

Health & Wellbeing Board

A meeting of Health & Wellbeing Board was held on Wednesday, 30th March, 2022.

Present: Cllr Jim Beall (Chair), Cllr Lisa Evans, Cllr Ann McCoy, Cllr Sylvia Walmsley, Martin Gray, Ann Workman, Fiona Adamson, Sarah Bowman - Abouna, Jon Carling, David Gallagher, Elspeth Devanney (Sub for Dominic Gardner), Hilton Heslop (Sub for Julie Gillon)

Officers: Michael Henderson, Jo Linton

Also in attendance: Jo Heaney, Cllr Louise Baldock

Apologies: Cllr Jacky Bright, Cllr Dan Fagan, Dominic Gardner, Julie Gillon, Jonathan Slade, Peter Smith

1 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

2 **Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

3 **Integrated Care System (ICS) Update**

Members received a verbal update, from Dave Gallagher, Chief Officer, CCG, relating to the implementation of the local ICS.

Executive roles were being appointed to the Integrated Care Board (ICB). Legislation was still going through Parliament but was anticipated that that ICBs would become legally established with effect from 1 July 2022.

Members were reminded that the local Integrated Care Partnership was likely to be based on the Tees Valley and would have a wide range of stakeholders.

Reference was made to the Integration White Paper. The Paper generally confirmed how partners had planned to work but there was a lack of clarity in some areas, such as the expectation of a single person accountable for the delivery of a shared plan and outcomes at place level. The position would be monitored.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

4 **Draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022**

Members received a report relating to the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022, presented by Jo Linton, Pharmaceutical Advisor.

It was explained that the statutory review of the 2018 PNA was on-going and a draft document had been produced for consultation. The Board was required to consult a specified range of organisations on the draft of the pharmaceutical needs assessment. Consultees had to be given a minimum of 60 days to submit their response, beginning on the day by which they were 'served with a draft'. The updated PNA was due to be published by 1st October 2022.

In the interim, the HWB was required to keep the PNA up to date by maintaining the map of pharmaceutical services, assessing any on-going changes which might impact pharmaceutical need, or require publication of a Supplementary Statement.

Members noted that, since the Board was last updated in July 2021 two Pharmacies in Stockton-on-Tees had consolidated into one premises therefore reducing the number of pharmacies in the area, by one. The Director of Public Health had prepared a Supplementary Statement and an updated map of pharmaceutical services on behalf of the Board and this would be published on the Council's website.

Members considered the draft PNA and discussion could be summarised as follows:-

- 26 of the Borough's 42 pharmacies provided flu vaccinations and pharmacies had provided 33% of Covid vaccinations
- There was an underuse of essential services and particularly repeat dispensing, which was very low.
- GP led urgent care was prescribing 24/7 and did have some dispensing capacity for certain drugs.
- Availability of delivery services in the Borough would be included in the PNA and any potential gaps in this regard.
- Consideration would be given to how the Board may engage with pharmacies and discuss what other services they could provide, in addition to essential services.

RESOLVED that:

1. the draft PNA 2022 be approved for statutory consultation with specified organisations.
2. authority to make any necessary amendments to the draft PNA, prior to consultation, be delegated to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Chair of the Board.
3. the planned 60-day consultation be undertaken April / May 2022.
4. following the consultation, a final draft PNA 2022 be submitted to the HWB for approval.
5. the supplementary statement and updated maps, which would be published on the Stockton-on-Tees HWB website, in relation to the current PNA (2018), be noted.

5 Outbreak Management Update

The Board received a presentation from Sarah Bowman Abouna, Director of Public Health, relating to the management of the Covid 19 Outbreak in the Borough..

The presentation included details of:

- Infection Rates
- Testing
- Hospital Admissions and deaths
- Vaccinations
- Outbreaks by settings
- Prevalence of Post Covid Syndrome in the Community
- Future monitoring and surveillance
- National Policy Changes around isolating, free testing and contact tracing.
- Outbreak Management
- Inequalities
- Messaging
- Future work and potential issues.

Discussion:-

- Admissions to hospital were increasing. Many admissions were for reasons other than Covid but on testing were found to be Covid positive.
- Basic messages needed to be continually reinforced.
- Incidence of 'Brain Fog', a term being used to describe a Post Covid Syndrome symptom, where, those suffering, were experiencing chronic episodes of poor concentration and other neurological issues were increasing. It was pointed out that a dedicated item, relating to Post Covid Syndrome, would be considered at the Board's next meeting.

The Board then received a presentation, also provided by the Director of Public Health, called 'Living with Covid-19' developed by Regional Directors of Public Health and Partners, which was a framework to reduce harm. The framework operated on agreed principles and had set clear goals and short and medium term priorities.

The Board was advised of plans to establish a local health protection body. The body would basically evolve from the Covid Control Group but have a broader remit, picking up management of other infectious disease, chemical and biological threats, links to emergency planning, screening, immunisation and other health protection issues.

RESOLVED that:

1. the update be noted.
2. proposals for the establishment of a health protection body, as described above, be presented to the next Board, for consideration.

6 Domestic Abuse Steering Group Update

The Board considered a presentation from Mandy Mackinnon, Public Health, that provided an update on the work of the Domestic Abuse Steering Group.

It was explained that a considerable amount of work had been undertaken to review and refresh the Domestic Abuse Strategy including interviews with partners, to identify key issues.

The Board noted the planned next steps in the refresh of the strategy, including:

- Continued work of a small multi agency working group to assist the Steering Group's work
- Development of how progress would be monitored.
- Development of a strategic action plan
- Work to refocus the Steering Group to move to a strategic multi agency problem solving group, with day to day business being monitored by the smaller working group.
- Continued work to achieve strategic alignment across the system.

The presentation also provided the Board with updates relating to national funding and the procurement, by the Council, of specialist Domestic Abuse (DA) Services, mobilising by 1 April 2023.

Discussion:-

- Referrals to services had dropped, during Covid lockdowns, but were returning to pre covid levels. There were a large number of referrals coming through Children's services.
- It was noted that services were being developed to support children and young people who had been misreferred to the neurodevelopmental pathway, when their needs were actually related to trauma caused by exposure to incidents of Domestic Abuse.
- It was agreed that it was important to understand what delivery model would be most effective when commissioning Domestic Abuse services, next year.
- Members noted some of the DA education work, with schools, and plans for further work, via the Healthy Schools' Programme.
- The planned work, with workers most likely to hear disclosures of domestic abuse, was supported. It was suggested that in addition to hairdressers, barbers, shop assistants etc locksmiths and glaziers should be added.
- The needs of the BME population would be identified in the DA Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and would influence commissioning.

RESOLVED that the update and discussion be noted.

7 Health and Wellbeing Partnerships' Update

Members received a report that described work being undertaken by the Adults' Health and Wellbeing Partnership and Children and Young People's Partnership.

The report covered the following meetings:-

Adults' Health and Wellbeing Partnership – 11 November 2021 and 26 January 2022.

Children and Young People's Partnership – 24 November 2021 and 19 January 2022

RESOLVED that the update report be noted.

8 Members' Updates

Catalyst indicated that the demand for Food Banks from February to March, had increased by 50%.

Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys' Mental Health Trust had undergone a restructure and partners would receive details.

A SEND Green Paper had been published by the government around alternative provision and the Board would receive updates.

9 Forward Plan

The Board's Forward Plan was considered and noted.

Adult Social Care Reforms would be added.