

SUNDERLAND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

7 December 2023

SUNDERLAND PLACE COMMITTEE ASSURANCE UPDATE

Report of the Chief Executive, Sunderland City Council

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide assurances to the Health and Wellbeing Board that the Sunderland Place Committee continues to function in a way that supports effective integration of health and care, as set out in the Sunderland Place Plan, Sunderland Healthy City Plan and Integrated Care Strategy (Better Health and Wellbeing for All).

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In-line with the changes brought about under the Health and Care Act (2022), and accompanying [guidance](#) on the development of place-based partnerships within the statutory integrated care system, the North-East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) established a formal Sunderland-based sub-committee in May 2023. This sub-committee arrangement was formalised to enable health and care decision-making at place-level, and to support improved integration of care with Local Authority and wider statutory partners.
- 2.2 The Sunderland Place Committee meets monthly in-common, with a Partnership Board that oversees all joint commissioning arrangements between the ICB and Sunderland City Council. Such arrangements are typically managed via local Section 75 partnership arrangements that enable the delegation and/or joint exercising of specific NHS and Local Authority health-related functions, in instances where such arrangements effectively secure improved health and care outcomes for residents.
- 2.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board have a statutory role in instilling the mechanisms for joint working, and improving the wellbeing of their local population. As such, regular assurance is provided to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB), that the Sunderland Place Committee and Partnership Board (in-common), continues to support this responsibility, through the effective coordination and provision of services that support local needs and the ambitions as set out within in the Healthy City Plan, Place Plan and Integrated Care Strategy.

3.0 Place Committee Assurance for October and November 2023

- 3.1 The below table provides an overview of business discussed and decided at the Sunderland Place Committee between October and November 2023.

3.2 A summary of the Sunderland Place Committee and Partnership Board (SPCPB) business covering October to November 2023, has been summarised in table 1.1 below for reference.

| Ref | Item | Place Plan Priority | Item for decision | Item for discussion | Impact/Output |
|-----|---|---|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1 | Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022/23: Commercial Determinants (October 2023) | Priority 5 (System Enablers) | No | Yes | The SPCPB supported the recommendations within the report and agreed to further consider how some recommendations could be executed via SPCPB arrangements, with specific linkages to addressing the commercial determinants of key clinical domains within the Sunderland Place Plan. |
| 2 | Winter Planning and Vaccination Programme (October 2023) | Priority 2 (Supporting People to Live and Age Well) | Yes | Yes | The SPCPN received and notes the winter vaccination plan and received and supported the proposed Winter Plan for 2023/24, which included funding to support the development of a transition from hospital service. Specific concerns were raised regarding the availability of COVID-19 vaccines and the uptake of vaccinations within the health and care workforce. It was agreed to highlight concerns within Place Committee highlight report to the ICB Executive Committee. |
| 3 | All Together Better Assurance Report (October 2023) | Priorities 1-4 | Yes | Yes | An assurance report was circulated, including specific updates on proposed changes to the community integrated teams contracts; changes to the clinical model for Integrated Urgent Treatment Centre and GP Out-of-Hours; as well as a proposed business case for the development of a women's health hub. All proposals were endorsed for recommendation to the ICB Executive. |
| 4 | Children's Collaborative Update (October 2023) | Priority 3 (Best Start in Life) Priority 5 (System Enablers) | | Yes | An update on the progress of the emerging Children's Collaborative, including the roll-out of a commissioning programme to support the development of the collaborative, and the appointment of a fixed-term System's Change Lead. |
| 5 | Place Based Assurance Framework (October 2023) | Priority 5 (System Enablers) | Yes | | The proposed framework for Place Committee Assurance was presented, which will include specific consideration of the implementation of the Place Plan policy objectives for tackling inequalities and supporting a shift toward increased prevention. A formal report to come back for agreement in December 2023, which will include regular reporting into the HWB |

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| 6 | Section 75 Call for Evidence (October 2023) | Priority 5 (System Enablers) | Yes | | The Place Committee agreed a consensus response to the Department of Health and Social Care's, 'Call for Evidence', regarding section 75 partnership arrangements. This included discussion on the ability of such arrangements to deliver a positive population impact through more effective joint commissioning, and the potential opportunity for furthering joint ambitions through strengthened section 75 arrangements that would be overseen by the Place Committee and Partnership Board. This could include harnessing anticipated flexibilities to widen the scope and eligible delegated functions within section 75s, that are being considered nationally. The HWB may wish to consider how changes to legislation, in this regard, could shape the future direction of the Place Committee and Partnership Board, in overseeing more ambitious joint delegations and exercising of NHS and LA functions. |
| 7 | Sunderland Place Finance Report and Efficiency Update (Oct/Nov 2023) | Priority 5: (System Enablers) | | Yes | Update on current financial position and confirmation that the ICB was on track to deliver the Mental Health Investment Standard. |
| 8 | Adult Social Care CQC Assurance Briefing (November 2023) | Priority 5: (System Enablers) | | Yes | Briefing on incoming CQC inspection regime for adult social care. |
| 9 | System-Wide Efficiencies (November) | Priority 5: (System Enablers) | Yes | | Proposal to explore a system-wide view of efficiencies to support improved integration and mitigate system impact of organisational efficiency programmes. |
| 10 | Procurement of an Integrated Podiatry Service (November) | Priority 1: (Primary and Community Care Integration) | Yes | | Commercially Sensitive |

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| 11 | Proposal for new End of Life Service (November) | Priority 2: (Living and Ageing Well) | Yes | | Commercially Sensitive |
| 12 | Better Care Fund and Section 75 (Oct/November) | Priority 1 (Primary and Community Care Integration) and Priority 5 (Critical System Enablers) | Yes | | SPCPB agreed to undertake a system-level strategic review of the BCF and Section 75 (s75) arrangement, in order to ensure the Sunderland BCF and s75 continued to deliver a positive impact on local health and care outcomes and to identify opportunities for future integration, transformation and efficiency. |

Table 1.1. Summary of Sunderland Place Committee and Partnership Board business (October to November 2023)

3.3 In addition to the October and November 2023 meetings, the Sunderland Place Committee participated in the first of the ICB's oversight and assurance meetings at place-level in November 2023. The meeting included a review of the Place Committee arrangements, with specific consideration given to how well the committee was able to enact its responsibilities as a formal sub-committee of the ICB. The Place Committee is awaiting a formal letter from the ICB noting the outcome of the assurance meeting which will be shared with the HWB in the March 2024, assurance report.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- i. note and comment on the summaries from recent Sunderland Place Committee meetings; and
- ii. be assured that the work of the Sunderland Place Committee is progressing in a manner that supports effective integration of health and care, as set out in the Sunderland Place Plan, Sunderland Healthy City Plan and Integrated Care Strategy (Better Health and Wellbeing for All).