

Health & Wellbeing Board

A meeting of Health & Wellbeing Board was held on Wednesday, 27th April, 2022.

Present: Cllr Jim Beall (Chair), Cllr Lisa Evans, Cllr Dan Fagan, Cllr Ann McCoy, Cllr Sylvia Walmsley, Martin Gray, Emma Champley (Sub for Ann Workman), Fiona Adamson, Sarah Bowman - Abouna, Jon Carling, Alex Sinclair (Sub for David Gallagher), James Graham (Sub for Dominic Gardner), Hilton Heslop (Sub for Julie Gillon), Peter Smith

Officers: Tanja Braun, Michael Henderson, Gavin Swankie,

Also in attendance: Gillian Butler, Nadine Corner, Katie McLeod, Lynn Morgan, Nicole Madden, Bethany Roberts, Vivien Saunders

Apologies: Cllr Jacky Bright, David Gallagher, Dominic Gardner, Julie Gillon, Jonathan Slade,

1 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

2 **Minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2022.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

3 **Post Covid Syndrome**

Consideration was given to a multi - agency presentation, relating to Post Covid Syndrome (previously referred to as Long Covid)

Members noted that Post COVID syndrome was a multi-system condition with a wide range of debilitating symptoms spanning fatigue, breathlessness, cough, chest pain, heart palpitations, fever, headache, muscle pain, gastrointestinal problems and loss of taste and smell. Many people with Post COVID Syndrome experienced a range of psychological and cognitive symptoms, such as depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and 'brain fog' or other cognitive impairments.

The Board was provided with details of the rate of Covid infection in the Borough, during the whole pandemic, which was higher than the national and regional average. It was explained that this infection rate may lead to higher rates of Post Covid in Stockton on Tees, than in other areas. Post Covid would impact on residents' ability to work and learn and would add pressure to local NHS services.

It was estimated that, in the Borough, around 13,300 people had suffered from Post Covid, since 2020.

It was noted that self-reported Post Covid was greatest in the following groups: ages 35 – 49, females, people from deprived areas, those working in social/health care and education, those with other activity limiting conditions.

Prevention of Post Covid was best achieved through being vaccinated and Infection, Prevention and Control measures.

Members were informed of help and treatment available to those suffering from Post Covid, including:

- NICE Guidance on managing long term effects of Covid.
- Self Help Resources – via the NHSE 'Your COVID Recovery' website British

Lung Foundation phone line.

- Tees Valley Post COVID Clinics. Each of the three Acute Trusts working across the Tees Valley had established Adult Post COVID Assessment Clinics, which focused on the principles of triage, MDT assessment and onward management of required symptoms according to patient need. For Stockton, this was provided by North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust.
- PCP COVID resilience project psychological support
- Tees Active Service – Supporting through Physical Activity initiative
- Community rehabilitation support.
- Assessment clinics for Children and Young People which were being provided at the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton

Members received detailed information about how the Post Covid clinics were operating including the assessment and referral processes and staffing levels. Post COVID data was provided to the Board and it was noted that 398 Stockton on Tees residents had been referred to the Post COVID Clinics.

Discussion:

- Members noted that work was ongoing to encourage engagement with the 'Support through Physical Activity' initiative and to understand reasons some people may be hesitant to attend sessions. Members indicated that they would welcome an update on the initiative at some point,
- It was difficult to assess whether current range of treatment and support was sufficient and further evaluation would take place, overtime, to identify any gaps.
- GPs involved in Covid Clinics may have a role in supporting Post Covid support.
- It was important to maintain partnership links, that had ben established during Covid, to respond to Post Covid.
- The Council had developed very good links into workplaces and schools, during COVID, and these links should be used to raise awareness of the post COVID support and pathways available. Increased uptake in the Better Health at Work Awards would help strengthen and embed the links that had been established.
- Awareness raising of Post Covid would be important going forward and highlighting the help that was in place.

It was suggested that the Board receives an update in 6 months, when there may be more information about future funding of services.

RESOLVED that the update and discussion be noted and an update be provided in 6 months.

4 Stockton on Tees Better Care Fund Update

Consideration was given to a report that provided an overview of the Stockton-on-Tees Better Care Fund (BCF) and the latest performance against BCF metrics 2021/22

It was noted that the purpose of the Stockton-on-Tees BCF was to enable people to live at home longer, be healthier and get the right support where required. The focus was

on integrated health and social care, primary prevention, early diagnosis and intervention and supported self-management, with the aim of closing the health and wellbeing gap and reducing health inequalities.

The Fund also supported other local and regional aims and outcomes, including the Ageing Well programme which was a blueprint for attenuating rising health service demand to support older people with frailty in their communities. In addition there was a focus on maintaining sustainable services with the pressures caused by the on-going Covid pandemic.

In addition to the report members received a presentation, and video, that highlighted the difference that services, provided through BCF, had made to people's lives. It was noted that, in the last 12 months, the fund had facilitated a range of support, together with service development and improvements, including:

- 243 Household income reviews, generating £629,783
- Development of holistic support strategies with the voluntary sector
- 3,500 hospital discharges
- Development and maturing of the integrated Single Point of Access (iPSA)
- 1150 people had received support from Rosedale Centre or Reablement Services.

The Board received a further presentation relating to the following work, which was supported by the BCF:

- the North Tees and Hartlepool Education Alliance, which provided training support to care homes.
- Implementation of the National Early Warning Scores (NEWS) Monitoring System. The system helped in flagging early signs of ill health in care home residents.
- Digital Monitoring of the elderly.
- iPSA-Clinical Triage Service Provision.
- The Frailty Team at North Tees and Hartlepool Trust

Discussion:

- The Board agreed that the services described were a good example of integrated working that hadn't required any significant structural change, just a willingness to work across organisational boundaries.
- Issues around late admissions to Rosedale, from hospital, had largely been addressed by a processes of staggered admissions, overseen by a BCF funded post of Community Matron.
- The Council was involved in national work to understand why some parts of the community didn't access services, with a view to engaging and providing support where possible.
- Performance against set metrics 2020/21 confirmed the success of the Stockton on Tees BCF, in terms of delivering improved outcomes for older people.

RESOLVED that the work described in the overview of the Stockton on Tees Better Care Fund be supported and the metrics for 2020/21 be noted.

5 Outbreak Management

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.

Members noted;-

- estimated infection rates.
- testing and vaccination data, including future provision in the Borough.
- activity in care homes and hospitals.
- National Testing Policy and availability.
- Ongoing local action

It was proposed that future outbreak updates should be presented to the Board, on a quarterly and exception basis. Any urgent outbreak issues would be reported, between reporting periods, if necessary. Covid related items, such as Post Covid, would be presented as determined.

Discussion

- The Board highlighted concerns about a tv advert relating to wearing masks in A&E and other settings. The concerns would be raised with ICS communications, via the Acute Trust.

6 Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Update

The Board considered an update presentation relating to Children's Emotional Health and Wellbeing.

The presentation included:

- Details of the national and local context/issues
- The impact of Covid 19
- The national thrive framework which aimed to improve outcomes for children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.
- Redesign Plans and progress
- The expansion of Mental Health support in schools through the Mental Health Support Team (MHST)
- Details of a new model of support for Children in Our Care

Discussion:

- Members were reminded that the majority of children, at schools in the Borough, were emotionally well and local data indicated improvements in the number of referrals being made and waiting times.
- Links to the Healthy Schools Programme, in terms of prevention, were highlighted.
- The SHEU survey was planned for years 5, 8 and 10.
- Work of the MHST was likely to be split around 50% whole school and 50% targeted.
- Members noted the close working between partners that had taken place to

identify the best model possible.

RESOLVED that the update and discussion be noted.

7 Health Protection Assurance Arrangements

Consideration was given to a report that proposed a local Health Protection Collaborative to provide support systems-working and assurance in relation to health protection matters. A draft terms of reference, for the Collaborative, was provided.

The Collaborative would provide quarterly updates to the Board

RESOLVED that the Health Protection Collaborative be established and the draft terms of reference be approved.

8 Integrated Care System Update

Members received an verbal update, from Alex Sinclair, Tees Valley CCG, relating to the implementation of the local ICS.

Constitution

- Governing Bodies would be asked to review and recommend the final version towards the end of May.
- Work was ongoing re Standing Financial Instructions, Terms of Reference, Scheme of Delegation etc and these would progress as the work on the Operating Model concluded.

Due Diligence

- Work continued and CCG due diligence assurance would be provided to relevant committees and boards.
- Support from internal audit with due diligence.

Readiness to Operate

- The Bill was expected to receive royal assent this month
- The remaining Exec vacancy – Executive Chief Nurse post was out to advert and interviews were scheduled for 16 May.
- 2 Non-Exec positions were out to advert. Interviews 16th May.
- Full staff consultation for the transfer from CCG to the ICB was underway.
- Discussions were ongoing around funding delegation
- Session with Stockton Borough Council and other place partners had been arranged, for May.
- ICS wide stakeholder session were being arranged, for late June, to include places' views of challenges, opportunities, risks and initial thoughts on place-based arrangements.

- 2022/3 was a year of transition, in line with the timelines in the integration white paper.
- ICP development was underway and work plan was in development

Discussion

- It was noted that an amendment to the Bill meant that politicians could serve on the Integrated Care Board (ICB).
- The position around Primary Care seats on the ICB would be clarified.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

9 Members' Updates

There were no updates provided

10 Forward Plan

Members noted the Board's Forward Plan.