

Question from Mr Bill Russell submitted to the 29 March Health and Wellbeing Board meeting.

Written response:

2. Question from Bill Russell (for HWB)

As I understand it the purpose of the change to an ICS is to improve the health & wellbeing of the residents of Buckinghamshire. The performance of the ICS will be based, in part, on patient outcomes.

The tax payers need to see evidence that the new system is achieving these objectives.

To know that the new system is better than the old system we need to be able to compare outcomes from before the change to outcomes after the change. For that we need data on the current outcomes and the level of health & wellbeing of the population (from the old system) so we can use them as a baseline to see the improvements in a few years' time.

Can the Health & Wellbeing Board ensure that this outcomes data is published & publicised?

Response:

Buckinghamshire's Integrated care system (ICS) will remain in shadow form until we are ready to take on the full responsibility of the ICS and will be developing specific and measurable outcomes across health and social care. Traditionally our measures are broadly organisationally focused, whereas the aims of the ICS are to deliver people based outcomes which the system collectively owns and cannot be achieved in isolation.

We have a shared vision and are developing on our journey together. We have already made good progress in our delivery but recognise that more emphasis needs to be placed on education, prevention and self-care. These outcomes are long term, and as such the benefits and measurement of these are potentially also longer term. This will be the focus of the systems attention over the coming years.

As part of the ICS, one of the three priority areas identified in the first year is Population Health Management (PHM). One of the core work streams of PHM is to develop an outcomes framework. This work has already started, including engagement with the public through a number of workshops. Patient outcomes will feature prominently within the outcomes framework and we are working closely with NHS England to produce this piece of work. Public Health and Health and Social Care Commissioners already use routine data sets and data on our local population to have an understanding of local health and care needs, going forward these will be used to provide the baseline for future improvements. The key priorities and work streams of the ICS are regularly reported up to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) has also recently agreed a new performance dashboard to help the board measure the impact of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy; the board is currently looking at each priority area in turn to refine the indicators and see where it should focus its efforts. Some of the HWB indicators will be replicated in the ICS Population Health Management Outcomes Framework which will ensure robust oversight through the health and care governance structures.

Furthermore the Big tent event we ran last year, for health and social care integration, provided us with a valuable forum to gather stakeholder opinions on key priority areas. We are hoping to build on this in the future by running more events like this, so that we can gather this feedback for the next stage of our journey.