

# CHORLEY PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM EXECUTIVE

## UPDATE ON THE MEETING OF THE CHORLEY PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM BOARD

### PURPOSE

This report provides an update on the inaugural meeting of the Chorley Public Service Reform Board held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at Chorley Town Hall.

### BACKGROUND

The role of the Board as stated in the terms of reference for the Chorley Public Service Reform Partnership is:

- To hold the Executive to account for implementing the strategic vision and decisions made
- To bring the views of the community to the decision making process.

Each of the partner organisations was requested to identify an accountable representative with a mandate to hold their organisation to account.

### UPDATE

The Board was chaired by Peter Wilding OBE as an independent agent with the ability to bring objective challenge to the proceedings based on extensive experience of working on similar programmes nationally and also a baseline understanding of the reform programme through participating in the commission.

The Board heard an update from the Chair of the Executive on the progress against the year 1 work streams: building community capacity; establishing the single front line; and, enhanced multi-disciplinary approaches. It was noted that some good progress had been achieved in a short space of time. The reform principles were also generally accepted. However, it was noted that the scale and pace of the work needed to be lifted and a whole system approach needed to be taken if Chorley partners were to fully meet the spirit of the reform principles.

The Chair facilitated a broad and open discussion with the Board on their role, taking views from each partner but then focussing in on joint ambitions and priorities and how to use the Board as a forum to drive progress on shared agenda's. The Chair posed three key questions to each member:

1. **What is your most pressing issue at the moment?**
2. **What are the biggest strategic challenges facing your organisation in the medium term?**
3. **What do you want to get out of this partnership?**



Issues ranged from immediate operational concerns such as the closure of Chorley A&E through to bigger cross-sector challenges, specifically budget cuts and managing demand for services. Challenges included organisational and geographical boundaries, recruitment and managing risk within the system. Board members collectively agreed that they wanted action, not just a talking shop, with an overall objective of better outcomes for local people.

The Board agreed the need to:

- Identify and sign up to common principles and narrative of reform objectives, and the joint and individual commitments we will make to achieve those reforms
- Clearly articulate how Chorley public service reform fits with other work across the sub-region as part of a coherent strategy rather than a collection of unconnected initiatives.
- Take opportunities to accelerate and broaden delivery of reform drawing on feedback from work stream delivery by the Implementation Group

## **ACTIONS**

Proposed future actions included:

- Chair of the Board to write to Implementation Group and Executive Chairs and meet to discuss progression of the points above.
- Facilitation work with the Executive to be arranged for July meeting

