

NATIONAL QUALITY BOARD

28 June 2021

13:00-15:00

Virtual meeting

MINUTES

PRESENT		
Ted Baker (Chair)	Stephen Powis (Chair)	Rosie Benneyworth
Aiden Fowler	Anna Severwright	Clenton Farquharson
Kate Terroni	Imelda Redmond	Hugh McCaughey
Jonathan Bengier	Kate Terroni	Kevin Harris
Wendy Reid	Viv Bennett	Mark Radford
Aidan Fowler	Ruth May	Yvonne Doyle
William Vineall		
IN ATTENDANCE		
Dominique Black	Helen Causley	James Reid
Kathryn Lupton	Lauren Young	Meera Sookee
Alison Tariq	Pete Scott	Jane Docherty
Em Wilkinson-Brice	Jyothi Nipanni	James Adams
Bola Owolabi	Dawn Chamberlain	Tansy Evans
Cathy Hassell	Becky Hodson	
APOLOGIES		
Lee McDonough		
AGENDA		
1. Welcome & Minutes of Previous Meeting		
2. Beneficial Changes Programme – Learning from the Frontline Pandemic Response		
3. Health & Wellbeing for Staff		

4. NHS Health Inequalities Programme
5. Mortality Policy Implementation Board – an update
6. Any Other Business

1. Welcome & Minutes from Previous Meeting.

1.1 TED BAKER (chair) welcomed all to the third National Quality Board (NQB) of 2021. Attendees and apologies were noted as above.

1.2 The minutes of the previous meeting on 12 April 2021 were approved and agreed as a true and accurate record and would be published in due course, alongside the associated agenda and papers.

1.3 There were no additional Matters Arising to table before progressing to the meeting agenda.

2. Beneficial Changes Network – Learning from the Frontline Pandemic Response

2.1 HUGH MCCAUGHEY provided an introductory overview of the Beneficial Changes Network before DAWN CHAMBERLAIN, JAMES ADAMS AND JYOTHI NIPPANI were invited to present the item (paper 1).

2.2 The NHSE-I Improvement Directorate Network was commissioned by the National Incident Response Board to collate and understand the frontline innovations and changes that were happening at pace in response to the pandemic. The Beneficial Changes Network was established in response. It has received thousands of submissions from frontline stakeholders and partners across health and care and is harvesting their innovative and collaborative initiatives to share the learning.

2.3 DAWN CHAMBERLAIN summarised the approach, achievements and learning taken by the Beneficial Changes Network in 2020-21 deep dives of two local innovations were provided – the Community Frailty network in Surrey and the Right Place First Time initiative on emergency admissions flows from South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust,

2.4 The NQB was asked to:

- 1) Endorse the annual cycle of the Beneficial Changes Network and consider how best to embed the recommendations from the Rapid Review
- 2) Note the worked example of new models of care across sector boundaries relating to frailty and discuss next steps
- 3) Note the gap around evaluation capacity in the NHS, including in NHS England, and discuss the best way to mitigate that gap.

2.5 Members were supportive of the programme's activities, noting:

- a) The effectiveness of the approach and model taken, and the need to consider how the learning and innovations can be systematised to deliver transformative care
- b) The need to build evaluation capacity to support this work as the programme moves to a multi-year cycle. It was suggested that Public Health Clinical Fellows (under Regional Directors of Public Health) may be well placed to deliver evaluation.
- c) The potential for the network's activities to influence national programmes and national policy, and Integrated Care Systems.
- d) The need to link frailty initiatives with prevention programmes
- e) Strong support for the emphasis on co-production in the programme and need to consider how this could be embedded as business-as-usual.

2.6 NQB also discussed how the dynamics of the pandemic has allowed innovation to take hold where similar programmes may not have been as successful in the past. Necessity and temporary changes in data sharing rules were cited as factors.

3. Health and Wellbeing for Staff

3.1 Professor EM WILKINSON-BRICE, was invited to introduce the item.

3.2 This agenda item provided NQB with an update on the NHS staff health and wellbeing offer in response to COVID-19, and future actions and priorities for the offer. Slides also detailed the support offered to ethnic minority NHS staff through the COVID response and beyond, and the links between this work and the NHS People Promise.

3.3 The programme has been overseen by a steering group that was established early into the pandemic. The programme has been designed to build on, not replace, local health and wellbeing offers. The work has prioritised eight actions that were identified as high impact. The intention is that the programme will continue to develop, with increased awareness and support for staff health and wellbeing seen as an enduring legacy of the pandemic.

3.4 The NQB was asked to:

- 1) Note the work undertaken by Professor EM WILKINSON-BRYCE and team.
- 2) Consider how NQB could support the Health and Wellbeing programme.

3.5 NQB noted:

- a) Significant and ongoing issues arising in the primary care workforce, given the pressures faced by primary care both through the pandemic and now into service recovery, and the differing contractual status of primary care staff. The NQB questioned whether more could be done to support primary care staff, including through Primary Care Networks

b) The need to consider a people plan for social care. It was noted how System People Plans will be able to include the social care workforce.

c) The potential for the pandemic to widen inequalities, noting the specific workstreams focussed in this area and the need to continue growing this work.

3.6 The NQB fully supported the work and were invited to provide further feedback to Professor WILKINSON-BRICE outside of the NQB's meeting. Professor EM WILKINSON-BRICE was invited back to a future NQB meeting to provide an update on these activities.

4. Health Inequalities Improvement Programme

4.1 STEVE POWIS (Chair) invited Dr BOLA OWOLABI to present paper 3, providing an introduction to the new NHSE-I Health Inequalities Improvement Programme.

4.2 The slides presented covered the vision and priorities for the programme, key deliverables and governance arrangements. They also addressed the complexity of health inequalities, what the NHS' role should be in tackling inequalities, and how the pandemic has brought pre-pandemic inequalities into sharp focus.

4.3 The NQB was asked to:

- 1) Note the work of the Health Inequalities Improvement Programme.
- 2) Support the programme and identify key linkages with NQB member programmes.

4.4 NQB members discussed:

- a) The need to approach health inequalities through a children and young people's lens.
- b) The need to communicate the vision of this work and embed it in the development of integrated care systems

4.5 STEVE POWIS (Chair) requested that Dr OWOLABI be invited back to NQB in the future for a fuller discussion of this important work.

5. Mortality Policy Implementation Board – an update

5.1 HELEN CAUSLEY and AIDAN FOWLER were invited to present an update to NQB (paper 4) on the creation of a new Mortality Policy Implementation Board, as requested by NQB at its April 2021 meeting.

5.2 Between the April and June NQB meetings, development work has taken place. It's clear that issues around mortality policy are complex, and there is a desire for any new Board to properly support patient and family engagement, and not just limit itself to deaths occurring in hospitals.

5.3 The NQB was asked to:

- 1) Note the activity undertaken to-date.
- 2) Invite a further update following the proposed workshop.
- 3) Invite members to the workshop.

5.4 NQB expressed a desire for the work to consider a population approach and noted the links between this work and the previous item concerning inequalities. NQB also suggested that the Board should re-consider patient/citizen voice in the Board membership and suggested alignment with the work of the Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch.

5.5 TED BAKER (Chair) encouraged NQB members to join the workshop. He also requested that the work be brought back to the NQB once the proposed development workshop has taken place.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 STEVE POWIS (Chair) provided an update on the Quality Accounts review, commissioned by NQB at its April meeting. NHSE-I's Quality Strategy Team is undertaking this review and will present the work at a future NQB meeting.

6.2 The next NQB meeting will take place on 14 September 2021.

DRAFT