

Health & Wellbeing Board

Terms of Reference

November 2023



Purpose & Background

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 created a statutory Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) in every Upper-Tier Local Authority in England, effective from April 2013. The HWBB is a formal committee of the local authority charged with promoting greater integration and partnership between bodies from the NHS, public health and local government.

The intention of the HWBB is to steer, advise and lead approaches that improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Tower Hamlets. It will seek to do this by encouraging joint work across different services and organisations in the Borough, and by promoting greater integration of health and social care system, as well as services that can help to address the wider determinants of health. In addition, the Board provides democratic oversight and accountability of the local Health & Care Partnership and Tower Hamlets Together (THT).

The HWBB sets out its plans for improving the health of local population through a statutory Health & Wellbeing Strategy. In the current strategy (2021-2025), the HWBB sets out its key improvement principles for the local system as well as its ambitions for local residents:

Improvement principles:

- Better targeting
- Stronger networks
- Equalities and anti-racism
- Better communications
- Communities first
- Making the best of assets

Followed by HWBB's Healthy Borough Ambitions:

- Safe, social spaces
- Children happy, healthy and confident
- Young adults opportunities, connection and support for wellbeing
- Middle aged and older people healthy and well
- Joined up system focussed on what matters

Functions of the Health of Wellbeing Board

The purpose of the Health and Wellbeing Board as set out in the relevant statutory guidance is as follows:

- To lead the improvement of health and wellbeing in Tower Hamlets, undertaking duties required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

- To encourage integrated working between organisations who arrange for the provision of any health or social services in Tower Hamlets for the advancement of the health and wellbeing of the people in Tower Hamlets.
- To identify health and wellbeing needs and priorities across Tower Hamlets and publish and refresh a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) so that future commissioning/policy decisions are evidence-based.
- To prepare and oversee the development and implementation of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to reduce health inequalities in Tower Hamlets, ensuring that integrated care strategies prepared by the Integrated Care Board (ICB) are taken into account in this process.
- To provide advice, assistance, or other support to encourage partnership arrangements under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006.
- To promote integration and partnership working between health and the council, including social care and public health by providing oversight and accountability of the Tower Hamlets Together partnership.
- To review, endorse and oversee the successful implementation of the Better Care Fund (BCF)
- Lead the needs assessment of the local population and subsequent preparation of the borough's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. It will ensure that both are updated at regular intervals and that integrated care strategies that are prepared by the Integrated Care Board.
- To encourage those who arrange for the provision of any health-related services in Tower Hamlets (e.g., services related to wider determinants of health, such as housing) to work closely with the HWB.
- To develop, prepare, update, and publish the local Pharmaceutical Needs assessments.
- To be involved in the development of any NHS local strategy delivery plans and commissioning plans that applies to Tower Hamlets and to give its opinion to the NHS North-East London and the Integrated Care Board on any such proposed plan.
- To communicate and engage with local people on how they could achieve the best possible quality of life and be supported to exercise choice and control over their personal health and wellbeing. This will involve working with Local HealthWatch to make sure there's a continuous dialogue with the public to ensure services are meeting need.
- Ensure decisions, service developments and programmes impacting on health and wellbeing in the borough are driven by community needs and have coproduction and co-design at its core
- Seek assurance of partner plans to responding to a health related emergency, e.g. pandemics.
- To have oversight of the quality, safety, and performance mechanisms operated by member organisations of the Board, and the use of relevant public sector resources across a wide spectrum of services and interventions, with greater focus on integration across

outcomes spanning health care, social care and public health. Areas of focus to be agreed from time to time by members of the Board as part of work planning for the Board.

- Such other functions delegated to the Board by the Local Authority.
- Such other functions as are conferred on Health and Wellbeing Boards by enactment.

Membership

The Health and Wellbeing Board brings together political, professional and community leaders from across the health and care system in the borough. The membership consists of a mixture of mandatory members, who are required under statute to be members of the Health and Wellbeing Board, and some additional members who have been invited to join the Board. The membership is as follows:

Voting members of the Board

Chair: Cabinet Member with responsibility for health, wellbeing and social care (LBTH)*

Vice Chair: Tower Hamlets Place Lead, NHS North-East London

Elected Representatives of LBTH

- Cabinet Member with responsibility for education and children's services (LBTH)
- Cabinet Member with responsibility for resources (LBTH)
- Cabinet Member with responsibility for housing and regeneration (LBTH)

Local Authority Officers - LBTH

- Director of Public Health*
- Corporate Director of Children Services*
- Corporate Director of Health & Adults Social Care*

Representative from Tower Hamlets Healthwatch

Partner members of the Board (non-voting)

- Representative from Barts Health NHS Trust
- Representative from East London Foundation Trust
- Representative from North-East London NHS Integrated Care Board
- Representative from the London Metropolitan Police
- Representative from the THCVS
- Representative from the Tower Hamlets Housing Forum
- Independent Scrutineer of Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Independent Chair of Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Adults Board
- Chair of Tower Hamlets Together Board
- The Young Mayor or nominated Deputy Young Mayor (LBTH)
- Chair of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee (LBTH)
- Councillor nominated by Council from the largest opposition group

**Indicate statutory member - the regulations require 1 local Councillor but this does not have to be the Lead Member*

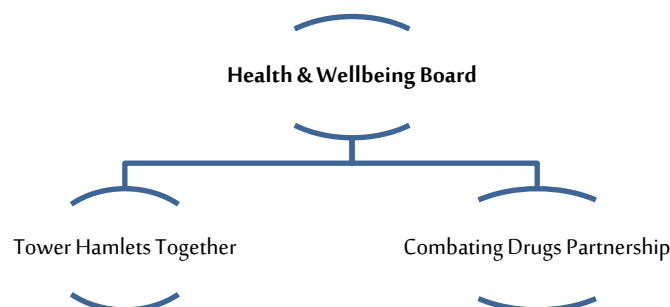
Roles & Responsibilities

All members of the Board, as a statutory committee of the Council, must take into account the Council's code of conduct for members and to follow any rules set out by their own organisations and act appropriately.

- Board members are expected to attend all board meetings whenever possible and fully and constructively contribute to discussions, reading and digesting any documents and information provided prior to meetings.
- Where Board members cannot attend, they should endeavour to send a deputy to represent their organisation at Board meetings. This is to ensure unfettered engagement of all partner organisations in achieving the Board's vision.
- The membership of the Board is constructed to provide a broad range of perspectives on the development of strategy and tackling health inequalities in the borough.
- Member of the Board are expected to fully and effectively communicate outcomes and key decisions of the Board to their own organisations, acting as ambassadors for the work of the Board, and participating where appropriate in communications/marketing and stakeholder engagement activity to support the objectives of the Board.
- Contributing to the ongoing development of the Board, including ensuring that appropriate items are brought to the Board's attention and added to the Board's forward plan, where relevant.
- Contribute to the development and delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy; holding the system to account, highlighting and celebrating our achievements and challenging performance against the strategy where necessary.
- Seek and consider diverse opinions as a process for driving innovation, maximising assets and making best use of available resources.
- Act in a respectful, inclusive and open manner with all colleagues to encourage constructive debate and challenge.

Subgroups & Accountability

The Board will have the subgroups who will be expected to bring a minimum of one report per year to a Health and Wellbeing Board, to update the Board on progress made at their partnership. The following sub-groups that report to the Board:



Quorum

The Health & Wellbeing Board will operate according to the Council's Constitution and according to these Terms of Reference. A meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Board shall not be quorate unless at least a quarter of the voting members, rounded up, are present. There are currently 9 voting members, so the quorum, rounded up, is 3 voting members.

As a committee of the Council, except where it is set out in these Terms of Reference the convening and conduct of meetings will be in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules approved by the Council.

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