

Health & Wellbeing Board

A meeting of Health & Wellbeing Board was held on Wednesday, 20th October, 2021.

Present: Cllr Jim Beall(Chair), Cllr Lisa Evans, Cllr Jacky Bright, Cllr Dan Fagan, Cllr Sylvia Walmsley, Martin Gray, Ann Workman, Fiona Adamson, Sarah Bowman - Abouna, Karen Grundy (sub for Jon Carling), Alex Sinclair (Sub for David Gallagher), Shaun Mayo (sub for Dominic Gardner), Hilton Heslop (Sub for Julie Gillon), Peter Smith

Officers: Michael Henderson

Also in attendance: Nicola Childs, Clare Farley

Apologies: Jon Carling, David Gallagher, Cllr Ann McCoy, Dominic Gardner, Julie Gillon, Jonathan Slade

1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 September were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3 Needs Led Neurodevelopmental Pathway for Children and Young People

The Board received an update on the Needs Led Neurodevelopmental Pathway for Children and Young People.

Members noted that strategic intelligence, accessible through the triage process was enabling providers to improve the services, which were linked into a Bubble of Support. For example, there were discussions with the Mental Health & Learning Disability Partnership to enable the triage panel to refer children directly into the 'Children & Young People Improving Access to Psychological Therapy' providers who could support them with low level anxiety.

It was explained that a successful bid to NHS England had been made to further improve the needs led neurodevelopmental pathway. Twelve months of additional funding had been obtained to align Occupational Therapy to the triage process and to enable sensory programmes to be developed for under 4's and over 12's, without the need for a diagnosis. Additionally, the funding, awarded would be used to develop an offer for children who had experienced trauma.

Discussion

- The Board noted that referrals to the over 5's pathway had been higher than anticipated and this was being reviewed.

- NE Autism Society would be working with schools to help with support in that setting.
- A review of 12-months of data from TEWV and the CCG would be presented to the SEND Strategic Group in due course, along with further information relating to the Under 5 pathway.

Members agreed that the progress around reducing waiting lists and improving the pathway had been excellent and demonstrated the continuing success of partnership working in Stockton on Tees. This view was supported by the positive feedback that had been received from parents and carers. The Board felt that, given the current improved position, it should pass responsibility for monitoring the service to the SEND Strategic Group.

RESOLVED that:

1. the 'needs led' approach and work undertaken, to date, be endorsed.
2. monitoring of the pathway be undertaken by the SEND Strategic Group, going forward.

4 Outbreak Management Update Presentation

The Board was provided with a presentation relating to Outbreak Management.

Key Information:

- Stockton-on-Tees currently has the fifth lowest 7-day infection rate in the North East.
- All North East LAs had seen an increase in rate compared to 7 days ago and 4 weeks ago.
- Vaccination uptake in Stockton-on-Tees was higher than the national average.
- There had been 3 COVID-related deaths registered in Stockton-on-Tees in the most recent 7 days.

Discussion:

- There was a School Vaccination Team providing vaccinations to pupils, on site. There had been a very promising number of parents' consent forms returned. Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust was delivering the Covid Vaccination, within the Borough's Schools, but had received no additional funding from NHS England, which had led to a slow roll out. Work was ongoing to maximise capacity of the vaccination teams. It was noted that the Trust also provided the Council's 0 – 19 Service, under separate arrangements

- It was explained that there was a Tees Valley Group that monitored vaccinations in schools and ensured that there was a flow of information between all concerned.

RESOLVED that the update and discussion be noted.

5 Child Death Overview Panel

The report summarised the work undertaken to improve Child Death Overview arrangements. It updated the Board on the conclusions of work to consider merging the approach with Durham, and outlined the specific areas being taken forward to improve the process.

It was explained that to make improvements the following actions were being taken forward:

- a. Local authorities would increase their funding to support additional capacity.
- b. Redcar and Cleveland Council would retain responsibility for the coordination and delivery of the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) process, including a refresh of procedures, processes and communication methods.
- c. A coordinator would be recruited.
- d. Additional paediatrician time would be provided.
- e. A CDOP would be introduced, as a means of improving efficiency and reducing administration required.
- f. the option of a dedicated child death nurse would be explored further, but that this required further consideration on the need, role and potential delivery methods.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

6 Domestic Abuse Steering Group Update

The Board received an update relating to the Domestic Abuse Steering Group (DASG), which acted on behalf of the Health & Wellbeing Board as a multi-agency group, to steer the strategic direction and operational delivery for preventing, intervening early, and responding to domestic abuse in Stockton-on-Tees.

It was explained that key areas of business for the DASG in the coming months included:

The response to the Domestic Abuse Act

The Act required a Local Partnership Board to be in place – the Domestic Abuse Steering Group provides this function. It also requires that (directly or through a representative) the victim-survivor voice and that of their children was present at the Local Partnership Board. It is recommended the Steering Group will consider current representation in light of this as part of the Strategy refresh process.

Local authorities were now legally obliged to lead a collaboration with system partners to produce a domestic abuse strategy based on a needs assessment.

A one-year grant has been provided to local authorities to support the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act.

Refresh of the Stockton-on-Tees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2017-22

The Domestic Abuse Strategy for Stockton-on-Tees was due a refresh. This was an opportunity to reflect on where partners were now and to refocus shared outcomes, as a collaborative. This would be facilitated through interviews and development sessions. Some Members of the Board would be directly involved in the refresh and all members were invited to contribute any thoughts/comments they may have.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

7 Vulnerable Groups

Consideration was given to a report that proposed the first steps to a better understanding of the needs of people with multiple / complex vulnerabilities, focusing, initially, on domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health.

An approach was proposed to produce recommendations, for interventions, focussed around this population to provide cohesive and effective support, learning from the experience of the pandemic, working closely across partners and using a community assets-based approach. It was proposed that these interventions would then be tested and the learning used to inform next steps.

It was proposed that the work be carried out, as detailed in the report, with a more detailed plan being developed and commenced. Recommendations would include any resource implications. It was proposed that Public Health worked closely with partners and presented periodic updates to the Board, at an appropriate frequency, to be determined.

It was agreed that the planned work would need to link with the Fairer Stockton On Tees Framework and Targeted Action Areas.

RESOLVED that the work identified, in the report, be agreed and updates be provided to future meetings of the Board.

8 Integrated Care System

Members were provided with an update on the Integrated Care System.

It was explained that an ICS Executive Design Group was considering options associated with any future NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB), including its constitution.

The Board strongly felt that in terms of place based partnerships, within the Tees Valley, this should be aligned with local authority areas, led by Health and Wellbeing Boards

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

9 **Members' Updates**

- Officers at Stockton on Tees Borough Council had been announced as finalists in the Social Worker of the Year Awards, in the following areas:

Practice Educator of the Year

Adult Social Worker of the Year

Social Justice Advocate Award

Winners would be announced on 17 November 2021.

- An update was provided about winter access arrangements, to health services. Work was ongoing to increase capacity, if possible, as we headed into winter.
- Stockton on Tees Family Hub had been successful in receiving UNICEF's Gold Award.
- Healthwatch had concluded work with TEWV about public consultation.
- Stockton on Tees Borough Council had been Awarded the Armed Forces Covenant Gold Award. Board Members were asked to review their organisations' activity to ensure a 'no disadvantage' approach to veterans, people in the services and their families, was being applied.

10 **Forward Plan**

The Forward Plan was noted.