

Minutes of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board

**10th July, 2017 at 5.30pm
at the Town Hall, West Bromwich**

Present: Councillor E M Giles (Chair);
Councillor Ahmed (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Crompton, Downing, Hevican, Goult,
Lloyd and Shaeen.

Apologies: Councillors O Jones and S Jones.

10/17 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th June, 2017 be approved as a correct record, subject to Councillor Lloyd being added to the list of those present.

11/17 **Overview and Update on the Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership**

The Board received an update on the Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (formerly the Black Country Sustainability and Transformation Plan).

The Black Country's Sustainability and Transformation Partnership was one of 44 national Partnerships with a purpose of delivering a more sustainable health and care economy, improving quality and experience of care, improving the health of the population, enabling a more capable local economy equipped for self-improvement and reducing expenditure to support the closure of the £512million funding gap by 2021, set against a current expenditure of £2billion.

The Board noted the key proposals within the Partnership Plan and the projected savings they would achieve, supported by an allocation of £99million from a national Service Transformation Fund:-

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board – 10 July, 2017

Demand Reduction through Local Place-based Models of Care	£81m
Efficiency at scale through Extended Hospital Collaboration	£189m
Improving Mental Health and Learning Disability Services	£20m
Workforce Enabler	£14m
Infrastructure Enabler (estates and technology)	£27m
Future Commissioning	£82m

A Memorandum of Understanding had been developed and the 18 organisations involved in the Partnership would be asked to sign the agreement as a demonstration of their intent to work together for the common purpose of the Partnership. The Memorandum was not legally binding however.

The Board noted the programme structure and key reporting lines within the Partnership.

The key areas of focus for the Council in relation to the Partnership were:-

- To give consideration to the alignment of some or all of place based commissioning for Sandwell.
- The design of a new collaborative model of care in partnership with Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS providers.
- Understanding the impact of the Midland Metropolitan Hospital on health reconfiguration.

From the comments and questions by members of the Board, the following responses were made and issues highlighted:-

- There was concern at the size of the Black Country Footprint and the ability to achieve efficiencies on such a large scale.
- Patient transport would have to be looked at as part of any reconfiguration of services.
- The savings required would not be evenly spread across the

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board – 10 July, 2017

- local authorities within the footprint.
- It would not be viable to keep all four hospitals within the footprint open.
- Birmingham's health landscape was different to that of Sandwell's and West Birmingham's positioning in the Black Country footprint made it difficult for the City to give clear messages to its residents.
- The Clinical Commissioning Group was reluctant to invest in prevention activities and was of the view that it was the local authorities' responsibility.
- There was a national shortage of doctors and nurses, which would be worsened by the Government's decision to withdraw from the European Union ("Brexit").
- Sandwell would benefit from having the newest hospital in the country when the Midlands Metropolitan Hospital was open.
- Better use of digital technology would address staffing issues.

The Board would be kept up to date in the implementation of the Partnership Plan.

12/17

Overview of Sandwell's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

The Board received an overview of Sandwell's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Required under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 the Assessment: -

- looked at current and future health and care needs;
- looked at services and wider factors influencing care;
- identified health inequalities based on local data;
- provided evidence of the effectiveness of interventions and;
- described current provision and identified unmet need
- set out recommendation based on the above.

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment mirrored the priorities set out in Sandwell's Health and Wellbeing Strategy, underpinned by more detailed pieces of work – referred to as Chapters. Stakeholder consultation was a key aspect of writing a new Chapter and responsibility for the complete document sat with the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board – 10 July, 2017

The current Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Programme included completed Chapters on 0-4's health and wellbeing; 0-25s mental health and adult mental health. Chapters were currently being drafted on 5-19's health and wellbeing and prevention of violence and exploitation. The Board noted the recommendations set out in each of the Chapters.

Looking ahead, there was a statutory requirement to produce a Chapter on pharmaceutical needs by March 2018. The overarching Joint Strategic Needs Assessment was due to be reviewed to inform Sandwell's 2020-2024 Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

From the comments and questions by members of the Board, the following responses were made and issues highlighted:-

- There was no formal link between the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership.
- Services provided by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service had been of concern for some time, particularly due to long waiting times.
- It was important to protect the Surestart programme as there was evidence that it was effective in Sandwell.
- The update of free nursery places for two year olds was lower in Sandwell than nationally and work was being done at a town level to gather further intelligence on this.
- Obtaining data from Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust in relation to children's mental health had been difficult.
- Childhood obesity was an issue in Sandwell with 40% of children being overweight. Data showed that it was in between Reception and Year 6 that children became overweight, which suggested a link to the meals provided in schools.
- Public Health was working with schools to increase physical activity and there was evidence that increased levels of activity led to better exam results.

Resolved that bite-sized extracts of data from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in relation to Sandwell's key health indicators be submitted to future meetings of the Board.

13/17 **Work Programme 2017/2018**

The Board was asked to consider its work programme for 2017/2018 and the establishment of any working groups as a vehicle to deliver the work programme.

Following a review of the Council's governance structure, at its meeting on 16th May, 2017 the Council had established four scrutiny boards and a scrutiny management board - Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board - to deliver Sandwell's scrutiny function. The Council had also appointed two vice-chairs to each scrutiny board, who would take the lead on a topic from within their respective Board's terms of reference, reporting back to the Board on the findings of that work.

As well as reflecting the Council's 2030 Vision, work programmes were to reflect local needs and priorities. Suggestions had therefore been sought from the public and partners via the Council's social media platforms and newsletters and the Board noted the suggestions received in respect of its terms of reference.

It was reported that, in 2016/2017 a joint working group had been established with members of the former Housing Scrutiny Board to contribute to the Council's review of policies around the provision of aids adaptations. The working group had not concluded its work and the Board was minded to continue the work until it was complete.

It was also reported that, at its meetings on 22nd June and 7th July, 2017 the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board had referred the following matters to the Board to investigate:-

- Measures being taken to support hospital discharge and re-enablement.
- Public Health's underspend of £204k in 2016/2017, as a result of reduced expenditure on weight management initiatives and the health survey, and lower than anticipated activity levels on health checks.

Members highlighted the importance of maintaining a close working relationship with Sandwell Healthwatch and the Chair reported that she would be holding regular meetings with its Chair and Chief Executive.

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board – 10 July, 2017

Members also discussed the importance of monitoring the number of “never events” that occurred at Sandwell hospitals.

Resolved, that, subject to the approval of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board:-

- (1) a Working Group be established comprising Councillors Ahmed (Vice-Chair), Downing and Shaeen to undertake a review into Public Health expenditure on programmes to address long term conditions;
- (2) Councillor Ahmed (Vice-Chair) maintain oversight of the implementation of the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership’s Plan and report back to the Board as appropriate;
- (3) a Working Group be established comprising Councillor Meehan (Vice-Chair) and Councillor Lloyd to continue the review of policies in relation to the provision of aids and adaptations;
- (4) the following items be placed on the Board’s work programme for consideration in 2017/2018:-
 - (a) measures being taken to support hospital discharge and re-enablement;
 - (b) Draft Air Quality Action Plan 2017-2022 and consultation proposals;
 - (c) update on Transforming Care Together Partnership;
 - (d) Healthwatch report into the experience with health and social care services of young people (16-24) who self-harm;
 - (e) report and action plan on the Council’s review into Direct Payments;
 - (f) review of data sharing protocols across health partners;
 - (g) Annual Report of the Adult Safeguarding Board 2016/2017.

(Meeting ended at 7.50 p.m.)

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Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board – 10 July, 2017