



Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Health and Care Partnership

Issue 05
April 2022

Welcome to the April issue of our partner newsletter for the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes (BLMK) Health and Care Partnership.

The new Health and Care Partnership, which comes into effect on 1 July 2022, brings together the NHS, local councils and voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations to deliver proactive and preventative services which are directly shaped by the health and care needs of our local population.

The aim of the Health and Care Partnership is for everyone in our towns, villages and communities to live a longer, healthier life. Working in partnership will enable us to combine our resources, do more and make a difference more quickly.

The Health and Care Partnership will address the wider determinants of health such as education, housing and jobs which can all effect a person's health. Population Health Management (PHM) will help us to understand people's health and care needs and how they are likely to change. It will underpin everything we do and enable us to build new models of proactive care and deliver improvements in health and wellbeing.

We will use insights from our communities, data about our population, new digital technologies and our workforce to inform what we do, ensuring we build it around our communities.



In this issue

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- How digital tools are supporting our communities
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- International Women's Day 2022



Got a story to tell?

We are keen to share your stories with our partners. If you have a great story that shows the benefits of integrated working, then please contact our communications team.

[✉ blmkccg.communications@nhs.net](mailto:blmkccg.communications@nhs.net)





Population Health Management - Think Big and Start Small

Nicky Wadely, Associate Director of Population Health Management at BLMK CCG, explains the role of population health management (PHM).

What is Population Health?

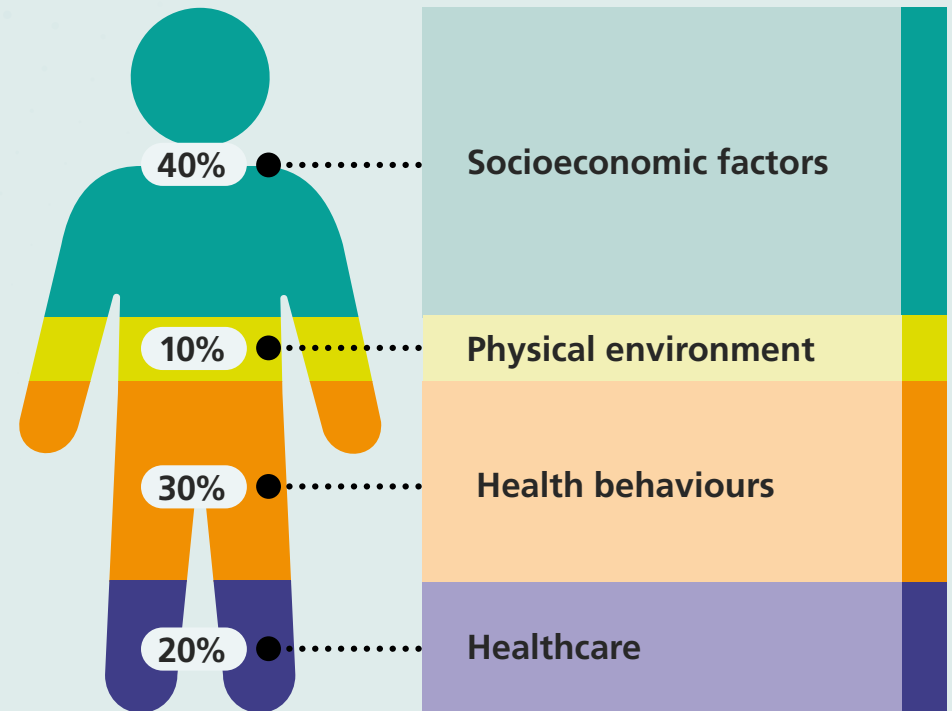
The King's Fund defines population health as:

"An approach aimed at improving the health of an entire population. It is about improving the physical and mental health outcomes and wellbeing of people within and across a population, while reducing health inequalities. It includes action to reduce the occurrence of ill health, action to deliver appropriate health and care services and action on the wider determinants of health. It requires working with communities and partner agencies."

What factors effect health outcomes (wider determinants)?

There are lots of factors that impact our opportunity to live a longer, healthier life. Having a good standard of education, working in a growing local economy, feeling safe in our communities, having the support of family and friends, and enjoying living in our local places can all help improve people's lives.

What influences good health?



There are also things we do that increase our risk of poor health such as smoking, lack of exercise, eating unhealthy foods etc.





Population Health Management - Think Big and Start Small

Why is PHM important?

We know the future likely demand for health and social care services will become increasingly challenging. Our approach in BLMK focuses on identifying where we can do things differently in collaboration with partners to improve outcomes, focusing on prevention and earlier interventions.

How will need be prioritised?

We know there are areas in BLMK where there are health inequalities. Population Health data can help us identify areas where people experience poorer health outcomes and what causes people to die prematurely.

Our [Population Health Management Strategy](#) supports our partners to use our shared data and intelligence to design new models of proactive care and deliver improvements in health and wellbeing, making the best use of our collective resources.

How will impacts from interventions be measured?

PHM involves intelligence-led planning and design of services, aligning services with population need to improve outcomes. The information gathered provides the basis for agreeing “**what**” interventions are implemented to “**who**” in the population cohort and “**how**” this will be measured to evaluate the difference interventions are making.

How is PHM used for workforce planning?

Analysts segment the population and link data from multiple sources, so teams can better understand population needs. Once we have a picture of current and potential future population needs, we can design interventions and deploy workforce skills such as Social Prescribers, Health and Wellbeing coaches and Physicians Associates, to deliver the interventions.

Think Big and Start Small

It will take some time to see the overall impact in terms of adding “years to life and life to years”, but already teams across BLMK are making a real difference to people by using these approaches.



Nicky Wadely,
Associate Director of Population
Health Management BLMK CCG





Improving population health on the frontline – new film shows Population Health Management in action

Jane Waddington used to call the GP or 999 every day and spent every day in the front room until professionals in BLMK Health and Care Partnership used a PHM approach to identify and reach out to her through social prescriber Victoria Harding.



[Watch Jane's story](#)



How digital tools are supporting our communities

Data and Digital is a key strategic enabler of the new BLMK Health and Care Partnership. As an integrated care system our aim is to improve the way we use data and technology to help new models of health and care services. Here are two current examples of how technology is being used to help improve health and care of our communities.



Shiny Minds: A new app has been launched that is designed to give staff working in general practice, community pharmacy, dental and optometry across Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes the power to be resilient, live with confidence and transform their life.

The app provides access to over 100 personalised masterclasses, interactive exercises and an online community.



[Read more](#)

Whzan: Care homes across Central Bedfordshire are using innovative technology to remotely monitor their residents' conditions enabling them to spot signs of deterioration and respond as early as possible to any changes, reducing unnecessary hospital admissions and ambulance visits.

60 Whzan 'Blue boxes' have been deployed in care homes across Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes with plans to increase the number in the next six months.



[Read more](#)





New Appointments for the Health and Care Partnership

As the NHS, local councils and community groups in Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes formalise their history of strong partnership working across health and social care, we are recruiting to key appointments to the BLMK Health and Care Partnership and Integrated Care Board.



Councillor Tracey Stock, who is ward councillor for Sandy, Beeston and Blunham, has been appointed Chair Designate of the new BLMK Integrated Care Partnership when it is formed on 1 July 2022. Councillor Stock is a champion for health and wellbeing locally and looks forward to working with all partners.



[Read more](#)



Dean Westcott has been appointed as the Chief Finance Officer for the new NHS BLMK Integrated Care Board from 1 July 2022. Dean currently holds the joint role of Chief Finance Officer for the BLMK CCG and ICS Executive Finance Lead and is looking forward to working with colleagues to find new and innovative ways of delivering services for local people across the system.



[Read more](#)



Gold Accreditation for Neonatal Care

We're delighted to share that the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the Luton and Dunstable University Hospital (L&D) has become the first hospital in the East of England region to achieve gold accreditation for the Bliss Baby Charter. They are one of only nine in the UK to date.

This is a fantastic achievement for the team and showcases their commitment to family-centred care.



[Read more](#)





International Women's Day 2022



International Women's Day

We celebrated International Women's Day by sharing blogs, videos and news stories from staff across the system to support this year's theme: **#BreakTheBias**. Here's a round-up of activities.



An NHS campaign encourages organisations to Break the Bias and promote flexible working for all staff. **Kate Jarman**, one of the founders of the FlexNHS campaign, works at Milton Keynes University Hospital.



[Read more](#)



International Women's Day Spotlight Blog - **Dr Sarah Whiteman**, Clinical Chair of BLMK CCG, who discusses her training, her time working as an RAF officer before joining the NHS.



[Read more](#)



Anya Frazer from Young Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire, is a volunteer and student who shared some of the women who inspire her.



[Read more](#)



Jane Whild, Trustee at Healthwatch Milton Keynes, shared her pledges for positive action and making women visible to #BreakTheBias.



[Read more](#)

