

Wellbeing Board

Date	6 March 2024
Report title	Wellbeing Board High Level Deliverables Update
Portfolio Lead	Wellbeing - Councillor Izzi Seccombe
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Report has been considered by	None

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Note the progress against high level deliverables for 2023/24.
2. Note and discuss the brief updates against key delivery programmes aligned to the high level deliverables.
3. Agree to provide leadership and direction for proposed high level deliverables for 2024/25.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This paper outlines the progress made against high level deliverables for 2023/24, as agreed by the West Midlands Combined Authority Board in March 2022.
- 1.2 The paper also includes brief updates on key initiatives aligned to the high level deliverables.

1.3 Finally, the proposed high level deliverables for Health and Communities in 2024/25 are presented. These will be discussed and agreed by the West Midlands Combined Authority Board in March 2024.

2.0 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.

HLD	Milestones	Update/Comment
<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 HiaP. Complete an accessible housing project reporting to the Wellbeing Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with transport colleagues to develop a pipeline of HiAP programmes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support the commissioning and evaluation of ‘Let’s Chat!’, a hub which aims to breakdown loneliness, isolation and increase mental wellbeing and community signposting. ○ Support the review of Ring and Ride and help articulate its health benefits. ○ Develop a framework to appraise Transport for West Midlands’s capital investment for health impacts, utilising the logic models designed as part of the Health of the Region report. ○ Provide frontline operational teams access to suicide prevention training. ○ Target accessibility to healthcare provision through transport planning and design. ○ Develop further programmes of work around active travel and social prescribing, air quality and road safety.
	<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>COMPLETED As agreed at last Board meeting, the HOTR 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><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>	<p>COMPLETED This has been adapted to reconsider the governance arrangements of the Board, as discussed in December 2023 Wellbeing Board.</p>
<p>Support the delivery of initiatives that tackle health inequalities with health system partners, including Mental Health</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>Substantive update in separate agenda item.</p>
	<p>Oversee delivery of Mental Health Commission implementation and CWG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established the sport, physical activity, mental health and wellbeing criteria for the Commonwealth Games Legacy and Enhancement Funded:

<p>Commission and Commonwealth Games Legacy programmes of work</p>	<p>Sport PA projects and report to Wellbeing Board.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inclusive Communities Fund (£9m) ○ Sandwell Aquatic Centre Energy Costs (circa. £1.4m), finalising the grant agreement and payment to Sandwell MBC against actual spend which will enable 73k Sandwell residents using their leisure facilities and 600k Aquatic Centre visits. ● Established the Wellbeing Board's oversight role on such investment. ● Over 1000 applications and £60m worth of applications have been submitted by February 2024 and funding announcements will be made between February-April 2024. ● Secured complementary funding see below
	<p>Publish new Health of the Region report in December 2023 and <i>hold annual roundtable with Community by April 2024.</i></p>	<p>HOTR Report is now due to be published in the new Mayoral term. The latest draft of the report is attached for further review and comment.</p>
	<p>Sign long-term partnership agreement with Sport England and develop co-investment plan, obtain Wellbeing Board approval by July 2023</p>	<p>Completed Secured £2.5m 3 year complementary Sport England funding and aim to launch in January 2024 to deliver by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extending the 4 Commonwealth Active Communities legacy place based partnerships e.g Solihull Active Moves, Active Birmingham, Black Country and Coventry Moving. ● Piloting & evaluate the impact of sport integration into the Mental health care pathway for children and young people with 1 ICP. ● Extending the United by 2022 trailblazer sport programmes over the next 3 years. ● Piloting voluntary sport organisation triage service to expert advice linked to the CWG LEF Inclusive Communities Fund. ● Establishing a WM Programme Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan to determine impact with partners and communities. <p>First meeting of the Physical Activity Advisory Coalition expected by early March.</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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First Disability Working Group meeting held on 11 January 2024 ● Local Authorities Directors of Adult Social Care have been invited to nominate senior managers to be on the working group.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Country Economic Intelligence hub has been contracted to lead on the quantitative needs assessment due in March 2024. Quotation out for disabled persons' lived experience and panel. • The Centre for Accessible Environments has been contracted to do the supply and demand analysis of Accessible Housing in the WM with a report due April 2024. • Ongoing discussions with Government's Disability Unit about alignment with Government's Disability Strategy Action Plan and new opportunities for the WMCA (Plan launched 05/02/24).
<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 MHPP guidelines. 21 signups & 21 accreditations per quarter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 126 sign-ups achieved – KPI met (as of the end of January) • 94 accreditations achieved (as of the end of January) • See separate agenda item and paper for fuller update
	<p>Deliver the Thrive into Work programme as per DWP guidelines. 3,369 starts, 1,143 job outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1755 programme starts (as of the end of January) • 499 job outcomes (as of the end of January) • See separate agenda item and paper for fuller update
	<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 Wellbeing Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB. (As per previous communications) – the key objective of leading a campaign on RLW across the health & social care sector (as an initial focus) has been revised in light of the financial climate in LAs & ICBs, and we will now run a number of workshops with the Living Wage Foundation to support partners in working through barriers to implementation. • These workshops have now been organised, one for each ICB area. The Black Country ICB event will be held at the Bescot Stadium on Wednesday 21st February, followed by the Coventry and Warwickshire event at Coventry Transport Museum on Wednesday 28th February, and finally the Birmingham & Solihull event at the Iron House on Thursday 29th February. • NB. The HOTR Core Group has been discontinued (as per previous communications and above).

3.0 Brief Updates on Key Initiatives

3.1 WM Mental Health Commission

- The 2023 [West Midlands Mental Health Commission](#) outlined significant mental health challenges for the region, providing robust multi stakeholder recommendations as a driver for change. Since its publication several key initiatives have been mobilised by the West Midlands Combined Authority, which include:
 - a. Co-development of **Thrive at College**, a skills programme incorporating wrap around mental health support alongside a wider preventative ‘whole college approach’ to mental wellbeing.
 - b. Launch of the **Inclusive Communities Fund**, providing voluntary and community sector organisations funding to deliver mental wellbeing initiatives across the region. The Fund was launched in November, 2023 and 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, and reducing the inequalities in those people who are physically inactive and in turn using physical activity as a protective factor for mental wellbeing.
 - c. Delivery of pilot programmes like **Black Thrive**, providing culturally sensitive mental health support in the workplace.
- As we move into the next phase of mapping system wide progress against the recommendations, the West Midlands Combined Authority propose to convene a **Mental Health Commission Legacy Group** that will:
 - a. Provide oversight of the recommendations set out in the Mental Health Commission, identifying barriers and challenges to delivery which can be collectively addressed.
 - b. Oversee the development of the follow-on report, *West Midlands Mental Health Commission – A Year On*, which will summarise progress and outline opportunities to work on economies of scale.
 - c. Serve as a **Community of Practice**, appraising new policy, evidence and research in the sector as well as sharing examples of best practice across the region.
 - d. Terms of reference (Appendix A) for the group have been developed and we are now seeking:
 - i. Approval from the Wellbeing Board to convene the first meeting in April 2024 and thereafter on a quarterly basis.
 - ii. Expressions of interest from those with a keen interest in mental wellbeing to chair the group.

3.2 Health Inequalities and Health in all Policies

3.3 *Using Digital Health as an Economic Driver of Health*

- Smart City Region:** Working with the West Midlands Combined Authority's subsidiary, WM5G, 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 the West Midlands Combined Authority 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 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.

4.0 High Level Deliverables for 2024/25

- 4.1 The following High Level Deliverables have been proposed for the next year, as part of the directorate high level deliverables for Employment, Skills, Health and Communities. These will be signed of at the West Midlands Combined Authority Board in March 2024.

High Level Deliverable	Milestones
36,200 people will be supported to improve their Physical and Mental Wellbeing	4,500 people visits to the Sandwell Aquatics Centre
	7,500 people receiving mental health advice and/or support through delivery of the Mental Health Commission recommendations and Inclusive Communities Fund.
	24,000 Sandwell residents retaining access to leisure facilities through the CWG Legacy Fund Sandwell Aquatics project
	200 young people accessing wrap around mental health support through delivery of Thrive at College skills intervention.
10,000 people have better and more	2,000 disabled people engaged in real life experience consultation via the disables people's voice contract

inclusive access to health improvement	7,000 people (5k home diagnostics and 2k remote monitoring) able to access digital health technologies to improve care through Smart City Region
	1,000 people will be supported to improve health and reduce health inequalities through initiatives delivered as part of Health in All Policies in housing, transport and environment.
71,286 employees and 100 employers in the region supported to improve health at work	70,000 employees able to access to a digital solution for healthy behaviour change through Smart City Region
	1286 people (out of work or in work) supported through Thrive into Work
	823 positive employment outcomes (new job starts or existing job retentions) through Thrive into Work
	384 people better able to self-manage their health condition(s) as part of their employment/progression through Thrive into Work
	100 employers supported to improve their productivity (via employee health & wellbeing) through Thrive at Work
	750 meaningful conversations with employers about employee health and wellbeing through Thrive at Work

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no other direct financial implications as a result of the recommendations within this report, as the West Midlands Combined Authority will only be providing support from existing budgets and resource in delivery of the agreed high level deliverables.
- 5.2 Should any future financial implications arise they will be resolved through the West Midlands Combined Authority governance routes and demonstrate value for money.

6.0 Legal Implications

- 6.1 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”*.

7.0 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 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.
- 7.2 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.

8.0 Inclusive Growth Implications

- 8.1 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 to 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.

9.0 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.

10.0 Other Implications

10.1 None.

11.0 Schedule of Background Papers

11.1 Health of the Region Report 2024 (Draft)

12.0 Appendices

12.1 Appendix A - Terms of Reference for Mental Health Legacy Group

APPENDIX A - West Midlands Mental Health Commission Legacy Group
Terms of Reference (DRAFT)

Purpose To bring together key stakeholders across the West Midlands to oversee the legacy of the West Midlands Mental Health Commission and collectively drive forward its recommendations.

Functions The West Midlands Mental Health Commission Legacy Group will:

- **Provide oversight** of the recommendations set out in the Mental Health Commission, identifying barriers and challenges to delivery which can be collectively addressed.
- Oversee the development of the follow-on report, **West Midlands Mental Health Commission – A Year On**, which will summarise progress and outline opportunities to work on economies of scale.
- Serve as a **Community of Practice**, appraising new policy, evidence and research in the sector as well as sharing examples of best practice across the region.

Accountable to WMCA Wellbeing Board
 WMCA Health Equity Advisory Council

Proposed Core Membership *Wellbeing Board representative to act as chair for this group*

Name	Role	Organisation
Mubashir Ajaz	Head of Health and Communities	WMCA
Rachael Clifford	Senior Delivery Manager – Healthy Communities and Mental Wellbeing	WMCA
Nancy Towers	Senior Policy Officer – Health and Communities	WMCA
TBC	Public Mental Health representative	Coventry; Solihull; Birmingham; Sandwell; Walsall; Dudley; and Wolverhampton Local Authorities
TBC	Mental Health Commissioning representative	Coventry and Warwickshire; Birmingham and Solihull; and Black Country ICBs
Paul Sanderson	Health and Wellbeing Programme Leader	OHID
Nick Adams	Senior Quality Improvement Manager	NHS England
TBC	Academic Representative	
TBC	Lived Experience Representative	
TBC	VCSE Representative	

Open membership across West Midlands in addition to core membership for those with special interest in subject matter.

<i>Communications and resources</i>	Meetings to be held via Microsoft Teams and/or hybrid where appropriate. Core members to send a substitute if they are unable to attend a meeting.
<i>Leadership</i>	Chair: TBC WMCA will be responsible for setting the agenda and hosting meetings.
<i>Frequency</i>	Quarterly – meeting dates arranged by WMCA.
<i>Review</i>	An annual review of these terms of reference will take place.