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Slough Wellbeing Board Annual Report

2021-2022

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  <p data-bbox="703 1016 1283 1093">Frimley Collaborative Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups</p>  <p data-bbox="312 1225 609 1308">Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust</p>  <p data-bbox="906 1182 1264 1245">ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE</p>   <p data-bbox="991 1406 1248 1554">Department for Work & Pensions</p>  	

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What is the Slough Wellbeing Board Annual Report?

The Slough Wellbeing Board Annual Report outlines the work of the Slough Wellbeing Board over the previous municipal year. It describes the work the Board was involved in between May 2021 and April 2022.

The Slough Wellbeing Board

The Slough Wellbeing Board is a partnership between organisations from the public, private and voluntary sector in Slough. The board brings together key organisations in the area to work together to improve the health and wellbeing of Slough residents.

The Wellbeing Board consists of senior representatives from:

- Slough Borough Council
- Berkshire Public Health
- Frimley Health Foundation Trust
- Frimley Collaborative Clinical Commissioning Group
- Slough Council for Voluntary Services
- Thames Valley Police
- Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue
- Slough Youth Parliament
- The Department of Work and Pensions

In Slough, we have made the decision to widen membership beyond the minimum requirements. This allows us to engage with a greater range of partners and work on a wider range of issues. We have also called our partnership the 'Slough Wellbeing Board' rather than the Health and Wellbeing Board, to reflect our chosen focus on wellbeing and the broad impacts this has on a person's life.

Health and Wellbeing in Slough: The Context

Slough is a unique area, and as such, faces unique challenges.

The borough of Slough has a total population of around 158,500 people. This population is relatively young, with Slough's average age estimated to be only 34.8 years. Since the 1930s, people from across the world have made Slough their home, making Slough one of the most diverse authorities in the country.

Located to the west of London, Slough is a densely populated urban area. High levels of personal car use mean there is significant congestion and poor air quality. However, despite the urban nature of the borough and its industrial history, Slough has more than 2.54 square kilometres of parks and open spaces. The council has also recently invested in new leisure facilities, including leisure centres, green gyms, swimming pools and an ice rink.

Slough has pockets of deprivation, and some neighbourhoods offer specific challenges. There are also inequalities in health, primarily between different areas of the borough and between different ethnic groups. Life expectancy in Slough is lower than the average for the rest of the South East, and physical inactivity, cardiovascular disease, obesity and diabetes are high. Slough also has high-rates of preventable ill health amongst children - including obesity, tooth decay and higher levels of hospital admissions for long-term conditions such as asthma.

This health and wellbeing context became even more significant during the COVID-19 outbreak, when Slough grappled with the impact of the virus on its population, including a significant impact on resident's mental health and wellbeing, with higher levels of reported stress and anxiety.

About this Annual Report

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to disrupt the Wellbeing Board's ability to meet in person, in accordance with the requirements for public meetings, resulting in the need to cancel two of the Board's six planned sessions. The work programme was therefore primarily focussed on meetings its statutory functions and overseeing the delivery of its four priorities. The board also received regular verbal updates regarding the Frimley Integrated Care System.

The Work of the Slough Wellbeing Board: Our Priority Areas

At the start of the 2020 municipal year, the Slough Wellbeing Board adopted a new Wellbeing Strategy. The Wellbeing Strategy for 2020-2025 focuses on four main priority areas. These areas are:

- Starting Well
- Integration
- Strong, Healthy and Attractive Neighbourhoods
- Workplace Health

Two of these areas - Strong, Healthy and Attractive Neighbourhoods, and Workplace Health - represent areas where the Board directly shapes the work being done in this area. Starting Well and Integration are priority areas where the Board takes an influencing role, and the work is primarily delivered by other partnership boards which report to the Slough Wellbeing Board.

Priority One: Starting Well

Starting Well is one of the priority areas where the Slough Wellbeing Board has an influencing role in the work being done in this area. Tackling health and wellbeing issues at an early stage in life prepares our young people for their future.

The Children and Young People's Partnership Board directly was leading this work, and provided regular updates to the Slough Wellbeing Board on its activities to develop a new Children and Young People's Partnership Plan. Five specific priorities for Slough have been identified:

- Good physical health and an active lifestyle
- Positive mental health and wellbeing
- Supporting our children with SEND
- Continuing to achieve well as KS4 and KS5 and prepare for adulthood
- Safeguarding and protection from harm

In October, the Wellbeing Board also had the opportunity to review the East Berkshire Local Transformation Plan for Emotional Health and Wellbeing and Celebrating Neurodiversity, following a comprehensive overview of the services that are available and the plans that are going to be taken to bridge gaps in services.

Priority Two: Integration

Integration is one of the priority areas where the Slough Wellbeing Board has an influencing role in the work being done in this area. By working closely together, health and social care professionals can ensure that care and support services are aligned and integrated in order to provide better care for our residents.

The Health and Social Care Partnership Board directly leads this work, and provides regular updates to the Slough Wellbeing Board.

2021-22 has seen the HSCP Board join up its work with Frimley CCG's Slough Place Based Committee, transacting business together to ensure more effective collaboration between colleagues.

In July 2021 the Wellbeing Board reviewed the draft HSCP Board's draft Slough Health and Care Plan. The plan will seek to develop, promote and maintain independence, because this is good for health, good for people, and good for the taxpayer and sustainability of services. The plan has the following priorities:

- Better access to care
- Improved outcomes for mental health
- Responding to changing demands and needs post COVID-19
- More Integrated and Pre-emptive service offers
- Improved outcomes for frailty
- Use of locality based models

The Wellbeing Board was also updated on a number of further key priorities for integration, including:

- The Better Care Fund
- Anticipatory Care Planning
- The Ageing Well Programme
- Improving access to care
- Mental Health in Integrated Care Systems
- Neighbourhood and community work with the Primary Care networks
- Action being taken to reduce health inequalities

Priority Three: Strong, Healthy and Attractive Neighbourhoods

Strong, Healthy and Attractive Neighbourhoods is one of the priority areas where the Slough Wellbeing Board directly leads the work being done in this area.

Strong, healthy and attractive neighbourhoods are built around people, place, local pride and strong collaborative working between the community and its partners.

Significant activity has been undertaken with the Chalvey Community Partnership under the programme, including:

- The 'Chalvey Can' physical activity programme
- A community learning programme focussing on English for Speakers of Other Languages and Maths
- A new jobs club with the Department for Work and Pensions and local employers
- The Launch of the Chalvey Interfaith Partnership
- A project to improve safety for Women and Girls under the Safer Streets Fund

The SHAN team has also conducted an extensive consultation in Colnbrook and Poyle to identify the key priorities of the community – including challenges around the availability of local services, community safety and the public realm.

The team then worked with the community to co-create a Strong Healthy Attractive community plan for this neighbourhood, which is being delivered by Colnbrook Parish Council.

Further work has been undertaken throughout the year to strengthen community partnerships in Britwell and Haymill and Lynch Hill.

Priority Four: Workplace Health

Workplace Health is one of the priority areas where the Slough Wellbeing Board directly leads the work being done in this area, via a Task and Finish Group that meets regularly to rapidly progress work in this field.

Having a good job, with a reasonable wage, employment security and a safe working environment can support people to thrive. It can protect against poor health both while someone is working, and later in life.

A toolkit of resources and materials to support employers to promote workplace health in their workforce has been developed and is currently being promoted.

The group has conducted research on existing award and accreditation schemes running in Slough, including the awards scheme led by Slough CVS and the Early Years Kitemark Accreditation Scheme. The group has also been looking into the prevalence and impact of long COVID in the workplace, with a particular focus on BAME communities, and over 500 people have responded either by telephone or by completing an online form so far.

COVID Recovery

Responding to the COVID-19 crisis was the Wellbeing Board's primary area of focus in 2020-21. In June 2021, the Wellbeing Board had the opportunity to review members' strategies as the emphasis moved from responding to the COVID-19 crisis to putting in place the necessary steps for Slough's recovery.

Members considered what more could be done to build on the effective partnership working that had developed during the crisis and to avoid duplicating measures between partners.

Looking ahead, the board identified a number of priority recovery areas where it could look to work together, including:

- *Workforce* – adapting to new, agile ways of working that had developed during the pandemic, rebuilding capacity and maintaining frontline staffing, as well as addressing unintended consequences of working from home, such as isolation and mental health challenges.
- *Vaccinations* - reiterating the message to Slough residents on the importance of being double vaccinated.
- *Needs analysis* – ensuring that the board fully understands the impact the pandemic had on Slough, and then putting the resources in the right place to respond.
- *Resilience* - both in volunteers and organisations, ensuring that the food bank was resilient, vulnerable charities had sufficient cash resources, providing training programmes for residents and volunteers and building new infrastructures for better service delivery.
- *Planning* – ensuring steps were taken to effectively prepare for the Autumn and Winter, when cases were expected to rise again.
- *Residents' views* - ensuring feedback measures were in place for residents to inform partners and the board about their priorities for COVID recovery.

Strengthening our partnership and looking forward

In February and March 2022, the Wellbeing Board held a series of workshops to explore how it could improve the way it works as a partnership.

The sessions were kindly supported by the Local Government Association, and members of the Board had the opportunity to hear examples of good practice from Cllr Helen Holland, Co Chair of Bristol's Health and Wellbeing Board, and Jonathan McShane from the LGA's Community Wellbeing Board.

Key issues covered included:

- The need to respond to emerging policy and legislative changes
- The potential to expand the Board's work into other areas, such as deprivation, digital inclusion and early help when the Board comes to refresh the Joint Wellbeing Strategy
- The need to make better use of the JSNA and other sources of data
- Opportunities for making better use of all the partners on the board, and ensuring the Wellbeing Strategy is relevant to all
- The potential for further partners in Slough to join the board
- The need to improve the connectivity with the Board's sub groups, and other partnerships, such as the Safer Slough Partnership
- Opportunities for streamlining the 'formal' work programme and ensuring that the Board is asking the right questions and holding partners accountable where appropriate

The board also agreed to follow Bristol's example and schedule a series of informal sessions alongside of the boards' regular meetings, to provide a space for the board's development and to explore pressing issues in more detail. In 2022/23, these will explore:

- The relationship between the ICB, ICP, and Slough Wellbeing Board
- Tackling the cost-of-living crisis for local residents
- Understanding the health and wellbeing of our local population to inform a refresh of the Slough Wellbeing Board Strategy
- Delivering the 2023/2027 Slough Wellbeing Board Strategy

Appendix One: Statutory Responsibilities of the Slough Wellbeing Board

The Health and Social Care Act of 2012 set out the statutory responsibilities of Health and Wellbeing Boards. These are:

- To prepare and publish a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Slough.
- To prepare and publish a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Slough.
- To give its opinion to the East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) as to whether their Commissioning Plans adequately reflect the current Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- To comment on the sections of the CCG's Annual Report which describe the extent of their contribution to the delivery of Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- To give its opinion, as requested by the NHS Commissioning Board, on the CCG's level of engagement with the Board, and on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- To encourage persons who arrange for the provision of health and/or social care services in the area to work in an integrated manner for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the area.
- To work with partners to identify opportunities for future joint commissioning.
- To lead on the signing off of the Better Care Fund Plan.
- To publish and maintain a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.
- To give its opinion to the Council on whether it is discharging its duty to have regard to any Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy prepared in the exercise of its functions.
- To exercise any Council function which the Council delegates to it.
- To ensure that strategic issues arising from Slough's Safeguarding Boards inform the work of the Board.
- To receive the annual reports from Slough's Safeguarding Boards and ensure that partners respond to issues pertinent to the Board.