

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 14 March 2012	Meeting Name: Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Report title:		Establishment of a shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in Southwark	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All wards	

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee:

1. considers the implications of the coalition Government's Health and Social Care Bill to establish statutory Health and Wellbeing Boards in England.
2. considers the work of the Southwark Health and Wellbeing Planning Group to look at the key health and wellbeing challenges in Southwark, and to develop a proposition to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board in Southwark.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. The Health and Social Care Bill is currently in the third report stage of the House of Lords, following which it will enter the final stage of the legislature. There have been challenges throughout the Bill's progress in Parliament, including a legislative pause between April and June during which time a 'listening exercise' took place with an aim to take into account further views about the Government's proposals, including additional involvement from clinicians.
2. The Health and Social Care Bill is intended to create a health service in England which "achieves results that are amongst the best in the world"¹. The Bill aims to achieve this through significant reform of existing health structures including the transfer of public health accountabilities from the NHS to local authorities, the abolition of both Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) and Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) by April 2013 and, in the place of PCTs, the establishment of GP-led Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), the establishment of local Health and Wellbeing Strategies and Boards, and the creation of patient champion groups HealthWatch in place of existing Local Involvement Networks (LINKs).
3. The Council and local NHS have been working together to consider the implications of the proposed changes since the publication of the original NHS White Paper *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS* in July 2010 and preparatory work has been taking place. This report sets out the progress of preparatory work relating to the development of a Southwark Health and Wellbeing Board.

¹ NHS White Paper – July 2010

4. The changes in the Health and Social Care Bill envisage a new role for local authorities in terms of health and wellbeing leadership. The 2010 *Marmot Review* articulated this new role, setting out the limitations in tackling health inequalities in the current system in which “the perception among agencies is that responsibility for the delivery of health improvement lies with the NHS”. This is, the review set out, despite the fact that local government and other public sector partners hold many of the levers that shape and can have an impact on health inequalities. The new role for local authorities, as encapsulated in the establishment of health and wellbeing boards, will be to lead work to tackle health inequalities across the system, and to champion improvements in terms of health and wellbeing for local populations.
5. In November 2010, the Leader of the Council agreed that the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care would oversee a programme of work to make preparations for the implementation of the changes in the Bill. This programme has resulted in a number of projects including work to establish a new Health and Wellbeing partnership.
6. In order to commence this work, the Cabinet Member formed a Planning Group to:
 - oversee work to establish a Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Board in Southwark, including to oversee our engagement approach and other work
 - provide expert advice about the health and wellbeing issues and solutions in the borough to help inform our future priorities
7. The members of the Planning Group are set out below.
 - Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care (chair)
 - Dr Patrick Holden, Southwark Health Commissioning
 - Dr Mark Ashworth, Southwark Health Commissioning
 - Andrew Bland, Managing Director, NHS Southwark Business Support Unit
 - Robert Park, NHS Southwark – Non-Executive Director (NED)
 - Ann-Marie Connolly, Southwark Director of Public Health
 - Romi Bowen, Strategic Director of Children’s Services, Southwark Council
 - Gill Davies, Strategic Director Environment and Leisure, Southwark Council
 - Susanna White, Strategic Director of Health and Community Services, Southwark Council
 - Graeme Gordon, Head of Corporate Strategy, Southwark Council
 - Jane Garnham, Chief Executive - Community Action Southwark
8. A place on the Planning Group was allocated for a member of the Southwark LINK, although this was not been taken up due to the independent review of this organisation which has been underway throughout the course of the Planning Group’s work.
9. As a member of the Department of Health’s Early Implementers Network, Southwark has committed to establish a shadow Health and Wellbeing Board by April 2012, a year prior to the Board gaining statutory powers (subject to the

passage of the Health and Social Care Bill). This timeframe provides the Council, the local NHS and other key partners with an opportunity to work together on the implications of the legislation, to involve key people with a stake in the borough on what the health and wellbeing priorities should be in Southwark, and to commence work with all partners in the borough to tackle these.

10. A Cabinet decision is planned for 17th April 2012 to establish a shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in Southwark. (The Board will be “shadow” at this stage as it will not have statutory powers until April 2013 – subject to the passage of the Bill).

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Cabinet Nov 2010 Report	160 Tooley Street SE1 2TZ	James Postgate 020 7525 7627