



## **Terms of Reference: Health and Wellbeing Together Board**

Health and Wellbeing Together is the forum where key leaders from the health and care system come together to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, work towards reducing health inequalities and support the development of improved and joined up health and social care services. It is the name given to the City of Wolverhampton Health and Wellbeing Board, a statutory Board established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

### **Our working principles:**

- Provide strong local leadership based on evidence, focusing on those areas where the Board can make the biggest difference to health and well-being.
- Encourage integrated working, promoting an ethos of integration and partnership in the planning, commissioning, and delivery of services.
- Demonstrate transparent decision making so that local people can understand the decisions being taken and the rationale behind them.
- Involve local people in decision making by enabling residents to have their say through community engagement and co-production opportunities.
- Work in partnership to identify shared priorities and appropriately coordinate activity, informed by a commitment to a place-based approach to health.
- Take action to tackle health inequalities using a consistent approach across partners with a firm view that health inequalities are not inevitable.
- Act with courage and conviction seizing the opportunities presented by being part of the NHS Birmingham, Black Country and Solihull Integrated Care Board (ICB) cluster to work in new and innovative ways in the long-term interests of the whole population of Wolverhampton.

### **Our responsibilities:**

- Assess the health and wellbeing needs of the population and publish a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) utilising a shared approach at place to turning data into actionable intelligence.
- Publish a Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS), which sets out the priorities for improving the health and wellbeing of the local population and how identified needs in the JSNA and other needs assessments will be addressed, including reducing health inequalities.
- Provide strategic leadership in the formation and delivery of Wolverhampton's Neighbourhood Health Plan.

- Promote the integration of health and social care services through the coordination of joint commissioning to meet local need in line with section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006.
- Provide strategic leadership in the development, agreement, and submission of Wolverhampton's Better Care Fund plan.
- Coordinate and lead action at place level working effectively with the OneWolverhampton place-based partnership.
- Prepare a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) to ensure pharmaceutical services in Wolverhampton meet local needs.
- Ensure the work of Health and Wellbeing Together is aligned with policy developments and strategic aims locally, regionally and nationally, including the NHS Birmingham, Black Country and Solihull Integrated Care Board cluster.
- Have strategic oversight of the Wolverhampton's Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health and the Suicide Prevention Strategy for Wolverhampton.

A Health and Wellbeing Together member role description is available as an Appendix to this document.

### **Health and Wellbeing Together governance and reporting relationships**

Health and Wellbeing Boards have been a key mechanism for driving joined up working at a local level since they were established in 2013. Following the Health and Care Act 2022, Health and Wellbeing Boards continue to play an important statutory role in instilling mechanisms for joint working across health and care organisations and setting strategic direction to improve the health and wellbeing of people locally. This is achieved through governance relationships with:

- the NHS Birmingham, Black Country and Solihull Integrated Care Board cluster, responsible for strategic commissioning at a regional footprint.
- Wolverhampton's Integrated Commissioning Committee, responsible for place-based strategic commissioning, including managing Section 75 pooled funds between the Integrated Care Board and Council.
- OneWolverhampton place-based partnership acting as a delivery vehicle for driving forward shared priorities.
- the Children and Families Together Board, which reports into Health and Wellbeing Together on shared priorities and key performance indicators in relation to children, young people and families.

In addition to the above, Health and Wellbeing Together is committed to working collaboratively with the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership and Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together, to remove duplication, ensure consistency of approach on cross cutting themes and achieve greater impact across the whole system.

### **Health and Wellbeing Together membership**

In line with the Health and Social Care Act 2012 membership of the Health and Wellbeing Together Board will consist of:

- at least one councillor of the local authority
- the director of adult social services for the local authority,

- the director of children’s services for the local authority,
- the director of public health for the local authority,
- a representative of the Local Healthwatch organisation for the area of the local authority,
- a representative of each relevant clinical commissioning group (now replaced by the Integrated Care Board)
- such other persons, or representatives of such other persons, as the local authority thinks appropriate.

Additional relevant partners are added to the membership at the discretion of the Board.

Members may allocate a named substitute to attend on their behalf by notifying the Chair of the Board and Democratic Services in advance of the meeting.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Role</b>
City of Wolverhampton Council	Leader of Council
	Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Community
	Cabinet Member for Adults
	Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education
	Opposition representative
	Executive Director of Families
	Director of Adult Services
	Director of Public Health
Integrated Care Board	Designated representative
OneWolverhampton	Partnership Director
Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust	Designated representative
Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Designated representative
Primary Care Collaborative	Designated representative
Wolverhampton Healthwatch	Designated representative
Wolverhampton University	Designated representative
West Midlands Police	Designated representative
West Midlands Fire Service	Designated representative
Citizen’s Advice Dudley and Wolverhampton	Chief Executive
Wolverhampton Voluntary Community Action	Chief Executive
Better Homes Board	Deputy Director of City Housing
<i>Observer status</i>	Chair of Health Scrutiny
	Chief Executive Officer, Black Country Local Pharmaceutical Committee
	Representative West Midlands Care Association
	Communities Strategic Lead, City of Wolverhampton Council

The Chair will be appointed by the City of Wolverhampton Council. The Vice-chair will be appointed by the Black Country Integrated Care Board.

Should neither Chair or Vice Chair be able to attend a meeting of Health and Wellbeing Together, the Chair shall designate another statutory member of the Board as Chair for this meeting. Where this is not possible, a Chair shall be elected at the start of the meeting.

### **Health and Wellbeing Together voting and decision-making**

Reports to Health and Wellbeing Together Board meetings should be prepared in a way that enables effective decision making. Decisions, recommendations, declarations of interest and reservations will be recorded in the minutes.

All meeting papers will be published on the Council website at least five clear working days before the meeting concerned.

There will be sovereignty around decision making processes. Members will be accountable through their own organisation's decision-making processes for the decisions they take. It is expected that members of Health and Wellbeing Together will have delegated authority from their organisations to take decisions within the terms of reference.

Decisions taken by Health and Wellbeing Together are generally done so by consensus. If a Board decision should require a vote, then all members may participate having one vote each; in the event of a tie then the Chair will have the casting vote. Observers do not have a vote.

No business will be conducted that is not on the agenda.

A thematic Forward Plan of activity will be reviewed at each meeting of Health and Wellbeing Together to ensure agenda items are strategic and timely.

### **Health and Wellbeing Together frequency of meetings and quorum**

A full meeting of Health and Wellbeing Together will take place four times a year. Meetings will be conducted in public unless confidential information is to be disclosed. There will be the opportunity for members of the public to ask questions in line with the protocol outlined in the guide to speaking at meetings.

Items that are of a confidential nature will be discussed within the Private section of the agenda (i.e., contains exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972).

An extraordinary meeting can be called when the Chair considers this necessary and or/ in the circumstances where the Chair receives a request in writing from 50% of the membership of the whole membership.

An annual informal focus day / session on specific issues of interest will take place and all members will be encouraged to attend.

Agendas and papers for Board meetings will be made publicly available via the website unless covered by exempt information procedures.

The quorum for meetings will be a quarter of the membership, with at least one Elected Member and one external partner in attendance.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Health and Wellbeing Together role description**

Members of Health and Wellbeing Together who represent a partner organisation should be senior people with a strategic role within their organisation, able to comment on the full range of their organisation's interests, report back to that organisation on debates within Health and Wellbeing Together and make decisions committing the organisation to taking action and providing resources. They should also be able to answer for their organisation's delivery of their commitments to the work of Health and Wellbeing Together. They should be able to speak for their organisation with authority; commit their organisation on policy and practice matters; and hold their organisation to account.

Members of Health and Wellbeing Together who represent a range of organisations or stakeholders should have a mandate to sit on the Board on behalf of the people they represent, report back to them on the Board's work, seek to influence them on commitments made at the Board and represent their views wherever possible at the Board.

Members of Health and Wellbeing Together will:

- Make every effort to attend all meetings or send an appropriate substitute.
- Fully engage in meetings including active participation in all relevant agenda items.
- Commit to supporting the development of strong and purposeful relationships within the Board through attendance at an annual strategy meeting and by proposing, as appropriate, future agenda items.
- Raise awareness and support of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy through their own organisation.
- Where any member of Health and Wellbeing Together sits on another strategic city partnership group or board, they will raise awareness of Health and Wellbeing Together and its priorities, as appropriate, seeking opportunities to further embed whole system leadership.
- In addition to the above expectations of all members, it is also the role of the Healthwatch representative to ensure that the diversity of the Wolverhampton patient, public and carer population is represented at meetings of the Board.