

# **Health and Wellbeing Board Chairman's Annual Report 2023/24**

**Chairman:** Cllr. Dr David Jefferys  
**Vice-Chairman:** Cllr. Robert Evans

The Health and Wellbeing Board met five times in 2023/24.

The Board discussed a wide range of issues during the Civic Year as the health challenges of the pandemic have receded. The major task and achievement was the completion and publication of the new 5-year Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Bromley. This Strategy has been fully aligned with the strategy set out by the SE London ICB. It has been a pleasure to work with ICB colleagues in the new manner set out in the updated legislation and guidance notes. This work was undertaken in addition to fulfilling the statutory responsibilities of Board.

The Board has considered a wide range of health and wellbeing issues during the last year. Mental health has occupied a lot of our discussions and especially reviewing preventative programmes across the age spectrum including a Working Group on Brain Health. Adolescent mental health has been a particular focus. Many of the issues the Board has considered are cross cutting themes such as Suicide Prevention and Self-Harm, combating Drug and alcohol addiction and updates on the Councils programme on combatting Loneliness and Social Isolation. A special focus has been on the complex issue of smoking cessation and the issues around vaping.

The Board works closely with other Council Committees such as the Adult Care and Health Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee, the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee, and the Children, Education and Families Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee.

The Board has a range of Statutory Responsibilities set out in the Health Care Act, including reviewing the quarterly reports on both the Integrated Care Fund (BCF) and the Improved Better Care Fund (the IBCF) receiving regular reports from Healthwatch Bromley, reviewing the Pharmaceutical Needs assessment for Bromley and receiving the report from the Childrens and Adults Safeguarding Boards. In Bromley we have a regular meeting of the Board Chairs which ensures close working and the HWB Chairman sits as a member of the Adults Safeguarding Board. During the year the Board took over the responsibility and oversight for the Bromley Health Protection Board.

The Board was pleased to note the national recognition for the Bromley Loneliness Strategy and the Homelessness Prevention Strategy. Both received prestigious national awards. Health issues cross Borough Boundaries and this was addressed through the regular meetings of the London HWB Chairs which the Chairman attends for Bromley.

Having been Vice Chairman and then Chairman of the Board since 2014, it is pleasing to see how the work and the role of the Board have developed. This will be my last report as Chairman since I will be stepping down to take on another role in

the Council. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with such a wonderful group of stakeholders in the Borough, all focussed on improving health and wellbeing for residents.

The areas of work that have been explored include:

#### June 2023

- South East London ICB Joint Forward Plan and One Bromley 5 Year Strategy
  - Signed Off
- Update on the Bromley Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Better Care Fund Plan 2023-2025
- Suicide Prevention Workstream: Update and Plans
- Update on the Brain Health Task and Finish Group
- Combating Drugs and Alcohol Partnership Update
- Healthwatch Bromley Patient Experience Report

#### September 2023

- Health and Wellbeing Strategy Implementation Plan
- Winter Plan 2023-24
- Integrated Commissioning Board Update
- Update on the Health Protection Function
- Update on Right Care, Right Person
- Alcohol Needs Assessment

#### November 2023

- Update on Children and Young People's Mental Health
- HIV Infections Audit
- Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report
- Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund Quarterly Performance Update
- Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) procurement

#### February 2024

- Bromley Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2022-23
- Presentation from Mytime Active on their Community Action Programmes
- Homeless Health Project
- HIV Infections Audit
- Smoking Cessation Report
- Health And Wellbeing Strategy - Update on Implementation Plan
- Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund Performance Quarterly Update
- Healthwatch Bromley Patient Experience Report

#### April 2024

- Update on the Post-Covid Syndrome Service
- Suicide & Self-harm: a review and analysis of the data and trends over time
- Review of Stoma advice
- Integrated Commissioning Board Update
- Annual Public Health Report
- Chairman's Annual Report
- Update on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

**Councillor Dr. David Jefferys**  
**Chairman, Health and Wellbeing Board**