

LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of Tony McGinty, Interim Director of Public Health

Report to	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	6 December 2016
Subject:	Integration Self-Assessment

Summary:

In July 2016 the Local Government Association, in conjunction with NHS Confederation, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and NHS Clinical Commissioners, published '*Stepping up to the Place: Integration Self-Assessment*'. This tool has been developed to support local health and care systems critically assess their ambition, capabilities and capacity to integrate services to improve the health and wellbeing of local citizens and communities.

In order to assess Lincolnshire's ambition for integration during October 2016 the Health and Wellbeing Board asked key partners and stakeholders to complete the self-assessment questionnaire. Feedback from this exercise was collated and partners were given the opportunity to discuss the key themes at an informal meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board on 8 November 2016.

This report presents the outcome of the self-assessment exercise and asks the Board to consider what actions need to happen to ensure Lincolnshire is able to drive forward with its ambition for closer integration across the health and care system.

Actions Required:

The Board is asked to:

- Consider and note on findings of the Integration Self-Assessment exercise detailed in Appendices A and B.
- Approve the next steps as detailed on page 3 of this report which asks partner organisations to:
 - Share the details of the Integration Self-Assessment exercise with their governing bodies;
 - Identify three priority areas for improvement and to feed this information back to the Programme Manager: Health and Wellbeing by the end of January

2017;

- Agree to receive a further report in March 2017 which asks the Board to agree a small number of actions to progress based on a ranked list of priority areas identified by partners.

1. Background

Bringing together health and social care to provide high quality and sustainable services to improve local health and wellbeing outcomes is a key government policy driver. The primary purpose of integration is to shift the focus of health and care services to improving public health and meeting the holistic needs of individuals, of drawing together all services across a place for the greatest benefit, and of investing in services which maximise wellbeing throughout life.

In July 2016 the Local Government Association, in conjunction with NHS Confederation, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and NHS Clinical Commissioners, published '*Stepping up to the Place – Integration Self-Assessment*'. This tool was developed to support local health and care system leaders critically assess their ambition, capabilities and capacity to integrate services to improve the health and wellbeing of local citizens and communities.

In order to assess the level of ambition, as well as the challenges and opportunities offered by integration, the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) invited key partners and stakeholders to complete the self-assessment questionnaire. The purpose of the exercise was to explore Lincolnshire's readiness across the key characteristics needed for successful integration and to help identify areas of improvement. The questions were structured around two themes:

- Do we have the essentials for the integration journey in Lincolnshire?
- How ready for delivering integration is Lincolnshire's health and care system?

Eleven corporate responses were received from a range of organisations and a summary of the findings is attached in Appendix A. Partners were given a further opportunity to discuss the findings at an informal meeting of the HWB on 8 November and the feedback from this session is summarised in Appendix B.

Key Themes

Participants at the informal HWB welcomed the opportunity to take part in the self-assessment exercise and there was a genuine willingness to engage in a constructive way.

The general census was that relationships, partnership working and accountability have moved forward in Lincolnshire. However for integration to progress further all stakeholders need to commitment to greater openness, honesty and trust. As a group of organisations there needs to be a shared understanding and vision on how resources can be used in the most effective way and we need to learn from best practice. There needs to be a greater focus on delivery which places the individual/patient at the centre rather than the organisation.

There is a clear message from partners to keep things simple especially the language and terminology so that all stakeholders understand the message and know how they fit within the health and care system. In addition, the term 'health and care system' needs defining so there is a shared understanding of what this means in Lincolnshire. The relationship between key drivers, such as the Better Care Fund (BCF), Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) and Lincolnshire Health and Care (LHAC) need to be communicated so stakeholders understand which part of the system they are addressing. Better communication and sharing of information was also highlighted as an area for improvement.

National requirements and local governance are viewed as barriers that limit the ability of local system leaders to make binding decisions. Simplified governance arrangements which allow specific delegated powers to be delegated by governing bodies to the System Executive Team (SET) and the HWB could address some of the current issues. As a 'system', Lincolnshire should be speaking with 'one voice' and seeking additional freedoms and flexibilities.

Next Steps

The self-assessment exercise has highlighted a number of areas where wider partners and stakeholders feel improvements need to be made. Therefore as part of identifying and agreeing an improvement plan it is recommended the HWB approves the following next steps:

1. Each partner organisation, including all district councils, NHS Providers and Involving Lincs, share the details of this exercise with their governing body to raise awareness of the feedback and to gain commitment from stakeholders to develop a shared improvement plan to address the issues highlighted through this exercise.
2. Each partner is asked to identify their top three priority areas for improvement (ranked 1 to 3, with 1 being the top priority) and to feed this information back to the Programme Manager: Health and Wellbeing by the end of January 2017.
3. The organisational priorities are collated and developed into a ranked long list.
4. A further report is presented to the HWB in March 2017 which asks the Board to agree a small number of improvement actions to progress based on the ranked list of priorities.

2. Conclusion

Integration between health and social care is a key driver to providing high quality and sustainable services which meet the needs of the local population and address local priorities. The Integration Self-Assessment tool, developed by the LGA, focuses on the key elements and characteristics needed for successful integration, offering insights into the current ambition and areas for improvement.

The HWB is required to promote joint working and integration to improve health and wellbeing in Lincolnshire. To this end, partners and key stakeholders were asked to take part in the self-assessment exercise and the findings from this exercise were discussed at the informal HWB meeting in November. Whilst the general view was that progress has been made in Lincolnshire further work is still needed to ensure all partners and stakeholders are engaged in the integration journey. The HWB is therefore seeking commitment from partners to share the outcome of the self-assessment exercise and to identify priority areas for improvement.

3. Consultation

Health and Wellbeing Board members and wider stakeholders including all District Councils, NHS Providers, Police, Fire and Rescue, and Involving Lincs were invited to be involved in this exercise.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Integration Self-Assessment – Findings
Appendix B	Feedback from the informal Health and Wellbeing Board held 8 November 2016

5. Background Papers

Document Title	Where can the document be viewed
Stepping up to the place: Integration Self-Assessment Tool	http://www.local.gov.uk/publications/-/journal_content/56/10180/7867709/PUBLICATION

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