

MK TOGETHER MANAGEMENT BOARD - PROGRESS REPORT

Author: Melanie Marshman (Head of Partnerships and Resilience [Milton Keynes Council])

Purpose of Briefing:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the progress made by the MK Together Partnership as well as the recent review of partnership arrangements.

For information**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the MK Together Partnership has continued to make good progress. It has developed well, reflecting the reforms set out in the Children and Social Work Act 2017, particularly ensuring that the safeguarding partners (the council, the police and the health service) play a leading role.
- 1.2 The MK Together Management Board brings together senior leaders from key agencies in Milton Keynes to lead the delivery of strategic priorities on behalf of the partnership including our multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. The Management Board is chaired by Michael Bracey, Chief Executive of Milton Keynes Council. It has met regularly over the past two years despite the pandemic with 10 meetings being held since January 2020.
- 1.3 The Management Board benefits from consistent, senior level representation from key local agencies, including the Council, Thames Valley Police and the NHS including BLMK Clinical Commissioning Group, Milton Keynes University Hospital Foundation Trust, and the Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust (CNWL).

2. Revised Partnership Arrangements

- 2.1 The Management Board has reviewed the MK Together partnership arrangements in the light of the Wood Review of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements which was published in May 2021. Some changes have been made as a result including:
 - The number of affiliated boards has reduced to five: risk, assurance, review, tasking and child death. Assurance, which has been led by the Bedfordshire and Luton Clinical Commissioning Group (BLMK CCG), will now be chaired by the independent Safeguarding Scrutineer. This reflects wider developments in the system as the CCG integrates with the Integrated Care System (ICS).

- Representation from primary schools is being secured in addition to the existing representation from secondary school safeguarding leads.
- The interim chair of the newly formed Voluntary Sector Alliance, Clare Walton, has joined the MK Together Management Board. Although no longer represented on the Management Board, Healthwatch continues to play an important role in the partnership as members of the Assurance Board.
- The scope of the community safety partnership's annual survey will become a broader engagement exercise which will include a focus on safeguarding.
- Training and workforce will become a standing item of on the management board agenda providing the opportunity to highlight any areas where commissioning multi-agency training might need to be considered.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That the Board note the changes and the progress made. A [revised partnership handbook](#) was published in November 2021 which sets out the partnership arrangements in more detail.

List of Annexes

None

List of Background Papers

MK Together Handbook and Appendices

https://www.mktogether.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/fv_MK-Partnerships-Handbook_11-2021.pdf

https://www.mktogether.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/fv_MK-Partnerships-Handbook-Appendices-2021.pdf