

Introduction to HWBs for ward councillors

What this module is covering

- **Understanding key tasks of the health and wellbeing board, including the role of Healthwatch**
- **Influencing the Health and Wellbeing Board**

As you go through this module we recommend you make notes in response to the following questions:

- **What sort of relationship could you have with the board?**
- **How can the board be influenced?**
 - * *What role could you play?*
- **How can residents be represented on the board?**
 - * *What role could you play?*
- **What do you need to find out?**

Have a think...

- **If the Health & Wellbeing Board achieves one thing...
.... what would you like that to be?**



Tasks for the Health & Wellbeing Board

1. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

“A systematic method for analysing needs of populations to inform and guide commissioning of health, wellbeing and social care services within a local authority area.”

2. Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

“Provides the framework within which more detailed and specific commissioning plans for the NHS, social care, public health and other services are developed.”

3. Joint Commissioning

HWBs must support and encourage partnership arrangements for health and social care services, such as pooled budgets, lead commissioning, or integrated provision. They can encourage close working between commissioners of health-related services and themselves; and commissioners of health and social care services.

Have you seen a copy of the (possibly draft) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment or Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

Do you know if any Joint Commissioning is taking place?

Tasks, roles, and implementation

1. Why are these tasks important?
2. What is the role of councillors who sit on the HWB in these tasks?
3. How can you and other councillors add value to these tasks?
4. How could you make sure you get the opportunity to add value?

Tasks for the HWB

- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Joint Commissioning

What other councillors thought...

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

“A systematic method for analysing needs of populations to inform and guide commissioning of health, wellbeing and social care services within a local authority area.”

- Defines demand across the population. Essentially a broad based statement of current and future trends.
- May help to identify and target key populations, using predictive risk modelling.
- Looks at long-term patterns of need and demand.
- should also consider what local communities can offer in terms of assets and resources¹³ to help meet the identified needs

Why is this task important?	Deprived area (Local population) GP Services & provider care Adult providers
What is the role of cllrs who sit on the HWB in this task?	Liaise with councillors & departments Act as advocate for residents
How can you and other councillors add value?	Verifying and confirmation Validity of gathered data; methodology used Interpretation placed by you as councillors Ensuring views of residents are represented to make it beneficial for the population
How could you make sure this happens?	Speak to GPs to provide services to the community Setting deadlines on priorities as stated above If the deadlines are not met. Whether they would like support from the voluntary sector Local representation is important and plays crucial role

What other councillors thought...

Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy “Provides the framework within which more detailed and specific commissioning plans for the NHS, social care, public health and other services are developed.” •Concise and high-level, setting local priorities for joint action •Enables the HWB to plan integrated local services •Creates an opportunity for HWBs’ constituent organisations to explore together local issues they have not managed to tackle on their own”	
Why is this task important?	Provide vision & direction Local solutions for local issues
What is the role of cllrs who sit on the HWB in this task?	Representing the views of local residents and to ensure outcomes are SMART
How can you and other councillors add value?	Sharing information & data to set up a joint action plan for the community Look for care providers in voluntary sector & mental health To police the activity of those provide the care
How could you make sure this happens?	Ensure all councillors have a role in strategy – on all committees, etc

What other councillors thought...

Joint Commissioning

HWBs must support and encourage partnership arrangements for health and social care services, such as pooled budgets, lead commissioning, or integrated provision. They can encourage close working between commissioners of health-related services and themselves; and commissioners of health and social care services.

This could potentially involve considering the commissioning of health-related services either with or by a broad range of local partners, such as district councils, local authority housing commissioners, local community safety partnerships, Police and Crime Commissioners, local probation trusts, prisons, children's secure estates and schools.

Why is this task important?	Working in partnership targeting resources to solve identified issues
What is the role of cllrs who sit on the HWB in this task?	Understand where opportunities are and priority areas Champion opportunities for joint commissioning Oversight of suggestions made, ask challenging questions (what difference will it actually make?)
How can you and other councillors add value?	Advocate for residents Inform residents of changes
How could you make sure this happens?	Ensure that HWB has: •Delivery plan using monitoring/evaluation & SMART principles •Roles of each partners are clarified & agreed •Monitoring information on Agenda for each meeting

Tasks, roles, and implementation

Thinking about what other councillors thought:

- Do you agree with what they thought?
- On reflection, is there anything you hadn't previously considered?

Next steps:

- How do YOU best think YOU can add value to the board? How are you going to co-ordinate what you do with others in your party group or scrutiny committee?

What role is played by **healthwatch**

National level
Healthwatch England

Local level
Local Healthwatch

“The new consumer champion for health and social care”
Replacing the Local Involvement Networks (LINKs)

At a local level, Healthwatch will:

- **Ensure patients’ and carers’ views influence commissioning, through a seat on the HWB**
- **Be accountable to and funded by local authorities**
- **Feed intelligence to Healthwatch England, alerting it to concerns about specific providers**
- **Either provide advocacy and support to patients making a complaint, or signpost people to the provider of the service**

It must be representative of local people and different users of services, including carers.

Your relationship with Healthwatch

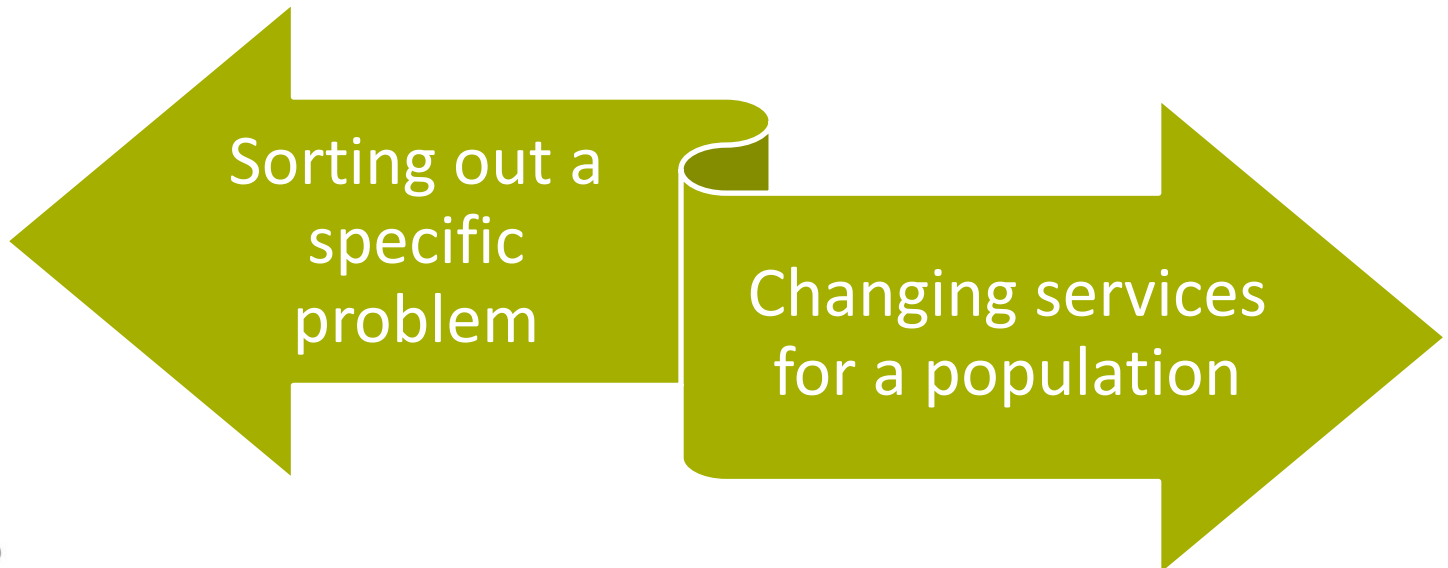
Have a think about your potential relationship with Healthwatch.

- **How do councillor's and Healthwatch's representative roles differ?**
- **How could Healthwatch help you as a councillor?**
- **How might you be able to help Healthwatch? Could they benefit from your contacts in the community and experience of community involvement?**
- **What should their relationship be to scrutiny?**
- **How can you work together to improve health and wellbeing in your ward? (and of course they have a seat on the Health & Wellbeing Board)**

What level of focus?

As councillors, your role spans across this spectrum: from ward work on the left, to strategic oversight and policy on the right.

For the HWB you can add value by taking ward issues and seeking to understand if there are wider implications that should be considered at the HWB (or at scrutiny)



When does a casework issue become a health & wellbeing board issue?

Using the prompt questions overleaf...

Think about how you would distinguish between...

- A casework issue?
- ... and the potential scrutiny issue?
- ... and the potential HWB issue?

A diagram consisting of two large, olive-green arrows pointing in opposite directions. The left arrow points left and contains the text 'Sorting out a specific problem'. The right arrow points right and contains the text 'Changing services for a population'. The two arrows are connected at their inner ends by a small, white, curved line that resembles a ribbon or a piece of paper.

Sorting out a
specific problem

Changing services
for a population

Casework issue	For example, an older people's day centre in your ward has been earmarked for closure		
Forums at which the issue could be relevant	Prompt questions (/does the casework issue have wider relevance?)	Notes	Summary of issue for this Forum
Scrutiny	<p>Is this a system failure? Is it a one-off failure, or could it be more widespread? AND/OR Is it the consequence of a policy decision? What is the rationale of the policy? Does the policy have an objective of preventing, maintaining or enabling individual health and wellbeing?</p>	<p>People with personal budgets not choosing to spend them at day centre. Lack of demand making centre unviable. Likely to affect other day centres.</p> <p>Result of personal budgets – national policy decision. Personal budgets aim to give people choice and control. So what choice do they have if the day centre closes? Is it sufficient?</p>	<p>Is there sufficient choice in the market for personal budget holders wanting to buy day opportunities services?</p>
Health and Wellbeing Board	<p>As above, and also Which HWB partners are involved /can help? Why is the issue important to more than one partner? Does anyone else need to be involved? Where can the HWB add value?</p>	<p>What else is the centre used for? Does it provide referral mechanisms to other services? Does it enable early identification of other needs (ie dementia, neglect)?</p>	<p>Nothing? Unless was used by health to identify / refer / treat other potential issues?</p> <p>In which case, how do we work with providers to identify potential escalating needs of personal budget holders?</p>

Casework issue			
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Health and Wellbeing Board	As above, and also Which HWB partners are involved /can help? Why is the issue important to more than one partner? Does anyone else need to be involved? Where can the HWB add value?		

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This is one of six modules available to you. The other modules are...

A. Introduction to HWBs for ward councillors

- Understanding key tasks of the health and wellbeing board, including the role of Healthwatch.
- Influencing the Health and Wellbeing Board

B. Role of the Councillor on the HWB

- Understanding the different role and responsibilities of people on the HWB
- Building relationships with other stakeholders
- Exploring opportunities for joint working

C. Leading and Chairing the HWB

- Agenda setting and planning when dealing with a diverse range of organisations
- Developing a workplan for the Board

D. Focussing on HWB priorities in your area

- Understanding the Health & Wellbeing needs in your borough and the priorities set by the Board
- Exploring the key themes in delivering preventative services that reduce demand
- Ensuring the best use of resources in delivering services

E. Managing relationships and responding to crises

- Exploring emerging agendas, and potential crisis points
- Approaches for responding to emerging agendas and crises
- Fostering good working relationships
- Developing collaborate working as Health & Wellbeing advocates

F. Working with health

- Understanding the health contribution and governance
- Understanding the context and responsibilities of CCGs, LHIB, and NHS Commissioning Boards
- Overview of NHS budgets, and exploring what areas can be influenced