

Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board report

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Purpose of Report:

This report summarises key items of business from the BLMK Integrated Care Board and BLMK Health and Care Partnership (a Joint Committee between the local authorities and the ICB) that are relevant to Milton Keynes City Council.

1. Recommendation

The Health and Care Partnership is asked to **note** the report.

2. Introduction

2.1 The following summarises items of interest that have been considered by the BLMK Health and Care Partnership and the Board of the ICB since the last meeting of the MK Health and Care Partnership.

3. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Integrated Care Board took place on 29 September 2023. Chair Dr Rima Makarem, Chief Executive Felicity Cox and Deputy Chief Finance Officer Stephen Makin provided an overview of 2022/23, including the break-even financial position achieved by the ICB. Also presented were the Annual Reports for BLMK Clinical Commissioning Group for months 1-3 of 2022/23. Both Annual Reports can be found on the ICB's website.

4 Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board Meeting

4.1 The Board of the ICB met on 29 September 2023, the communications summary from the meeting is below.

4.2 Felicity Cox provided an overview of work underway to prepare for the planned industrial action from consultants and junior doctors week commencing 2 October 2023 and informed the Board that, following inspections, there was no reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in BLMK's NHS estates. The Board celebrated the news that Head of the BLMK Cancer Network, Kathy Nelson, had been named Ground-breaking Researcher of the Year Award at the national BAME Health and Care Awards in London on 28 September 2023.

- 4.3 There was one question from the public about how the ICB plans to fund the East of England (South) Integrated Stroke Delivery Network. Chief Nursing Director, Sarah Stanley, outlined that the ICB is committed to the concept of Integrated Stroke Delivery Networks and is working with partner ICBs, and regional and national colleagues, to consider how these could best be supported in an affordable and sustainable way. She acknowledged the hard work of all local health and care staff who provide direct or indirect support to those affected by strokes.
- 4.4 The following items were discussed:
- 4.4.1 **Resident's story** – members watched a video from Catherine, a resident from Bedford who is deaf. She shared her powerful story in BSL. She explained the challenges that people who are deaf face when accessing health and care, including being able to make or change an appointment and engage with health and care professionals. The Board reflected on the need to think about and change how we communicate to ensure easy and fair access for everyone – a key part of the Denny Review of Health Inequalities.
- 4.4.2 **MK Deal – inclusion of the Bletchley Pathfinder** – The Board received an update from all four places including MK and was pleased to agree to include the Bletchley pathfinder as the fifth priority within the MK Deal.
- 4.4.3 **Health and Employment Outline Framework** – The Board heard how Places are taking forward the action plans arising from the ICB's Health and Employment Seminar in July. In MK this is due for discussion at the Joint Leadership Team in November/December. At a system-level a framework was agreed which will include work to maximise the support from Anchor Institutions, make full use of the Apprenticeship Levy and broaden volunteering opportunities. The Chief People Officer for the ICB outlined what the ICB will be working on to support residents in applying for work in the health and care system. The Chief People Officer also shared examples of recent work, such as a campaign to support residents without easy access to the internet to hear about job opportunities. It was confirmed that VCSE organisations would be central to supporting the development and implementation of new Health and Employment Framework for BLMK, an outline of which will come to the BLMK Health and Care Partnership meeting on 31 October.
- 4.4.4 **Mental Health, disabilities and autism** – The Board supported work to develop a new Mental Health, Disabilities and Autism collaborative in BLMK that would encourage more joined up working across the system, with focused work at place to deliver care closer to those who need it. The Board heard how a model for new ways of working was in development and asked for more information on how Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and GP surgeries

would fit into the model. The Board asked for more detailed work to be undertaken around the governance and membership as the collaborative emerges.

- 4.4.5 **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion** – the Chief People Officer for BLMK took the Board through six areas where focus is needed to help us retain our health and care workforce. Providing a living wage for staff and creating the right culture was the focus of the discussion, including ensuring that all people are empowered to ‘speak up’. Partner organisations were invited to reflect on the culture of their organisations and endorse the action areas to support their people in thriving at work.
- 4.4.6 **Financial and operational reports** – members received formal updates from quality and performance, finance and governance, as well as an update on Section 75 agreements, which were agreed by the Board. The Chief Transformation Officer provided assurance on winter plans for urgent and emergency care and the Board approved the plan, in line with NHSE requirements and thanked partners in Bedfordshire and MK for their efforts in working together to maintain system flow. Board members asked that officers continue to work to a prevention agenda to support people in keeping well and encouraged neighbourhoods to lead the way on this work. The roll out of virtual wards was commended as among the best performing in the England. The Board added a strategic risk to its register to respond to the challenge of health literacy in our population as highlighted by the Denny Review.

5. Single Version of the Truth – Follow-up from Last MK HCP Meeting

- 5.1 At the last meeting, further detail on the plans to establish a single version of the truth was requested. ICS partners have worked together over the past few months to explore how we deliver a single version of the truth, in terms of shared view access to data. Through this work, the project has identified a preferred solution and a procurement approach to link our data, maximising our existing and planned investments through the use of a federated data view that will allow partners to safely share and access each other’s data to deliver better outcomes for our residents in the future.
- 5.2 The ICB is taking the preferred approach to partner organisations’ governance meetings before coming to the ICB Board in December to agree the system-wide approach. The current timeline is to have an operationally live platform available and bringing benefits to our residents by July 2025.

6. Future Meetings

- 6.1 BLMK Health and Care Partnership – 31 October 2023 at Luton Town Hall – a verbal update will be given at the meeting.
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- 6.2 Joint ICB and Health and Care Partnership seminar – 24 November 2023 – on early years development and supporting children to be ready for school at MK Christian Centre, Oldbrook
- 6.3 Board of the ICB – 8 December 2023 at MK City Council Civic Offices
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List of Annexes

List of Background Papers

None