

Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board Meeting on 24 March 2023

On 24/03/2023, the Board met in the Council Chamber of Milton Keynes City Council.

After brief updates from the Chair and Chief Executive, the following items were discussed:

1. **Questions from the public.** The answers to these questions focussed on:
 - a. the importance of healthy diet and an active lifestyle in maintaining good health;
 - b. the support the ICB is providing to Ivel Medical Centre in Biggleswade, including with the recruitment and retention of staff, and that no action is needed from patients whilst primary care services are transferred to a new provider; and,
 - c. confirmation ICB Executives are happy to meet with those wishing to discuss the advancement of the Living Wage in BLMK.
2. **Resident's Story** – members heard directly from a Milton Keynes resident about her journey to address intense back pain and the difficulties faced in gaining appropriate diagnosis and treatment. On many occasions the resident did not receive patient-centred, integrated support. The Board discussed how to learn lessons from this experience.
3. **Integrated musculoskeletal (MSK) and pain service** – the Board supported the proposed approach to tendering for new MSK services, including the development of place-based services, and closer integration with voluntary and mental health support. This Board discussed this approach in the context of the resident's story, and how the proposed approach would seek to address the issues raised by providing personalised, holistic support.
4. **Primary Care – “Fuller” Programme** – the Board reflected on the useful “Board Seminar” session held on 24 February 2023 with Professor Claire Fuller and committed to continue to support the development of integrated neighbourhood teams across Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes. These teams are made up of local partners across and outside of primary care, all working closely together to best support residents.
5. **Tackling Health Inequalities for Children and Young People** – the Board agreed to adopt a targeted approach to this work in BLMK. This means identifying a population or cohort of patients who are

experiencing significant inequality and working in collaboration with them and their community to understand issues in depth before testing interventions and scaling those that work.

6. **Delegation of Community Pharmacy, Optometry and Dentistry** – the Board formally accepted delegated commissioning of these services from NHS England, noting that the first year of this work will be about achieving a successful transition.
7. **BLMK Joint Forward Plan (JFP)** – the Board agreed that the BLMK JFP plan, covering at least a 5-year time horizon, will focus on: i) the rapid expansion of our population to 2040 and beyond, ii) addressing shared, ‘wicked’ issues to improve health outcomes and tackle inequalities, and iii) wider determinants of health and well-being to support communities to thrive. The Plan uses insights from the ICB’s engagement with partners and the public to date and will be published in June 2023 following further engagement, including with Health and Wellbeing Boards, NHS Trust Boards and VCSE groups.
8. **Financial and Operating Plan 2023/24** – the Board discussed financial planning, reducing the elective backlog and plans to manage hospital flow and agreed for the final plan to be signed off by the ICB Chief Executive following discussions with partner organisations’ CEOs.

Our next meeting will be at 9 a.m. on 30 June 2023, at Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford Beds, SG17 5TQ.

Members of the public and partner organisations are always welcome to join us in person or on-line.

A link to the Board papers and to join the meeting will be available [here](#) a few days before the meeting. If you have any queries regarding this summary please contact: blmkicb.corporatesec@nhs.net