

Alcester Town Council Health and Well Being Board Report for Year May 2016 to April 2017

The Alcester H&WbB was established at a time of decreasing funding from central government, county and district council for health and social care.

Alcester Town Council has supported the initiative driven by WCC and supported by other stakeholders.

Membership:

The attendance varies as it calls upon representatives from a wide range of voluntary and statutory organisations involved in health and wellbeing.

ATC Membership;

The Chair was, until his sad death, Cllr Lennox Cumberbatch. Lennox had been an important driving force in establishing and maintaining the Board.

Cllrs Mark Cargill, Susan Adams, Professor Chris Brannigan, (recently Chair) and latterly Andrew Foster and Suzette Wright (as an observer).

Board Clerk: Jenny Theobald,

Frequency and Attendance:

The Board meets quarterly with an attendance of around 20 persons. The actual attendees can vary quite considerably with different organisations attending and different people often representing the various organisations. The 'turn over' of staff, in some organisation, was very evident.

Outcomes:

- This Board is unique in Warwickshire and this was reflected in the interest in it by the membership and attendance. It can be assumed that the Alcester H&WbB could, if successful, become a model for other communities.
- Members were made more aware of the health and wellbeing provision and perceived needs, for people living in and around Alcester.
- Various members were made aware of the 'services' each offered to local communities.
- The Board provided a forum for sharing and advertising events etc.
- To date the Board agreed to concentrate on an initiative relating to older people (over 55) and loneliness/ social exclusion.
- Some interesting and useful work has been accomplished to further the older people's initiative. A major development has been the appointment of a co-ordinator for older people. This is a two year initiative funded by WCC. In the first six months this post seems to be working well. The Elderberries Lunch Club started a few weeks ago. A progress report is prepared quarterly for WCC and is usually on the Agenda of the Board

A paper suggesting some 'Future Ideas for the Alcester Health & Well Being Board' presented by the Alcester Members of the Board and accepted by the Board in April 2017.

Ambition:

To ensure that local efforts, usually voluntary, are more closely co-ordinated with other health and social care resources in the Alcester area.

It is recognised that 'voluntary organisations' can only do so much and there needs to be clear care pathways to enable people to be referred on. The Board could have a significant role in clarifying health and social care resources available for local people of Alcester.

We need to ensure that the Alcester H&WbB does address the specific issues of the people of Alcester.

Suggestion to extend the focus of the Board to include:

- **Mental health issues for younger people (up to 25 years of age).** Mental health issues with younger people have been previously discussed and promoted by the previous Chair, Lennox Cumberbatch.
- **Support for carers,** to include young carers.
- **Dementia care and support:** an integrated provision.

These suggestions are still in response to the Board's primary concern of working with social exclusion, with the intention of improving quality of life and reducing the need for other, more expensive, health and social care.

The three topics identified are nationally and locally important and that Alcester has a basis on which to develop support and services for these identified concerns for the people of Alcester.

Future Opportunities:

The recent approval of the WCC Model for the local commissioning of services, it will encourage communities to identify local issues and to be funded to invest in preventative work.

If discussions continue and Alcester was to become a 'Proof of Concept' site, for the WCC Model, the Board together with ATC and its very wide range of organisations in Alcester could come together to organise, review and research the developing ambitions of this Board for the people of Alcester and surrounding areas.

Objectives of The Health & Wellbeing Board

1. Identify needs and priorities for Alcester and refresh and publish the joint strategic needs assessment.
2. Develop and publish a joint health and wellbeing strategy to provide a framework for commissioners' plans on health care, social care, public health and children's health services and to advise and influence partner organisations;
3. Have oversight of the use of public sector resources across the relevant services with a focus on integration across the outcomes spanning health care, social care and public health
4. Promote joint commissioning of services between health, social care and public health with pooled or aligned budgets;
5. Maximise opportunities for integrating health and social care around the needs of individuals and promoting the joining up with wider local authority services that impact on health and wellbeing such as housing, education and planning;
6. Promote integration and partnership working to deliver service changes and priorities;
7. Communicate with and involve local people through its work in assessing local needs and developing a joint health and wellbeing strategy and support how they can exercise choice and control over their personal health and wellbeing;
8. Raise awareness of and tackle health inequalities across all the partnership structures;
9. Contribute to the work of the NHS Commissioning Board;
10. Influence local, regional and national government policy initiatives linked to health and wellbeing.