

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD  
PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**Public Questions**

**Question (1) from Mr Mick Moriarty:**

I wish to ask what arrangements and timetable has the Health and Wellbeing Board put in place to ensure that the four Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) covering Surrey - for Frimley Health, Surrey Heartlands, Sussex and East Surrey and South West London - receive proper scrutiny from Surrey County Council.

As I am sure you are aware, STPs are the plans that every part of England has to produce to show how care will be transformed and money saved over the next five years.

As a local resident I am concerned that these plans are being attempted at a pace and with a lack of money that will render them at best unachievable, and at worst deeply damaging to local services.

There has so far been insufficient public and staff involvement in the development of the plans, and the STPs have no formal place in law, so there are further concerns about how those responsible for implementing the plans will be held to account.

At the very least, these plans should be subject to proper scrutiny by the council's Health and Wellbeing Board.

Government minister David Mowat has stated that if STPs "are failing to address the needs of stakeholders, including councils, they won't go ahead."

Councillors should therefore be able to play an important role in ensuring that local people and health and care staff are properly consulted on STPs, and that damaging elements of the plans are reconsidered.

And most recently STP areas have been instructed to produce "credible implementation plans" to turn proposals into action while reconciling contracts and financial targets.

I hope you will ensure that the STPs covering residents in Surrey County receive the level of scrutiny and challenge that such important plans deserve.

**Reply:**

The NHS produced guidance in September 2016 that clarifies the roles of responsibilities of the relevant local bodies in relation to the Sustainability Transformation Plans (STPs)<sup>1</sup>. This guidance also reaffirms the legal requirement to consult and involve local people in the planning of health services.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is a strategic oversight Board comprised of health and social care commissioners and other bodies from across Surrey, its role is to set the strategic direction of health and social care delivery in the county. It would not be an appropriate forum in which to conduct scrutiny of the STPs, though it receives regular updates as to how the planning process is progressing:

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<sup>1</sup> 'Engaging Local People: A guide for local areas developing Sustainability and Transformation Plans' <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/engag-local-people-stps.pdf> (accessed 3 March 2017)

26 May 2016 – an informal meeting updating on the outline of STP plans  
8 December 2016 – Progress update on the Surrey Heartlands, Frimley and Sussex and East Surrey STPs.

Links to the minutes from the Board’s meeting on 8 December, as well as to the regularly produced public updates which provide information on Board activity have been included at the foot of this response.

It is important to note that every organisation on the Health and Wellbeing Board has had a role to play in producing and delivering the STPs, and this includes the local authority. The Chief Executive of Surrey County Council is the Chair for the Surrey Heartlands STP, and this is demonstrative of the level of commitment and engagement by both the NHS and Council.

Surrey County Council also has a Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board responsible for scrutinising health delivery. This Board has been actively engaged in reviewing the progress of the three STPs that cover Surrey’s geographical boundaries since May 2016:

31 May 2016 - Workshop with each of the three STPs presenting progress  
10 November 2016 - A further update to the Board from each of the STPs  
17 February 2017 - Surrey Heartlands presentation on its devolution proposals

Links to the minutes of the meetings on 10 November and 17 February 2017 have been included at the foot of this response.

These meetings have seen the Board make recommendations intended to encourage and widen public participation in the development of the STPs, and the Board will continue to present these as active challenges to local health services when changes are required.

The Board Chairman has been regularly meeting with those responsible for producing the STPs, and engaging with other regional health scrutiny partners in understanding how they can work collaboratively to scrutinise the STPs.

This activity is reported both in a Chairman’s report to every public meeting of the Board, and a regular report to the full Council. The Chairman welcomes the views of residents and staff, and is happy to take concerns forward as appropriate.

Both Boards recognise that close cooperation with South West London STP is vital to ensuring that the best possible health and wellbeing services are provided to the residents of north Surrey. We are currently working with the relevant partners to establish closer contacts with that STP.

Each STP is progressing according to locally defined challenges and opportunities, and health scrutiny will continue to input into these plans as they develop and evolve in the years ahead. It will do so by holding local decision makers to account, and acting as critical friend in order to strengthen the voice of local people in the planning, provision and operation of their health services.

**Mrs Helyn Clack  
Co-Chairman, Health and Wellbeing Board  
Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Health,  
Surrey County Council**

**Dr David Eyre-Brook  
Co-Chairman, Health and Wellbeing Board,  
Guildford and Waverley  
Clinical Commissioning Group**

**Mr Bill Chapman,  
Chairman, Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board,  
Surrey County Council**

Minutes from the Health and Wellbeing meeting on 8 December 2016:

<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/documents/q5054/Printed%20minutes%20Thursday%208-Dec-2016%2013.00%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board.pdf?T=1>

Health and Wellbeing Board Public Updates:

<http://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/about-us/surrey-health-and-wellbeing-bo-3/>

Minutes from the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board on 10 November 2016:

<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=433&MId=4836&Ver=4>

Minutes from the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board on 17 February 2017:

<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=433&MId=5174&Ver=4>

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