

**BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL**  
**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 March 2025 at 2.00 pm

Present:-

Cllr D Brown – Chair

Present: Brad Stevens, Rachel Partridge, Cllr R Burton, Graham Farrant, Cathi Hadley, Betty Butlin, Sarah Herbert, Lizzy Warrington and Jillian Kay

In attendance virtually: Louise Bates, Cllr K Wilson and Dawn Dawson

37. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Sandra Moore, Sam Crowe, Patricia Miller, Heather Dixey, Siobhan Harrington, Karen Loftus and Richard Renaut.

Louise Bates, Cllr Wilson and Dawn Dawson attended virtually, meaning they were unable to vote on any matters arising.

38. Substitute Members

Rachel Partridge substituted for Sam Crowe, Sarah Herbert substituted for Siobhan Harrington, Amy Collins substituted for Karen Loftus and Lizzy Warrington substituted for Richard Renaut.

39. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Board dated 21 October 2024 and 13 January 2025 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

40. Declarations of Interests

There was no declarations of interest on this occasion.

41. Public Issues

There were no public issues on this occasion.

42. Community Action Network (CAN)

The Head of the Voluntary Community Sector Development from Community Action Network (CAN) provided a presentation which had previously been circulated to the Board and detailed:

- Information regarding the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Dorset and the Community Action Network
- What CAN did to support the VCS
- Details of the work undertaken by CAN in 2024
- Details of the projects CAN assisted BCP with together with information about their county wide support
- Information regarding the State of Sector Report
- Recommendations moving forward.

The Board discussed the presentation, including:

- The Corporate Director of Wellbeing highlighted the wealth of voluntary and community sectors across BCP and the relationships with public sector organisations, and how could we improve and strengthen it. The Board was advised it would be beneficial if sustainable funding was provided to enable future planning, together with being kept informed and involved in any impactful decision making.
- A Board Member acknowledged the demand increase and the need to work more closer with voluntary partners. The Member expressed concern regarding the increased gap in provision particularly related to social exclusion and was interested to know what was in place to address this. The Board was advised of the actions CAN was taking including highlighting the gap to funding sources and supporting charities to recruit more volunteers to increase sustainability, together with signposting to ensure vulnerable people were aware of the support available.
- A Board Member highlighted the need to work collectively to consider the increase in demand and potential collaborative working which may produce some financial stability, however acknowledged the challenge of when funding streams were no longer available to support services.
- In response to a query, the Board was advised that it was a national picture that there was a decline in the number of people prepared to volunteer and the reasons for that were detailed. The Board was advised that voluntary services were trying to make roles more flexible and consideration was being given to new ways of recruiting volunteers to address this locally.
- A Board Member highlighted the valuable and important role the community and voluntary sector played in the health and wellbeing of residents.
- The Board was advised that BCP had over 1500 volunteers who supported BCP Services who provided an invaluable resource.
- In response to a query about the BCP Council project and ‘trusted reviewers’, the Board was advised of the work of the trusted reviewers and that the project was progressing well with positive feedback.

The Chair concluded that it was the entire voluntary sector which supported health and wellbeing and detailed ways in which CAN supported the community and voluntary sector and thanked them for all they do.

43. Better Care Fund 2024-2025 Quarter 3 Report

The Director of Adult Social Care Commissioning and the Commissioning Manager presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The report provided an overview of the Quarter 3 Report of the Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2024-25. The BCF was a key delivery vehicle in providing person centred integrated care with health, social care, housing, and other public services, which was fundamental to having a strong and sustainable health and care system.

The report was part of the requirements set by the Better Care Fund 2023-25 Policy Framework. The report needed to be jointly agreed and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board as one of the planning requirements.

NHS England (NHSE) required the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) to approve all BCF plans, this was one of the national conditions within the Policy Framework. This included planning documents at the beginning of a funding period, and template returns reporting progress against the plans quarterly.

The Director of Adult Social Care provided some further information regarding the FutureCare Programme, the change in the framework from sickness to prevention, the minimum uplift of 1.7% and the challenges that presented and the funding from the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and how it would be used to enhance capacity for families and individuals who required it.

The Board discussed the report and presentation, including:

- In response to a query from the Chair about the in-year funding provided from the DFG, the Board was advised that if projects had been identified before the end of the financial year, then the funding would not be lost.
- The Corporate Director of Wellbeing thanked Officers for the report and highlighted the important role of the Board as the governance for the BCF and to bring reports ahead of time as opposed to retrospectively. She also welcomed the end of year report about what had been achieved including stories, impacts and successes.
- In response to a query about the Quarter 3 report and hospitalisation following falls, the Board was advised of the initiatives in place to improve in this area and how the FutureCare could help enhance this work. It was advised that this area could be focused on within the end of year report.

- There were some lengthy discussions around reducing falls and the positive impact that would have to residents and services. It was noted that it was a priority for Adult Social Care and Health partners, and consideration was needed to ensure a joined-up approach to avoid duplication of work. It was highlighted the appropriate forum for this to be considered further was the Urgent Emergency Care Board who would be able to consider potential mapping and any further governance. A Board Member also advised they would take this to the Integrated Care Board for further consideration.
- A Board Member highlighted the potential of using the place-based partnership as a forum to consider reducing falls across the board.
- In response to a query regarding funding, the Board was advised of a breakdown of the funding received used within the Better Care Fund, which included additional contributions for a moving on from hospital living project and it was advised that the discharge funding had been consolidated into the Better Care Grant.

**RESOLVED that the Health and Wellbeing Board retrospectively approve the Better Care Fund Quarter 3 Report.**

44. Better Care Fund 2025-26 Plan

The Director of Adult Social Care Commissioning and the Commissioning Manager presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

NHS England (NHSE) required the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) to approve all BCF plans, this was one of the national conditions within the Policy Framework. This included planning documents at the beginning of a funding period, and template returns reporting progress against the plans quarterly.

This report provided an overview of the planning document of the Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2025-26.

The BCF was a key delivery vehicle in providing person centred integrated care with health, social care, housing, and other public services, which was fundamental to having a strong and sustainable health and care system.

The report was a part of the requirements set by the Better Care Fund 2025-26 Policy Framework. The report needed to be jointly agreed and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board as one of the planning requirements.

The Director of Adult Social Care advised of the challenges regarding the funding received and the need to have conversations with health partners about the impact it would have, by needing to decommission or reduce funding for some of the schemes offered.

The Corporate Director for Wellbeing acknowledged that the report was published after the agenda and advised should Board Members wish to provide any comments, please provide any feedback before the report needed to be submitted on 31 March 2025.

The Healthwatch representative left the meeting at 3pm.

**RECOMMENDED that the Health and Wellbeing Board is invited to comment on the plan and narrative, with agreement that it can be finalised in time for the deadline by officers outside the Board:**

- **Better Care Fund 2025-26 Plan**
- **Better Care Fund 2025-26 Narrative**
- **Better Care Fund 2025-26 Capacity & Demand Plan**

45. Health and Wellbeing Strategy to Action through the Place Based Partnership

The Head of Communities, Partnerships and Community Safety presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'C' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The report summarised the proposals and progress towards the development of a Place Based Partnership for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole as part of the development of the BCP Health & Wellbeing Board 'Plan on a Page' strategy.

The Board discussed the report and presentation, including:

- A Board Member highlighted how positive the work detailed was and the potential for a mapping exercise to reduce falls seemed a great fit.
- The Director of Adult Social Care Commissioning advised of the commencement of a Coproduction Board within its service and of the need to ensure there was joined up working to avoid any duplication.
- A Board Member highlighted the complexities and the need for an action plan to enable initial structure and form. The Member also stressed the need to identify what help and support was needed to enable the partnership to get into delivery mode.
- The Head of Communities, Partnerships and Community Safety requested a standing item on the agenda to provide updates and to enable the Board to help prioritise topics to ensure positive impact could be delivered.
- A Board Member highlighted the need to use this as a method of reducing inequalities in the health and wellbeing of BCP residents.
- The Corporate Director for Wellbeing summarised the progress of strategy into action to date and welcomed the coming together of health partners and BCP Council to focus on the positive outcomes it could achieve for residents.

The Head of Communities, Partnerships and Community Safety advised that some mapping work had already been undertaken, and it was necessary to pull it together for consideration of any gaps identified or any proposals which may come out of that work.

The Chair concluded the item by thanking the Head of Communities, Partnerships and Community Safety and agreeing that this should be a standing item on the Health and Wellbeing Board agenda.

**RESOLVED that:**

- a. The BCP Health and Wellbeing Board review the outcomes and progress from the workshops focussed on the development of the BCP Place Based Partnership.**
- b. The BCP Health and Wellbeing Board approve the recommendations to progress with the development of the Place Based Partnership and a 'Plan on a Page' in line with the proposal contained within this report.**
- c. Health and Wellbeing Board members commit to playing an active role through their representatives in the Place Based Partnership.**

46. Work Plan

The Chair highlighted the work plan and requested an update on the health and well-being strategy into action place-based partnership work to the June meeting.

It was also highlighted that BCP had a new Director of Public Health and Communities starting so an update on public health on where it was and where it was going to ensure the team deliver on the ambitions for BCP would be beneficial at an appropriate time.

It was noted that the Better Care Fund end of year report would come to the June meeting.

The Chief Executive recorded thanks to the outgoing public health team for their support, which was echoed by the Chair on behalf of the Board.

The Chair recorded thanks to the Corporate Director of Wellbeing as this would be her last Board meeting before leaving BCP Council.

It was highlighted that, as part of the University Hospitals Dorset transformation programme, the Beach (Births, Emergency, and Critical Care, Children's Health) building was going live imminently.

The meeting ended at 3.55pm.

CHAIR