the review work undertaken by the Disability Policy Centre on behalf of the WMCA on what is needed to develop disabled citizens voice in local decision making. A final meeting is scheduled for 26 June.
 - c. Seeking permissions to establish a task force to steer the development of the planned Needs Assessment and Strategy. In addition to the accessible housing described above.
 - d. The WMCA is also working with British Blind Sport to see how it can support the World Blind Games legacy in the region on the 18-27 August 2023 by making transport more accessible and kick starting a Goalball legacy.

4.7 **Implementing innovative pilots and embedding a strategic relationship with Sport England**

- a. The Sport England partnership is summarised in a separate presentation on the Wellbeing Board agenda.

4.8 **Thrive at Work**

- a. Update / overview: In recent months, the Thrive at Work programme team have been managing the impact of significant staffing changes. Performance remains steady, but below target, partly hampered by a lack of funding base from the end of the year.

- b. Key priorities:

- Delivering on our contractual obligations, prioritising the 'enhanced offer' of the Midland Health and Productivity Pilot (MHPP – our funder), which is a systematic engagement approach across MHPP partners with a low, medium and high 'dose' of support to employers
- Plugging immediate gaps in staffing
- Exploring sustainable funding options, and potential revisions to the product accordingly (e.g. developing a 'modular' approach to the offer)
- Organising the Thrive at Work annual awards event, due in the autumn (likely mid-November and likely in Coventry)

- c. Current performance:

- Over the last quarter (March, April, May), we have had 19 organisations sign up to the Thrive at Work programme, bringing our total up to 550 organisations
- In the same timeframe, we have had 19 organisations accredited at Foundation, Bronze or Silver level, bringing our total up to 135 accredited organisations
- We have 211 organisations actively progressing towards their next accreditation level
- We are on target for the production of case studies for MHPP, and are well ahead in terms of engagement / awareness-raising figures (1777 engagements to March quarterly report, relative to 600 target).

4.9 **Thrive into Work**

- a. Update / overview: The Thrive into Work programme team have been setting up to deliver on the new targets within the DWP grant and finalising the contracts with the ICB and delivery providers.

- b. Current performance: Delivery has successfully ramped up over the first 2 months of the new service, despite challenges around changes to the service specifications and eligibility criteria.

- 633 Referrals have been generated, a proportion of which were on waiting lists whilst entry onto the service was closed Feb23-March23. Remains a strong engagement from primary care and community health sources despite previous ramp down.
- 196 People have successfully started on the programme (141 Out of Work and 55 In Work), 146% of targets and ahead in 4 out of 5 Lots.
- 43 people have successfully started employment on new service (29 Job Starts and 12 Job Retentions), 171% of target.

- The overall job conversion rate for service (including previous delivery) is 34%. This is in line with previous targets but needs to increase to 40% over the next 2 years as per DWP's new service targets.
- 13 week sustainment rate is 67%, again in line with previous targets but will aim to increase to 75% over the next 2 years. The new 26 week sustainment KPI is too early to report but providers have already demonstrated success with collecting data for this new performance metric.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no other direct implications as a result of the recommendations within this report.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 It is a statutory requirement that the Combined Authority has an assurance framework in place. The assurance framework approved by the WMCA Board on 24 July 2020 stipulates the requirement of the Wellbeing Board to approve and monitor the deliverables of the portfolio. There are no additional legal implications arising from the contents of this report.

7. Equalities Implications

- 7.1 Portfolio Health and Equity Impact Assessment identified key impact and considerations for high level deliverables. The composition of the Thematic Boards and other governance structures of the WMCA normally reflect the composition of the political leadership in constituent local authorities. To this extent, at the current time, they do not reflect the full diversity of the West Midlands region and decision-making might be skewed by unconscious bias. Where there is scope for local authorities to consider diversifying who might represent them on such Boards this could be considered and where there is scope for the Thematic Board to consider co-opting non-voting members on the grounds of their gender or protected characteristics then this too could be considered.
- 7.2 Positive equality outcomes can be supported within these HLDs. Whilst improved inclusion of disabled people is an explicit action, the HLDs will have a much broader positive equality impact across different equality groups. For example, the focus on improving health outcomes across the region will help address poor levels of physical activity amongst lower socioeconomic communities, which often correlate with a higher population of minority ethnic groups. Similarly, programmes such as Thrive into Work will help those who are more likely to face inequalities to access jobs and opportunities that will have a subsequently positive impact on their wellbeing but also improve their economic outcome, both of which encourage positive equality impact.

8. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 8.1 WMCA defines Inclusive Growth as “a more deliberate and socially purposeful model of growth, measured not only by how fast or aggressive it is; but also, how well it is created and shared across the whole population and place, and by the social and environmental outcomes it realises for our people”. Health and Wellbeing is one of the eight fundamentals for creating inclusive growth across the region. Reducing avoidable differences in health outcomes so that residents can live longer, healthier, and happier lives is vital. This work will help to achieve this given key objectives will contribute to improvements in mental health and wellbeing, increased levels of physical activity and

greater inclusion of people with disabilities also sitting as key objectives. This work will also contribute to the following fundamentals:

- **Inclusive Economy:** Supporting people with health challenges to access employment opportunities in the region
- **Connected Communities:** Working with transport colleagues to ensure that residents can access opportunities in the region through reliable public transport and active travel.
- **Equality:** Ensuring that the drivers behind persistent inequalities are addressed so that all residents can thrive.
- **Power, Influence and Participation:** Ensuring residents have a voice in decision making to co-design solutions to challenges.
- As projects relating to HLDs will develop over time, we will work closely with the Inclusive Growth Team to ensure that the inclusive growth fundamentals are embedded into all of our projects.

9. Geographical Area of Report's Implications

9.1 The work of the Wellbeing Board applies to relevant activity across both Constituent and Non-constituent areas.

10. Other Implications

10.1 None

11. Schedule of Background Papers

11.1 Wellbeing Board Minutes July 2022 approving the 2022/23 HLDs and reporting

12. Appendices

12.1 Appendix A - Kings Fund WMCA Workshop Series Report
Appendix B – Community Decision Making project slide deck