

Memorandum of Understanding between the Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board and Board Sponsors for Health and Wellbeing Strategy Aims

Background

The Health and Wellbeing Board brings together local leaders and decision-makers, to work to improve the health and wellbeing of Rotherham people, reduce health inequalities and promote an integrated approach.

Amongst a range of roles, the board is responsible for:

- Overseeing and driving the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, 2018-2025.

A key mechanism to achieve this is through board sponsors: the board identifies two sponsors for each aim from its member organisations, who have strategic oversight and ownership of their respective aim.

The Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Strategy has four aims

- *Aim 1: All children get the best start in life and go on to achieve their full potential*
- *Aim 2: All Rotherham people enjoy the best possible mental health and wellbeing and have a good quality of life*
- *Aim 3: All Rotherham people live well for longer*
- *Aim 4: All Rotherham people live in healthy, safe and resilient communities*

In their role in overseeing and driving the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the board sponsors also facilitate the other roles of the board:

- Leading action to reduce health inequalities in Rotherham and tackle the wider determinants of health to ensure the health of our most vulnerable communities is improving the fastest.
- Identifying priorities and needs within our system, and mobilising action to respond to these priorities.
- Setting the strategic direction for the Place Board and Place Plan.
- Influencing other bodies and stakeholders, including those with a role in addressing the wider determinants of health to embed health equity in all policies.

Board sponsors – Role

Board sponsors have strategic oversight of their respective aims. They ensure actions delivering strategic priorities are on track, blockages are removed and opportunities for development are identified.

Board sponsors fulfil the following roles:

- To have strategic oversight and ownership of their respective aim, this includes:
 - Monitoring progress against aims and removing blockages
 - Providing strategic steer and identifying opportunities to develop their aim, including action to reduce health inequalities and actions that support integration of delivery
- To be champions for their aim within the board and board activities
- To be champions for health and wellbeing priorities in their organisations

Two sponsors are usually in place for each aim. It is acknowledged that in case of absences, some responsibilities/activities may be more difficult to fulfil.

Activities and responsibilities

To fulfil the roles set out above, board sponsors will:

Oversight of action plan and progress monitoring

- Review updates on their aim's action plan, before it goes to publication for each board meeting
- Present an update to the board (once-twice/year, supported by policy officer) on one of the aims to review progress and discuss any issues
- Receive regular updates from lead officers and/or delivery groups to develop constructive relationships – this could be through quarterly meetings with lead officers, or update meetings where requested
- Remove identified barriers or blockages where within their power

Aim development

- Provide strategic steer when strategy and strategic priorities are reviewed
- Provide strategic steer when action plan is being refreshed and sign off their section before the action plan goes to full board
- Regular review of action plan to identify gaps, including through annual meeting with DPH and policy officer
- Provision of strategic input to relevant strategic or delivery groups

Board sponsors are supported by the policy officer who will:

- Collate and circulate updates against the action plan in advance of each board meeting
- Prepare aim update presentations to the board and brief sponsors
- Coordinate aim updates to board sponsors, through regular meetings or briefings
- Refresh the strategy and action plan according to the strategic steer of the board and board sponsors

Lead delivery officers contributing to the action plan will:

- Provide regular updates on their actions in advance of each board meeting
- Provide info and updates to board sponsors as requested and reasonable
- Present or report updates to the board as requested

Review

To be agreed in March 2023 – subject to sign off at Health and Wellbeing Board.
Reviewed annually, aligned with the board's Terms of Reference.