

TEES VALLEY JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

13th March 2020

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Hartlepool Borough Council: Councillors G Hall (Chair) and B Harrison
 Middlesbrough Borough Council: Councillor J Rathmell
 Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council: Councillor S Smith.
 Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council: Councillors E Cunningham and C Gamble

Also Present: Caroline Breheny, Middlesbrough Borough Council
 Alison Pearson, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
 Gary Woods, Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council
 Dominic Gardner, Chris Lanigan, Avril Lowery and Leanne McCrindle,
 Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust

Officers: Joan Stevens, HBC Statutory Scrutiny Manager
 Jo Stubbs, HBC Democratic Services Officer

29. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were submitted for Councillors B Loynes (Hartlepool Borough Council), A Hellaoui and E Polano (Middlesbrough Borough Council), N Cooney (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council) and L Hall (Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council),

30. Declarations of Interest

None

31. Minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2020

The minutes were approved subject to the amendment that the attendance of the following officers be noted:

Caroline Braly, Middlesbrough Borough Council
 Alison Pearson, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
 Gary Woods, Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council

32. Quality Accounts 2019/20 – Covering Report (*Statutory Scrutiny Manager*)

The Statutory Scrutiny Officer advised those present that representatives from North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (NTHNFT), North Tees Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (NEAS) and Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) had been asked to attend the meeting to present their quality accounts. Of these organisations only TEWV had been available to attend the meeting. However NTHNFT and NEAS had both attended individual authority meetings and NEAS had supplied a presentation which had been circulated to members in advance of this meeting. Consequently individual authorities would now be responsible for sending out separate quality accounts declarations in respect of these 2 organisations. The Statutory Scrutiny Officer noted that there appeared to be a difference of approach to these matters between authorities with some requesting individual quality accounts. She suggested that consideration be given to a more consistent approach across the local authorities in the new municipal year. She also confirmed that a joint declaration would be submitted on behalf of TEWV.

Representatives from TEWV advised that the quality accounts for their organisation would not be available until 14th April, However they were able to give an updated on their Quarter 3 status and activities. Progress in their Quarter 3 actions stood at 89% with 40% of quality metrics reporting green (a similar situation to Quarter 2. The most significant delays were on the personalised care planning priority with a further roll out of training paused until the availability of new documentation on CITO. It was also possible that Dual Diagnosis Quarter 4 actions may not be delivered by the end of March with these being replanned and progress accelerated where possible. In terms of quality improvement metrics improvements in patients feeling safe on wards had not been sustained and this would therefore be a priority going forward. Improvements had been made in the use of physical restraint and further work on this issue was detailed,

Quality improvement actions for 2020 for TEWV were also detailed as follows:

- CYP to Adult Service Transitions
- Reduce the number of preventable deaths
- Personalising Care Plans
- Increasing the % of inpatients who feel safe on our wards
- Detailed improvement plans

In terms of patients feeling safe on wards in many cases this tended to be linked to substance misuse. There were a number of ways detailed to combat this including bodycams for staff, increased use of dogs and sensors in bedroom ceilings which could detect changes in vital signs or movement such as large gatherings of people. These sensors were

particularly useful as mental health areas were all single ensuite bedrooms so easier to monitor.

Members requested further information on the following:

- Had consideration been given to the reopening of wards in the area thereby allowing users to be closer to their families? The representatives advised that the external NHS England review was still pending and it was hoped that beds could be reopened in the area when this was completed. Members expressed concern that this had not yet been completed as they would have expected it to be a priority. The representatives confirmed that a monitoring sub-committee had already been set up to monitor any recommendations which might be made and these would be a priority. The Statutory Scrutiny Officer confirmed that an update on West Lane was expected to come to the June meeting.
- Was work on CYP service transitions being conducted in isolation or in co-ordination with other agencies? The representatives confirmed that this was part of a national collaboration involving education, adult and children's services in conjunction with local authorities. Stockton children's social care director was leading on behalf of the Tees Valley and directors of all local authority children's services in the area were working on pathway commissioning work. Processes for transitioning to adult services were already in place involving a multi-disciplinary review in the months leading up to it and there was also an increased drive in policy development of services for over 25-year-olds. Members were pleased to hear about this collaborative approach but asked that it include schools as well. The representatives acknowledged this saying that having mental health support teams in schools would be an enormous boost. They also continued to provide a service on evenings and at weekends.
- How was staff morale? Representatives acknowledged these were exceptionally challenging times however there were a number of support and wellbeing services and those in charge ensured that staff were informed of any stories due to come out in the media. They worked hard to ensure that any positive stories were highlighted such as the recent national award given to the crisis support team in Roseberry Park. Members suggested that awards of this type be promoted on social media. Representatives confirmed that their communications team were doing this as much as possible however some things could not be promoted widely due to concerns around confidentiality. Other initiatives included team of the week, staff awards and the making a difference programme.
- Was TEWV prepared for the potential impact of Covid-19? Representatives confirmed that they had ongoing business continuity plans and a flu pandemic plan, all of which would require development to meet the particular requirements of this virus. A

table top exercise had been undertaken to discuss the practicalities and the latest guidance was being communicated via daily calls. However the situation was fast moving and difficult to predict meaning that different scenarios needed to be considered.

Decision

That the carry-over of Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust priorities for 2020 be approved and included in a combined third party quality accounts declaration on behalf of all Tees Valley local authorities

That quality accounts declarations for North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust and North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust be submitted by individual Tees Valley local authorities.

33. Annual Hand-Over of Chair and Support and Joint Committee Work Programme 2020/21 *(Statutory Scrutiny Manager)*

The Scrutiny Support Officer advised Members that as part of the rotational arrangements Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council were due to chair, and provide administrative support to, the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. Appointments to the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair would be made at the first meeting of the new municipal year. Details were given of work programme items due to be considered in the municipal year. The majority of these were due to be considered in June and the Statutory Scrutiny Officer indicated that consideration might need to be given to moving some of these items to alternative meeting dates. A representative from Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council acknowledged these comments and confirmed that they would set the next meeting date when they were able. The Statutory Scrutiny Officer and Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Decision

That the report be noted

The meeting concluded at 11am.

CHAIR