Digital Capabilities Network

COSLA

Digital Health & Care Scotland

CONTEXT

The Digital Health and Care Strategic Portfolio Board has been replaced by a Strategic Leadership Board (SLB) for Digital and Data Transformation. The SLB has agreed governance and the establishment of a new Board to oversee Digital Capabilities.

The Digital Capabilities Board supports the shift to embedding digital ways of working as a pre-requisite to improving outcomes in health and social care. This includes supporting organisations to review progress and impact through regular updates via the Digital Maturity on-line platform and engagement with learning offers. Of particular importance is to increase the adoption of digital ways of working to progress more meaningful integration of health and social care services and delivery. The Board will support and be informed by the Digital Capabilities Network.

This network will host thematic meetings, open to colleagues from all relevant organisations. The first Board meeting is scheduled for 19th March and will meet every three months.

The aim of this first meeting was to identify what we can do as an individual and at organisational level to ensure our collaborative practices are effective. We explored the benefits of collaborative working and sought to identify principles of collaboration as well as support requirements to enable collaboration.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO TAKE TO THE DIGITAL CAPABILITIES BOARD

1. Health and Social Care Partnerships not being able to influence decisions at council or Health Board level. **Recommendation to take default settings off MS Teams and allow for more collaboration.**

2. Identify the organisational pros and cons at the start of any collaboration.

3. Top-down encouragement to use the M365 tools available (and paid for) now to encourage effective and productive collaboration.

4. Challenges around the data flows, using different systems and processes. **Is there an opportunity to bring these together in a standardised way?**

5. In a challenging fiscal environment, how can we support the change needed nationally. **Is there an opportunity to support innovation and provide any seed funding (Smart Care Homes example)?**

6. For organisational leaders to agree and communicate their shared purpose or goal in relation to digital transformation- **can we better help parties understand how our work contributes to achieving this goal?**

7. Organic collaboration doesn't need specific projects to make it happen, versus mandated collaboration. Some organisations enthusiastic and others that might not want to. **Can we be clearer on expectations of all organisations?**

The Terms of Reference for the Network Meetings was shared by email on 10 March and is attached. Members can provide feedback by email to **Alan Milbourne**.

MEETING STATS

24 attendees

3 breakout sessions

7 recommendations

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting will be on Thursday 02 May, a separate invite will be sent this will cover the topic: **Digital transformation at a financially challenging time.**

Dates for future meetings have been set for rest of the year, but frequency will be reviewed. They will take place 2pm - 4pm on:
- Thursday 02 May
- Thursday 27 June
- Thursday 22 August
- Thursday 17 Oct
- Thursday 12 December

Invitations for each meeting will be circulated via existing communication channels. We will be re-starting the Support Workshops for those involved in co-ordinating their organisations Digital Maturity Survey in March. A Teams link to these has been sent by Scottish Government to all known contacts.

Digital Health and Care
Digital Capabilities Network
Terms of Reference (Draft)

Context

To date our aim for transforming the digital skills and leadership for all staff across health & care organisations has been overseen by the cross-sector Digital Skills & Leadership Programme Board and its supporting Digital Skills & Leadership Reference Group. This has now been reviewed and replaced by the new Digital Capabilities Board that will further build on our success and have a more collaborative and wider strategic aim across health and care to inform and deliver our transformational aims.

- The Digital Capabilities Board will support the shift to embedding digital ways of working as a pre-requisite to improving outcomes in health and social care. Of particular importance is to increase the adoption of digital ways of working to progress more meaningful integration of health and social services and delivery.

- In order to achieve this, the focus is not so much on the technology itself but on the collective mindset and ambition to continually and consistently drive forward the need for the right digital skills, digital leadership, learning & development resources and career opportunities both now and for the future.

The Digital Capabilities Board will be informed by the new **Digital Capabilities Network.**

Purpose & Remit

- The Digital Capabilities Network will consist of a wide membership across health & care organisations in the public, voluntary and independent sectors.

- The Digital Capabilities Network will support and inform the Digital Capabilities Board to achieve its aims by hosting thematic meetings in the form of aims and challenges based on our transformational journey so far and the road ahead.

- To collectively challenge the understanding of digital capabilities and contribute to the 'themed challenge' process by sharing knowledge from their own organisations and partnerships.

- Working collaboratively and broadly across health & care it will identify solutions to avoid duplication of effort and maximise use of expertise and resources to fully realise our transformational aims.

- To reinforce the necessity of collaborative working across the public, voluntary and independent sector in developing the digital capabilities of all organisations and workforce employed within health and social care/social work.

- To ensure digital capabilities solutions meet the ambitions of the Digital Health & Care Strategy and Delivery Plan.

Membership

The Digital Capabilities Network will have a cross-sector membership from those representing the interests of digital capabilities across health and social care organisations in the public, voluntary and independent sectors. This will also include policy makers across Scottish Government Departments.

Digital Health & Care Team
Scottish Government
March 2024