

## Wellbeing Board

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| <b>Date</b>                        | 12 December 2023                                                                       |
| <b>Report title</b>                | Wellbeing Board High Level Deliverables Update                                         |
| <b>Portfolio Lead</b>              | Wellbeing – Councillor Izzi Seccombe                                                   |
| <b>Accountable Chief Executive</b> | Laura Shoaf, West Midlands Combined Authority<br>email: laura.shoaf@wmca.org.uk        |
| <b>Accountable Employee</b>        | Dr Mubasshir Ajaz, Head of Health and Communities<br>email: mubasshir.ajaz@wmca.org.uk |

### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

#### The Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Review the progress against high level deliverables for 2023/24.
2. Note brief updates against key delivery programmes aligned to the high level deliverables.

#### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 This paper outlines the progress made against high level deliverables for 2023/24, as agreed by the Wellbeing Board in July 2022.
- 1.2 Paper also includes brief updates on key initiatives aligned to the high level deliverables.

#### 2. High Level Deliverables for 2023/24

- 2.1 Our high level deliverables for 2023/24 are below. We will provide an update on impact and progress against each deliverable, along with partners involved at every future Wellbeing Board meeting.

| High Level Deliverables                                                                                                                                           | Milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Update/Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <p>Enable healthy, thriving communities through implementing a health in all policies approach and helping drive resources into specific areas of unmet need.</p> | <p>Establish good practice, and identify issues and challenges for housing and transport in embedding Health in all Policies. Complete an accessible housing project reporting to the Wellbeing Board.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Impact Assessment and influenced health narrative and priorities with the Transport for West Midlands Local Transport Plan and its “big themes”.</li> <li>• Evidence based research and recommendations provided for Transport for West Midlands’ work on the impact of potential declining bus funding.</li> <li>• Development and testing “Wap map” across the West Midlands in conjunction with the World Blind Games in Birmingham.</li> <li>• Transport for West Midlands walking and cycling funding secured for social prescribing project for people with musculoskeletal, hypertension and diabetes in North Solihull. Project lead to be appointed week beginning 20 November 2023.</li> <li>• Co-funding with Transport for West Midlands the extension of the West Midlands funded transport and loneliness “Let’s Chat” project until 31 March 2023.</li> <li>• Accessible housing supply and demand analysis out to request for quotation and appointment by 6 December 2023. Findings and recommendations to be brought to the first 2024/25 Wellbeing Board meeting.</li> </ul> |

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|                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Support the Health of the Region Core Group to develop community-relevant issues into actionable solutions. Reporting to quarterly meetings.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>As agreed at the last board meeting, the Health of the Region Core Group has come to a close, with the recommendation around Real Living Wage Region being pursued by members through their spheres of influence.</p>                                                                                        |
| <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> | <p>Work with the Wellbeing Board, Health Leaders and West Midlands Combined Authority Executive team to establish the governance and implementation terms of the Trailblazer Devolution Deal Health Duty.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>This has been adapted to reconsider the governance arrangements of the board, as discussed in a different agenda item.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Deliver the Health Foundation Improving Health and Reducing Inequalities Combined Authorities programme as per grant requirements. Report back to Health Foundation, other Combined Authorities, and the Wellbeing Board.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>Delivery plan for Year 1 (Oct 23 – Sept 24) has been developed and two programme governance board meetings have been held to set the Terms of Reference and support programme set up and delivery planning.<br/>Planning underway to bring a programme-related report to the March 2024 Wellbeing Board.</p> |
| <p>Oversee delivery of Mental Health Commission implementation and Commonwealth Games Sport Physical Activity projects and report to the Wellbeing Board.</p>                                | <p>Established the sport, physical activity, mental health and wellbeing criteria for the Commonwealth Games Legacy and Enhancement Fund.<br/>Funded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive Communities Fund (£9m).</li> <li>• Sandwell Aquatic Centre Energy Costs (circa. £1.4m).</li> </ul> <p>Subject to Wellbeing Board agreement established the boards oversight role on such investment.<br/>Secured complementary funding; see below.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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|  | <p>Publish new Health of the Region report in December 2023 and hold annual roundtable with community by April 2024.</p>                        | <p>Health of the Region Report draft as separate agenda item. Roundtable to be held 24 January 2024.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  | <p>Sign long-term partnership agreement with Sport England and develop co-investment plan and obtain Wellbeing Board approval by July 2023.</p> | <p><b>Completed</b><br/> Secured £2.5m 3 year complementary Sport England funding and aim to launch in January 2024 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend the 4 Commonwealth Active Communities.</li> <li>• Pilot the impact of sport integration into the mental health care pathway for children and young people with one Integrated Care Partnership.</li> <li>• Extending United by 2022 trailblazer sport programme.</li> <li>• Pilot voluntary sport organisation triage service to expert advice linked to the Commonwealth Games Legacy Enhancement Fund Inclusive Communities Fund.</li> <li>• Subject to approval, establish 3 year WMCA Assistant Delivery Manager post.</li> </ul> <p>First meeting of the Physical Activity Advisory Panel by end of January 2024, subject to the Wellbeing Board's approval of the terms of reference in the governance paper as discussed in a different agenda item.</p> |

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|                                                                                                                                        | <p>Strengthen disabled people's voices in regional decision making by increasing the number of members and agreeing purpose and direction. Report then to the Wellbeing Board.</p>                                                                       | <p>Disability Exemplar Working Group first meeting by end of January 2024. Terms of reference for the group presented in governance paper as discussed in a different agenda item.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>Enable healthy, productive workforces and deliver evidence-based initiatives focusing on 'good work' as a determinant of health</p> | <p>Deliver the Thrive at Work programme as per Midland Health and Productivity Pilot guidelines. 21 signups and 21 accreditations per quarter.</p>                                                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 103 sign-ups achieved (as of the end of October).</li> <li>• 78 accreditations achieved (as of the end of October).</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                        | <p>Deliver the Thrive into Work programme as per Department for Work &amp; Pensions guidelines. 3,369 starts, 1,143 job outcomes.</p>                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1434 programme starts (as of the end of October).</li> <li>• 383 job outcomes (as of the end of October).</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                        | <p>Support the implementation of the Real Living Wage Region. Initiate a campaign and 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 the Wellbeing Board.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The key objective of leading a campaign on the Real Living Wage across the health &amp; social care sector (as an initial focus) has been revised in light of the financial climate in Local Authority's and Integrated Care Boards.</li> <li>• We will now run a number of workshops with the Living Wage Foundation (in January / February 2024) to support partners in airing and working through barriers to implementation.</li> <li>• The Health of the Region Core Group has been discontinued but key stakeholders will be kept up to date. The Wellbeing Board will continue to be kept up to date.</li> </ul> |

### 3. Brief Updates on Key Initiatives

#### 3.1 West Midlands Mental Health Commission

Working with and engaging partners across the region to drive forward and map progress against the recommendations outlined within the report, including delivery of key implementation projects:

- The **Thrive at College** pilot was developed to support further education colleges to embrace and adopt a whole college approach to mental health and wellbeing. Six colleges have agreed to be part of the pilot; Coventry, Walsall, Telford, Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Halesowen. A co-design workshop will be held in December with the aim to agree and define the approach and next steps.
- The **Inclusive Communities Fund** launched on the 5 November 2023, administered by the Heart of England Community Foundation. This £9million fund encourages organisations to deliver mental wellbeing initiatives which align with the recommendations in the Mental Health Commission report, including using physical activity as a protective factor for mental wellbeing.

#### 3.2 Health Inequalities and Health in all Policies

##### 3.2.1 Using Digital Health as an Economic Driver of Health

- **Smart City Region:** Working with West Midlands Combined Authority subsidiary, WM5 and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities have committed £10m capital funding towards our Smart City Region (connectivity across health and social care) programme. Both WMCA and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities assurance processes have now been completed and documents finalised (business case, Memorandum of Understanding etc.), while local Integrated Care Boards and NHS Trust partners have co-developed the spend and matched contribution-in-kind strategies, allocating funding to remote diagnostics (capsule colon endoscopy at-home kits and service), home-monitoring (for 65+ year olds), preventative healthcare for employees (primarily for the health and social care workforce) and an exemplar Smart Hospital (Midland Metropolitan University Hospital). Procurement processes have been initiated, and a launch event is being held on the 28 November 2023 at Stratford Hospital and University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire.
- **Digital Health Devices:** Working with The Active Wellbeing Society, we are distributing c.300 FitBits (smart health tracker watches) to residents with long term health conditions, analysing the impact on health, health literacy and digital skills / literacy. Approximately two thirds of the devices have been distributed to date, with service users committed to submitting a baseline and exit survey. Data will be evaluated by The Active Wellbeing Society and the report is due by the end of the financial year.

#### 3.3 Thrive at Work

- a) Update / overview: The Thrive at Work programme team continues to encourage sign-ups and drive through accreditations, despite a lack of clarity over the programme's continuation beyond the current grant arrangement. Performance has recently picked up, primarily due to staffing changes, and sign-up figures are close to target.

b) Key priorities:

- Delivering on our contractual obligations, prioritising the 'enhanced offer' of the Midland Health and Productivity Pilot (Midland Health and Productivity Pilot – our funder), which is a systematic engagement approach across Midland Health and Productivity Pilot partners with a low, medium and high 'dose' of support to employers.
- Agreeing a funding and operating model for the next financial year, and potential revising to the product accordingly.
- Contributing towards Midland Health and Productivity Pilot's final report to its funders, and supporting the Midland Health and Productivity Pilot with its close-down activities.

c) Current performance:

- With an overarching target of 21 sign-ups per month, the end of October target was 112 sign-ups. The team has achieved 103 sign-ups within this funding tranche, totalling 573 sign-ups overall (including previous funding phases of the programme).
- With an overarching target of 21 accreditations per month, the end of October target was 112 accreditations. The team has achieved 78 accreditations within this funding tranche, totalling 164 accreditations overall (including previous funding phases of the programme).

### 3.4 Thrive into Work

a) Update / overview:

The Thrive into Work programme team has mobilised the new Individual and Placement Support in Primary Care contracts (back-to-back funding agreements aligned to the new Department for Work & Pensions grant) while our activity delivery partners have continued to provide the Thrive into Work service in good faith.

b) Current performance:

- 2581 referrals have been generated across all areas, with currently 350-450 referrals generated each month.
- 1434 people have started on programme (1098 Out of Work & 336 In Work), 115% of target and ahead in four out of five Lots.
- 383 people have successfully achieved employment outcomes (252 New Job Starts and 131 Existing Job Retentions), 104% of target.
- The Job Conversion rate for service to date (including previous Post-Trial delivery) is 33%. This aims to increase to 40% over current delivery period in order to meet the Department for Work & Pensions new service targets.
- 13 Week Sustainment Rate remains consistent at 69% (aim to increase to 75% over the remaining programme duration).

- The new 26 week sustainment key performance indicator is still too early to report but delivery partners continue to collect data for this new performance metric. This new key performance indicator will be measurable around Q3 / January 2024.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no other direct financial implications as a result of the recommendations within this report, however there will be financial implications through delivery of the agreed high level deliverables, which will be within the agreed budget for 2023-24.

#### **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 It is a statutory requirement that the West Midlands Combined Authority has a governance framework in place. Whilst the Wellbeing Board is not a decision-making board, one of its functions is *“to performance manage the delivery of projects detailed within the Wellbeing Portfolio Project Pipeline at Portfolio level, ensuring effective and appropriate challenge to the Business Area and stakeholders”* and to *“consider the Wellbeing aspect of the Inclusive Growth & Public Service Reform Portfolio Project Pipeline in order to monitor its content, providing feedback to the Business Area and performance managing project development”*.

#### **6. Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 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 West Midlands Combined Authority 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.
- 6.2 Positive equality outcomes can be supported within these high level deliverables. Whilst improved inclusion of disabled people is an explicit action, the high level deliverables 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.



## **7. Inclusive Growth Implications**

7.1 The West Midlands Combined Authority 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 and challenges.
- As projects relating to high level deliverables 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.

## **8. Geographical Area of Report’s Implications**

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

## **9. Other Implications**

9.1 None.

## **10. Schedule of Background Papers**

10.1 None

## **11. Appendices**

11.1 None