



Report to Leader (Health and Wellbeing portfolio)

Decision Date: 2 September 2022

Title: Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes
Integrated Care Partnership

Reference No: HW04.22

Cabinet Member(s): Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member Health and
Wellbeing

Contact officer: Gill Quinton Corporate Director Adults & Health
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Ward(s) affected: (All Wards);

Recommendations: The Leader is asked to:

1. Agree to the establishment of a joint committee for the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes (BLMK) Integrated Care Partnership and approve its Terms of Reference, in accordance with Section 26 of the Health and Care Act 2022.
2. Agree the appointment of Cllr Angela Macpherson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, as the Buckinghamshire Council representative on the BLMK Integrated Care Partnership.

Reason for decision: To ensure that the needs of Buckinghamshire residents are met by and inform the planning of health services and health and wellbeing improvements in the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care System.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 In accordance with changes introduced by the Health and Care Act 2022, this report seeks agreement from Cabinet to the establishment of a joint committee for the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes (BLMK) Integrated Care Partnership, to approve its Terms of Reference and to appoint the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, Chairman of the Buckinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board, as the Council's representative on the Partnership.

2. Content of report

- 2.1 The Health and Care Act 2022 establishes Integrated Care Systems as statutory bodies across England. These systems will plan, manage and commission NHS services and distribute NHS funding to the 'Places' within each system. Whilst the mechanics of this work will be overseen by an Integrated Care Board, each Integrated Care System is also required to have an Integrated Care Partnership.
- 2.1 The purpose of the Integrated Care Partnership is to improve the general health and wellbeing of the local population through the delivery of an Integrated Care Strategy. All Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) are Joint Committees between the Integrated Care Board and the responsible authorities that come within an Integrated Care System area. However, the wider membership of the ICP is then open to local determination. Local systems are encouraged to consider representatives from a wide range of organisations to ensure the Integrated Care Strategy also addresses the wider determinants of health.
- 2.2 Section 26 of the Health and Care Act 2022 states that the Integrated Care Partnership is a Joint Committee of the local Integrated Care Board (ICB) and the local authorities which manage social care within the local Integrated Care System area. A small part of the county of Buckinghamshire falls within the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes (BLMK) Integrated Care System, and is therefore one of the relevant local authorities alongside Milton Keynes Council, Luton Council, Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council. The Integrated Care Partnership is responsible to both the Integrated Care Board and to the relevant local authorities.
- 2.3 The draft Terms of Reference for the proposed BLMK Integrated Care Partnership are attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.4 In relation to membership of the Integrated Care Partnership, the Terms of Reference propose three members from each of the predominant councils in the ICS and have invited Buckinghamshire Council to provide one member. It is proposed that the Buckinghamshire Council representative on the BOB Integrated Care

Partnership is the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, and Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, Cllr Angela Macpherson.

3. Other options considered

- 3.1 Under the Health and Care Act 2022, the local authority is required to be a founding member of the Integrated Care Partnership. Membership of the Integrated Care Partnership ensures that the health and wellbeing needs of Buckinghamshire residents will inform planning and strategy development at the Integrated Care System level.
- 3.2 Failure to appoint a member to the joint committee would preclude Buckinghamshire from participating in the work of the ICP with potentially adverse consequences for the health and wellbeing needs of the population which receives services from the BLMK system.

4. Legal and financial implications

- 4.1 Pursuant to s101(5) Local Government Act 1972, local authorities can enter into joint committees with other local authorities to discharge their functions jointly. It is considered that the ICP will be exercising executive functions and so it is appropriate for Cabinet to confirm its agreement to the establishment of the joint committee and that a Cabinet Member is appointed to it.
- 4.2 The Local Government Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (as amended by Section 26 Health & Care Act 2022) provides that ICPs should be established as joint committees and prescribes that membership should include one member from each relevant local authority and one member from the ICB, and any other members the ICP considers appropriate.
- 4.3 There are no direct financial implications for the Council in agreeing to the establishment of the Integrated Care Partnership, nor to appointing a representative to its membership.

5. Corporate implications

- 5.1 There are no direct corporate implications arising from Buckinghamshire Council representation on the BLMK Integrated Care Partnership.

6. Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

- 6.1 Not applicable.



7. Communication, engagement & further consultation

- 7.1 Communications and engagement on BLMK Integrated Care System activity which may impact on Buckinghamshire residents will be the responsibility of the BLMK Integrated Care System.

8. Next steps and review

- 8.1 If approved, representation on the BLMK Integrated Care Partnership will be reviewed annually as part of the Appointments to External Bodies.

9. Background papers

- 9.1 None.

10. Your questions and views (for key decisions)

- 10.1 If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider please inform the democratic services team. This can be done by telephone 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

