

## **Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee**

**10 January 2019**

Present: Councillor N Craven (Chair)  
Councillors A Austin, L Bell, T Brady, S Brockbank, J  
Cassidy, K Clark, M Green, J Kirwin, K Lee, A Percy and  
L Spillard

### **ASCHW36/01/19 Apologies**

There were no apologies.

### **ASCHW37/01/19 Substitute Members**

There were no substitute members.

### **ASCHW38/01/19 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

Cllr M Hall, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing, was in attendance, and, although not a members of the Sub-committee, declared a personal interest in relation to Item 8, Learning Disabilities Support, as an unpaid Director of a trust which provides day care services at the Rising Sun Farm.

### **ASCHW39/01/19 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

### **ASCHW40/01/19 Healthwatch North Tyneside – Supporting People in Crisis**

Representatives of Healthwatch North Tyneside attended the meeting to present a summary of the investigation they had undertaken into people's experiences of mental health crisis support.

The Sub-committee was informed that this work had been carried out on the back of more general work on mental health support that had been undertaken by Health watch over a number of years, with 'crisis support' being highlighted as a particular issue for further review.

It was noted that the research had involved contact with carers, staff and service users and had involved an online and offline survey, focus groups and real time interviews.

The research highlighted a number of issues, including an issue around how 'crisis' is defined by services and the experiences of people who feel they are in crisis but are unable to access services as they don't meet the threshold for support. This had resulted in a recommendation about the need for low level crisis support. Healthwatch was pleased to see that this had been taken up by the CCG who were making progress towards putting this support in place.

The research highlighted some inconsistency in the quality of service received, with service users reporting some good and some bad experiences. Although respondents were largely positive about the services they were currently receiving, particular issues were reported in relation to:

1. Awareness of services available and which service to contact in a crisis;
2. Mixed experiences of GP support;
3. Issues around access and discharge from services – falling between the gaps in services;
4. Services for older people.

It was noted that the full report had been published in November 2018 and was available via the Healthwatch website.

In terms of next steps, the recommendations and suggested actions are being reported to the mental health integration board. Healthwatch will continue to work with practitioners and commissioners to take actions forward.

The Chair thanked Healthwatch for attending the meeting and for the informative presentation.

#### **ASCHW41/01/19 Better Care Fund – Update**

The sub-committee considered the report which provided an update on the Better Care Fund (BCF) since the last report in July 2018.

It was noted that a review of BCF schemes had been carried out and considered by the BCF Partnership Board. The review identified many examples of good practice, and some ways in which the services could improve their coordination with each other. Following the review, work is underway to consider how the work of services related to the frail elderly population work together most effectively. This particularly relates to Carepoint, Careplus and Intermediate Care.

It was noted that, on a national level, the current policy framework lasts only until March 2019. Future arrangements received a small reference in the NHS long term plan which emphasised the need for joined up services. In addition, officers are awaiting the social care green paper which will be relevant to the future of the BCF.

Officers expect the BCF to continue beyond 2019/20 but there may be changes in its operation, but at the current time no further information has been received on future arrangements.

In terms of metrics, the Sub-committee noted that emergency hospital admissions were above the BCF target but below the NHS agreed target. Delayed transfer of care figures were below the England average level. However, the level in North Tyneside has increased significantly in the last few months and this mainly relates to North Tyneside patients in specialist mental health beds managed by Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (NTW).

It was agreed that the report be noted.

## **ASCHW42/01/19    Developing Wellbeing Services**

The Sub-committee received a presentation which set out proposals for the development of Community Hubs.

It was noted that these plans had been under consideration for some time. The rationale behind the project was based on making the best use of current assets including people, partners and buildings, and better aligning these assets to create an accessible, single point of access that promotes wellbeing and prevents or delays need.

The Sub-committee noted that Community Hubs would aim to 'provide a conveniently located public place that is recognised and valued in the local community as a gathering place for people, and an access point for a wide range of community activities, programs, services and events'. This would involve bringing the right people together with a shared goal and purpose.

It was noted that the first area to be considered was Wallsend, given the availability and potential of the customer first centre in Wallsend. Altogether, the aim would be to develop the four customer first centres as community hubs, helping to coordinate all other activity in an area.

It was highlighted that this is not a new proposal and was set out in a business case in 2018/19. It was noted that the proposal is linked to a £2.5 million savings target for 2018/19, with £1.1m secured in 2018/19 and £1.4m still to achieve in 2019/20.

A member highlighted an opportunity for local entrepreneurs to be involved in the hub and to encourage and help people to set up businesses. Officers noted that this was not an area that has been looked into, but it was something that could be considered. Members also highlighted that it was important to consider what is already happening in the community and not overlook organisations that are already in place. Officers highlighted that a lot of preparation time has been spent mapping what is there and that the Council has been working closely with VODA in relation to the voluntary and community sector, while recognising that VODA doesn't represent all of that sector.

There was some discussion about the café that is currently running in the Customer First Centre in Wallsend and its importance as a focus for the community hub. It was also highlighted that the café could potentially provide opportunities in relation to social care and training.

Members highlighted the need to work with the voluntary sector to consider the configuration of the centre and to ensure it is inclusive, particularly in the context of autism and dementia friends. It would also be important to consider opening hours in order to meet local need.

Members also requested that officers draw on best practice to see what has worked in other areas, and possibly also looking at best practice in other countries.

Members highlighted some concerns about the impact of the proposals on existing services and whether this may lead to services moving from other areas. Officers stated that some services would relocate but this would be from within the local area so there should not be an impact on the wider area.

It was agreed that the report be noted.

### **ASCHW43/01/19 Changes to Learning Disabilities Support**

The sub-committee received a presentation which set out information on changes to learning disability support packages.

It was highlighted that the strategy was based on the support of independent living and supporting discharge from hospital. It was noted that North Tyneside was in a good position in comparison to many other authorities in the north east.

The sub-committee noted the current position in relation to spend and activity by client group and by service type. It was noted that residential care spend was relatively stable at around £4.7m per annum. Supported Living spend had increased by £2m from £11.5m in 15/16 to projected £13.3m in 19/19. It was also noted that 45 children with disabilities are planned to transition to adults in the next 3 years at a cost of approx. £492K.

The presentation also outlined developments in relation to the review process and in models of care and support. The sub-committee noted the information on housing developments that have been delivered and also those that are in the pipeline.

Members commended the improvements, particularly in relation to the availability of supported living places across the borough, and highlighted that the standards of accommodation in the new developments are excellent.

The Chair thanked officers for the report.

### **ASCHW44/01/19 Update from Joint STP Health Scrutiny Committee**

Cllr L Spillard gave an update on the work of the Joint STP Health Scrutiny Committee, following her attendance at the meeting held on 26 November 2018.

She highlighted that the STP footprint covers a huge area across the north east and north Cumbria. This includes a range of urban and rural areas with different population levels which will be a challenge. She also highlighted an issue raised by Durham councillors about closures of GP surgeries which had been reported in the local press. It was noted that there are plans for a shadow Integrated Care System to be in place from April 2019, although priorities for this have not yet been agreed and will be subject to further consultation.

It was suggested that the papers from the Joint STP committee be circulated to all members of the Sub-committee for information, and that any suggested questions to be raised at future meetings be forwarded to Councillor Spillard.

Members suggested that there may need to be a review around the aims of the STP Joint Committee now that it has been in place for some time.

The Chair thanked Cllr Spillard for her report.

Signed By: -----

Date: -----

Cllr N Craven, Chair of the Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-committee