

HWBB Survey September 2021

We distributed a survey to discuss the governance arrangements for our emerging integrated care system, including the relationship between the Health & Wellbeing Board (HWBB), with its statutory function, and the One System Board (OSB).

This survey aimed to collect views on the role, impact and effectiveness of our HWBB and how we could work in future.

The survey was distributed to members of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB), the One System Board (OSB) and the Joint Leadership Team (JLT) – approximately 45 people and received 12 responses, 8 of which were from current members of the HWBB. The majority of responses were from CCG staff or Governing Body members.



1. The current HWBB strategy is aimed at increasing healthy life expectancy and reducing inequalities. Is this the right strategy and, if so, should it also be shared by the OSB?

The general opinion from the respondents was a firm 'yes' to both points. Some comments were that the strategy needed to have clearer targets and that the role of partnerships and public engagement in delivery could be strengthened.

2. Can you provide examples of how the HWBB has added value in improving health and reducing health inequalities?

Some examples were given regarding specific areas of work (such as suicide prevention) and of raising awareness of health inequalities, but other comments mentioned its apparent lack of impact outside its meetings and a lack of traction with other meetings or programmes of work



3. What do you see as the relationship between the HWBB and the One System Board?

There was a general view that the two must be closely aligned but the danger of duplication of effort was also mentioned. While some felt the two could be merged, others felt that this might be a future arrangement but that there needed to be a better understanding of the OSB before any changes are made. The importance of the HWBB in focussing on inequality was a common theme

4. Should the HWBB set the ambition for improved health outcomes and tracking these, reporting back progress to the One System Board. Do you think this is appropriate and workable? Can you suggest other useful roles for the HWBB?

This question led to many more concerns being raised about duplication of effort between the HWBB and the OSB, with further worries on how the HWBB could hold organisations to account. The skill set within the HWBB (specifically medical professionals and Councillors) was mentioned as a strength in one comment. It was also suggested that the HWBB could become more outcome focussed.



5. What do you see as the advantages of keeping the HWBB and OSB separate?

Responses suggest putting all the effort into the OSB rather than into both Boards; if both were kept, roles need to be more clearly defined and to keep each other to account; there was also a suggestion that the HWBB could focus on improving the wider determinants of health rather than on health and social care, leaving the OSB to focus on 'illness services'

6. What do you see as the disadvantages of keeping the HWBB and OSB separate?

In general there was more consistency in the responses here, with many people citing one or more of the following: Risk of overlap and unnecessary bureaucracy; lack of necessary influence; lack of clarity in the relationship; inefficient use of time and resources



7. If you are unsure what additional information would you like to have to assist your decision

How effective HWBB has been at delivering its objectives in the past; more information on the OSB, an up to date 'map' of Trafford's various partnerships, their purpose and membership, a set of clear strategic objectives owned by all partnerships.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Overall, the responses, while mainly expressing some concern regarding the current impact of the HWBB, and further concerns about duplication of effort with the OSB, were not in favour of making any changes at present, and instead giving more time to understanding the role of the OSB and any further national guidance on the HWBB and its statutory role.

It recommended that the anonymised results are shared with system leaders from the various partnership boards in Trafford, with a request for further responses and reflection on the findings.

