

Kent and Medway Strategic Partnership for Health and Economy

Draft Terms of Reference for consideration by KMEP & ICP

1. Purpose

The Kent and Medway Strategic Partnership for Health and Economy (SPHE) is a multiagency group that brings together relevant partners across Kent and Medway to drive improvement in shared economic and health outcomes.

Establishing SPHE was committed to in the Kent and Medway Economic Framework and has been agreed by the Kent and Medway Economic Partnership (KMEP – the Local Growth Board for Kent & Medway) and the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Partnership (ICP). It will act as a bridge between these two statutory partnerships, providing a place to lead on their shared ambitions around improving health while growing the economy and improving understanding across the system on shared health and economic challenges, opportunities and activity.

Taking its strategic direction from the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Strategy and Kent and Medway Economic Framework, SPHE will provide expert advice and guidance on key areas of partnership work related to health and the economy. It will aim to develop and strengthen connections between partners working in this area and the integration of services and support where this is the best way to improve outcomes. It will identify and pursue opportunities that will benefit shared health and economic outcomes including maximising national funding and innovation opportunities and opportunities at local level.

SPHE will fulfil the national expectation under the WorkWell programme for Integrated Care Systems to have an ICS-wide Work and Health partnership bringing together stakeholders including from primary care and the wider NHS with local authorities, DWP, voluntary and community organisations and employers.

2. Status and links with other groups

SPHE is an advisory group and does not have formal decision-making powers or collectively hold responsibility for a budget. It may advise on the development of strategy and policy, the design and provision of services and support, and the allocation of resources, but decisions will be made through partner organisations' normal governance arrangements.

SPHE will make connections with and aim to work with other partnership groups whose remit is to improve economic or health outcomes, including the Kent and Medway Employment Taskforce, Kent and Medway Skills and Employability Group, Kent Housing Group and the Inequalities Subcommittee of the ICB's Inequalities, Prevention and Population Health Committee. It will work to enhance and not duplicate existing activity, using its unique position and remit to work across health, care and the economy for the whole Kent and Medway system.

3. Work programme

The work programme for SPHE will be agreed by SPHE, informed by the strategic priorities around health and the economy set out in the Integrated Care Strategy and Economic Framework, and will flex according to the circumstances, opportunities and needs at the time.

Initially, SPHE will focus on driving the development of the Kent and Medway Integrated Work and Health Strategy between summer 2024 and spring 2025. The Strategy will aim to improve and integrate support for people and employers so that people with physical and mental health conditions and disabilities can start, stay and succeed in work.

SPHE's role in driving development of the Work and Health Strategy will include:

- advising on strategy development and the development of a shared vision and ambitions that will shape the strategy,
- reviewing the evidence base and mapping exercise that will inform the strategy,
- advising and supporting on stakeholder engagement and communication,
- receiving and commenting on project planning documents and strategy drafts,
- identifying short, medium and long-term opportunities to improve and integrate work and health support and advising on and leading action to progress these across partner organisations,
- identifying, where appropriate, priority areas (whether geographical areas, business sectors and/or groups of people), where further action may be required,
- supporting the reporting of progress and approval of the Strategy by the ICP and KMEP.

SPHE will convene task and finish delivery groups undertaking specific tasks as necessary. This may initially include strategy development, analytics and communication groups.

Later, other focus areas for the group may include exploring how the visitor economy, the built environment and leisure provision can support wellbeing, how the local agri-food sector can support healthier lifestyles including through improving local supply chain opportunities and how employers in Kent and Medway including anchor institutions and the many SMEs that operate in Kent, can support employee wellbeing.

4. Membership

Chairing: Co-chairs, the nominated ICP and KMEP leads

Members will be made up of officers leading services and support that aim to improve health and economic outcomes.

To support SPHE's initial focus on driving the development of the Work and Health Strategy, membership will be based on the organisations involved in supporting people with health conditions and disabilities to start, stay and succeed in work.

[Drafting note – subcategories are being used to ensure a good spread of representation and will be removed when membership is finalised]

Referral points and touchpoints:

GPs and primary care	Clinical Director, PCN GP representation TBC from the ICB
Job Centre Plus	See below
Employers	See below
Housing providers / services	Kent Housing Group to be asked to suggest representation.

Providers of support:

Providers of health and care services	HCP Directors to be asked to suggest representation Adult Social Care Better Care Fund leads
Providers of mental health services	Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust Public Health consultants specialising in mental health ICB mental health commissioning
Lead for Learning Disability and Autism	LDA Collaborative representative
DWP / JCP	Regional leads DWP and JCP
Skills development / education support	K&M Employment and Skills Group KCC Community Learning and Skills Medway Skills Supported Employment – provided in Kent by The Education People
Voluntary and Community Sector skills / employability support providers	VCSE Steering Group to be asked to suggest VCSE representation CXK

Social prescribers / care navigators	Involve to be asked to join or suggest social prescribing provider representation Medway social prescribing lead KCC social prescribing lead
Workplace health support	Medway Healthy Workplaces
Allied health professionals	ICB Allied Health Professionals Lead to be asked to suggest AH representation including physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy etc.
District Councils	Joint Kent Chiefs to be asked to suggest District representation (Alison Broom is health portfolio lead)

Employers and business representative organisations:

Representatives of Kent and Medway Businesses	Business Advisory Board to be asked to suggest representation Employment Taskforce likely to be covered by other members
Chambers of Commerce	Kent Invicta
Federation of Small Businesses	FSB Kent
Anchor institutions	People / HR leads from KCC, Medway and ICB Chief Execs/Chief People Officers of NHS Trusts to be asked to suggest Trust People representation – also ask if other Trusts representation needed
Representatives of private recruitment organisations	<i>TBC – can we approach through business networks?</i> <i>Connect 2 Kent (KCC owned recruitment agency)?</i>
Industry Sector Leads	Business leaders from agri-food, creative, life sciences, construction, manufacturing, retail (to be informed by evidence base) <i>Can we approach through BAB/KMEP?</i>

Spanning across:

Representative from the ICP (Co-Chair)	TBC (likely to be SRO)
Representative from KMEP (Co-Chair)	TBC (private sector representative)
Public Health leads	One KCC and one Medway TBC
Economic Development leads	One KCC and one Medway TBC
Strategy / policy	One KCC and one ICB
Business intelligence	TBC from analytics teams
Communication and engagement	TBC from ICS Joint Comms Group

5. Meeting Arrangements

Meetings will be held bi-monthly in the first instance and then adjusted according to need.

Meetings can be in-person, online or hybrid, to be determined by the Chair(s).

Administrative support will be provided jointly by KCC's Economy and Health Strategy teams.

Any member of SPHE can ask for an item to be put on the agenda for a future meeting by contacting the Chair(s).

6. Reporting

SPHE has a dual reporting arrangement to KMEP and the Kent and Medway ICP. It will report on its work at appropriate points, when guidance or approval is required and/or when requested by KMEP or the ICP.

7. Review of Terms of Reference

The terms of reference will be reviewed by SPHE, informed by the advice of KMEP and the ICP after the Work and Health Strategy has been completed.