

Minutes of Health & Wellbeing Partnership Working Group

Meeting Date: Monday, 24 July 2023, starting at 1.00 pm
Present: Councillor S Hirst (Chair)

Councillors:

I Brown
R Elms
R Ray

In attendance: Director of Community Resources, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services and Head of Strategic Planning and Housing

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2 INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman Councillor Stuart Hirst gave an introduction to the group, and as this was the first meeting with new members, introduced the Officer and Members present.

Nicola Hopkins was unable to attend therefore Adam Allen, Director of Community Services was in attendance.

3 CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

Mark Beveridge spoke about the work of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership in the past, and explained that due to the Covid pandemic the previous Partnership had not met as often as wished. Post pandemic the Health and Wellbeing Partnership now needed to be re-established and move forward.

Adam Allen provided context at a Lancashire level. The NHS and Lancashire County Council were developing a Place Based Approach to Health and Wellbeing and wished to engage and work with District Councils in developing Health and Wellbeing partnerships for each District. This work was in its early stages and was being led by Louise Taylor, Director of Adults at Lancashire County Council in a joint role with the NHS.

It was agreed that the working group would not be the partnership but would play a key role in establishing its membership and priorities. Officers planned to take the key points raised by members of the group and work with partners to further develop the partnership.

Other than developing the partnership, it was considered important that the working group focus on issues and projects that could be delivered and which had a genuine impact locally. It was noted that Health is a very complicated landscape and the group recognised that we should have a voice in designing local NHS delivery, but the greatest impact would come from focusing locally on maximising activities to promote good health and wellbeing.

The group wished to see current health statistics for Ribble Valley and Adam Allen agreed to invite Jackie Moran (NHS) to the next meeting to share relevant data with the group.

Mark Beveridge explained that the Council was part of the Together an Active Future (TaAF) Pennine Lancashire project. The Council's Tracy Balko led Together an Active Ribble Valley, and an action plan was in place to 2025. An overview was provided of other activities delivered by the Council to improve Health.

Key health issues for Ribble Valley were discussed and the group considered the focus for future work should include mental health, rural isolation, making connections, and supporting all groups delivering health improvement activity. There were ongoing active villages projects, and partnerships with LCC for healthy weight and falls prevention. Within the Ribble Valley there were also a number of independent Community Groups, such as walking groups, and sporting organisations such as football clubs. Understanding all the activity delivered is vital for the working group in shaping future support and attracting external funding.

Adam also noted that Health and Wellbeing was a wide topic which linked to other areas in the Council such as Planning, Environmental Health, and Housing. Adam gave an overview of health plans at other District authorities which primarily set out what the District Council could do to affect health, and focused on community delivery by bringing together groups and organisations.

Rachael Ray noted that there was an organisation called Ribble Valley Health and Wellbeing and suggested they were included in the partnership.

There was discussion around some known issues affecting residents. Rosie Elms highlighted problems with getting carers to rural residents that were unable to travel. Ian Brown noted there were services that should be delivered locally at the Health Centre or Hospital that residents were now having to travel to access.

4 PURPOSE OF THE WORKING GROUP

It was proposed that the working group:

1. Establish the priorities for the Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Stuart Hirst suggested that a report be brought to the next meeting with suggestions for the group to consider based on the discussions and views of group members. There was discussion around facilitating, co-ordinating and supporting projects, as a lot of good work was already being done but needed joining up and promoting.
2. Consider the Council's representation on the Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Members of the group put forward were Stuart Hirst, Rachel Ray and Ian Brown.
3. Consider other areas of work that could take place alongside the partnership – Rosie Elms suggested asking GP practices for input. It was noted that a list of existing Community Groups was required and the activities carried out. Officers would make contact with the Primary care Network to engage GP's.

5 NEXT STEPS

It was agreed that Officers would put together a draft proposal for the group which would meet again in one month to discuss the proposal.

The meeting closed at 1.45 pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact the committee clerk, Rebecca Tait rebecca.tait@ribblevalley.gov.uk .