

Health & Wellbeing Board

A meeting of Health & Wellbeing Board was held on Wednesday, 19th May, 2021.

Present: Cllr Jim Beall (Chairman), Cllr Jacky Bright, Sarah Bowman - Abouna Cllr Lisa Evans, Cllr Dan Fagan (Sub for Cllr Lynn Hall), Cllr Luke Frost, Cllr Ann McCoy, Martin Gray, Jon Carling, Alex Sinclair (Sub for David Gallagher), Dominic Gardner, Barbara Bright (Sub for Julie Gillon), Jonathan Slade,

Officers: Michael Henderson, John Devine, Gareth Aungiers (SBC) Katie McLeod (CCG)

Also in attendance: Cllr Clare Gamble

Apologies: Fiona Adamson, David Gallagher, Julie Gillon, Lynn Hall, Peter Smith, Steve Turner, Ann Workman,

1 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

2 **Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

3 **End of Life Strategy**

The Board considered a presentation relating to a Tees Valley Palliative and End of Life Care Strategy.

The presentation provided details of the context in which the strategy had been developed and what was anticipated would be achieved, including

- to make the last stage of people's lives as good as possible by aligning systems and processes, so that everyone works together, confidently, honestly, and consistently to help that patient and the people important to them
- Improve engagement across the Tees Valley.
- Create a cohesive pathway
- Learn from carers, the public and service providers.

The Board was informed that the Tees Valley CCG would:

- develop a communications and engagement strategy
- issue engagement communications to all stakeholders
- design and agree engagement sessions
- issue general communications to raise awareness of the project
- evaluate research at a suitable time
- progress plans to implement service re-design

Discussion:

- It was suggested that Mental Health Services and the Community Sector could assist in the pathway.

- Areas of good practice would be identified, in the Tees Valley, and there were opportunities to work together and be more resilient
- It was important to support people to have their end of life care in the place of their preference.

RESOLVED that the presentation and discussion be noted.

4 Outbreak Management Update – Presentation

Members received an Outbreak Management Update presentation, for the Borough:

- Stockton-on-Tees rate had decreased in the previous 4 weeks and in the last 7 days
- Newcastle, North Tyneside and Middlesbrough have seen an increase in rate compared to 4 weeks ago
- Vaccination uptake in Stockton-on-Tees was higher than the national average
- There were cases across age groups but mostly young people / school children; over 60s had very low rates
- There were some remaining outbreaks across key settings but much reduced (some workplaces, education; but care homes now very few)
- Reduced impact on hospitals
- Prevention and response activity continued – future-proofing and forward planning, learning from national pilots e.g. support for isolation
- 6 new community-based testing centres – ongoing work to promote uptake; also targeted testing offer linked with support offer in communities
- 47 community collect locations, uptake was good
- Local-Zero going well - all cases now followed up locally
- Inequalities plan lead by CCG
- Clinics for asylum seeker & migrant population; homeless population; planning approach to areas of greater deprivation / workplaces
- National & local processes re: surge testing
- Indian variant more transmissible than previous variants
- Ongoing support to local businesses as progress along roadmap
- Supportive visits & warning / enforcement activity where required; majority of local businesses compliant

Discussion:

- Members noted that workplaces had numerous options, with regard to accessing testing, including registering with the government and directing employees to community testing sites. Testing kits could also be ordered online, by individuals.
- It was noted that 87% of North Tees Hospital staff had had the first vaccination, with 75% having the 2nd.

RESOLVED that the update and discussion be noted.

5 Stockton on Tees draft SEND Strategy

Members considered a report that presented the Stockton-on- Tees Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy for children and young people aged 0 – 25 and their families.

The strategy set out a shared vision for children and young people with SEND that was the same as for all children and young people: that Stockton-on-Tees was a great place to grow up, where children and young people were protected from harm and supported to be the best they could be in life. To realise this vision the Strategy identified six key priorities:

- Working in partnership with families
- Understanding the needs and strengths of children, young people and their families
- Developing a system which met children, young people and family's needs and was accountable for improving outcomes
- Ensuring that most children and young peoples' needs can be met in local, inclusive mainstream schools
- Developing and maintaining a range of local, high quality specialist provision for those who needed it
- Ensuring children and young people achieved their potential, their ambitions and lived as independently as possible.

Each of the priorities had a clear set of partnership commitments, which would form an action plan which would be monitored by the SEND strategic group.

The strategy would be steered by the governance structure, as outlined in Section 6 of the strategy document, and was due to be considered by the Council's Cabinet and Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group committees, in June. Following formal approval, the Strategy would be promoted through a Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group and Stockton Parent Carer Forum joint communications plan to support wider communication across the borough.

Discussion:

- The co-production was an important aspect and partners and families were invested in, and excited about, the Strategy.
- Stockton's Abbey Hill School was, nationally, highly regarded and provided high quality services in the community.
- Reference was made to the Strategy's vision and members noted that some of the specific wording, in that vision, had been chosen by families.
- The Board was reminded of its role in overseeing a significant amount of work to reduce autism diagnosis waiting times and provide services that supported families, which needed them, regardless of any diagnosis. If

members were aware of any issues relating to support provided to a specific family, they were strongly advised to raise them with the Director of Children's Services, immediately.

- It was explained that when children at Abbey Hill reached 18 years old there was established processes to support them in terms of their aspirations and ambitions e.g. education, employment.

RESOLVED that the Strategy be endorsed, and its associated Action Plan be presented to a future meeting of the Board, when developed.

6 Members' Updates

Members provided updates, including:

- The position at North Tees Trust was positive with levels of activity close to normal. Pilots around reintroducing visiting were in progress.
- The legacy of Covid 19, with, nationally, 1.1 million less referrals into secondary care, 300k less cancer referrals and 45k cancer cases not diagnosed. Covid 19 had highlighted health inequalities even more, particularly in terms of deprivation and ethnicity
- Vaccinations were proceeding well but there were still 500k people not vaccinated in the region.

RESOLVED that the updates be noted

7 Forward Plan

Members noted the Board's Forward Plan