

BOARD MEETING

Title	Chair's Report		
Paper Date:	13 May 2024	Board Meeting Date:	21 May 2024
Purpose:	Discussion	Agenda Item:	07
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Executive Summary

This report aims to provide an update for the Board on the engagement and work undertaken by the Chair of BOB ICB. The Chair plays a key role within the Integrated Care System (ICS) alongside the CEO. This update is intended to be more systems-focused as opposed to the Integrated Care Board (ICB) alone. The report will incorporate reflections on Board effectiveness and any major updates on ICB and systems' governance.

Action Required

The board is asked to note this update.

Conflicts of Interest:	Conflict noted: conflicted party can remain and participate in discussion.
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This report contains information relating to organisations that partner members of the Board lead/are employed by. The perspective of these members is an important aspect to enable the Board to focus on where the ICB and system contribute to improvement.

Chair's Report

ICB Updates

1. There is a sharp focus on financial turnaround and deeper scrutiny across all financial and operational aspects of the ICB. This has meant the need to incorporate extra meetings and more agile governance. I have ensured that Provider Chairs are on board and aware of the urgency around the system position through meetings and regular contact.
2. Martin Earwicker (Chair, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust) will chair the System Transformation and Recovery Board on behalf of the ICS.
3. There is a continued need to strike a balance between the short termism of turnaround and the mid to long term priorities of the whole system, so that we continue to develop to meet our System remit and deliver for our residents.
4. I visited the Unipart Offices, our new Oxford base, on 1 May to view the space and thank the support staff who facilitated the move.

Convening and Engaging

Integrated Care Partnership (ICP)

5. The ICP meeting took place in Oxford on 21 March (the papers are available [here](#)). As a reminder, the diary is arranged so that these meetings take place soon after the ICB Board to ensure cohesion and a good flow of the relevant information between the Boards. The next meeting is due to take place on the afternoon of 19 June in Berkshire.
6. Councillor Jason Brock (Council Leader, Reading) announced his intention to step down from his role in Reading at the May election and therefore would be stepping down from the role of Chair of the ICP. Councillor Angela Macpherson (Deputy Leader, Buckinghamshire Council; Deputy Chair, ICP) will Chair the ICP until the committee elects a new Chair. The ICP meeting focused on planning and collaboration to improve health outcomes across our geography. The meeting acknowledged the progress made since the ICP's formation but highlighted the need for ongoing collaboration, particularly in the context of navigating financial pressures amid system goals and prevention strategies. Items covered included, system planning and transformation goals, the role of the ICP and concluded with an emphasis on navigating financial challenges and a discussion around a joint application for a programme to support health and employment services.

Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE)

7. I have been invited to address the VCSE sector at an online Alliance event on 13 June. We will be reflecting on the development of the ICS two years on and VCSE partnership within that, including a survey of Alliance members which is about to launch.

Acute Provider Collaborative (APC)

8. David Highton (Chair, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust) is now the chair of the APC as it seeks to regroup and improve its governance and effectiveness as a body. Steve McManus (CEO, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust) will provide the Chief Executive leadership. We look forward to the relaunch and reset of priorities for this vital delivery arm. I had a meeting with David on 9 April to gain his view and seek his assurance on the new arrangements.
9. I attended the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust (RBFT) People Committee at the invitation of the committee Chair on 2 May. I heard about the excellent work taking place at RBFT demonstrating its deep commitment to their workforce and its wellbeing. The provision of 24/7 healthy and hot food options are now available to all staff at the Trust. I asked about the Trust's work on Productivity and detailed analysis on the increase in full time staff numbers since 2019. This work is in train and will be monitored through the Trust's Finance subcommittee.

10. I have been invited to present the Best Innovation award at the RBFT annual CARE Awards event in Reading on the evening of 17 May.

Engagement

11. I visited [Bridewell Mental Health Charity Gardens](#) in Oxford on 12 April to see how Oxford Health work through charities to ensure continued patient care. The following was discussed:
 - i) The challenge of maintaining awareness of local services for teams who refer to Bridewell and similar organisations, GPs and Adult Mental Health Teams. Bridewell is listed in directories and is part of the Oxfordshire Mental Health Partnership. In practice, teams are under a lot of pressure and are not always aware of services available on their doorstep.
 - ii) Measuring impact – value of outcomes-based contract and recognition that measuring impact for mental health services is particularly difficult.
 - iii) Transport is a major challenge for accessing services in the county and certainly in West Oxfordshire.
12. I attended a Berkshire Prosperity Board Dinner on the evening of 13 May on behalf of the ICB at the invitation of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Reading, Professor Robert Van de Noort CBE and the Berkshire Local Authority Chief Executives. The purpose of the event was to discuss and get feedback on the newly formed Berkshire Prosperity Board. The six Berkshire local authorities came together to set up a Prosperity Board with partners to: Help share common goals across a functional economic area, providing new opportunities for collaboration on economic development issues; helping local organisations to speak with one voice to secure more funding from Government; and to support the delivery of key projects and initiatives.

System Governance

13. I attended the GP leadership forum on 28 March as part of continued engagement with our local GPs. The Primary Care strategy has now been widely discussed and the GP leaders continue to play an active part in the writing of some parts of the sections. We discussed the benefit of the GPs profile being raised so that they become part of the solution to the many changes required in the health system across the patch. The ICB will encourage invitations to be extended to GP leadership to ensure further involvement in system development.
14. I attended a regular meeting with Susan Parsonage (CEO, Wokingham Council) together with Rachael Corser (Chief Nursing Officer, BOB ICB) on 28 March. We discussed continuing healthcare and SEND services. We continue to work in partnership in these complex service areas.