

SUNDERLAND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Friday 18 September 2015

MINUTES

Present: -

Councillor Paul Watson (in the Chair)	-	Sunderland City Council
Councillor Graeme Miller	-	Sunderland City Council
Councillor Pat Smith	-	Sunderland City Council
Councillor Mel Speding	-	Sunderland City Council
Dave Gallagher	-	Chief Officer, Sunderland CCG
Kevin Morris	-	Healthwatch Sunderland
Gillian Gibson	-	Acting Director of Public Health
Dr Ian Pattison	-	Chair, Sunderland CCG

In Attendance:

Colin Morris	-	Chair, Sunderland Safeguarding Children and Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board
Fiona Brown	-	Chief Operating Officer, People Services
Michelle Turnbull	-	NHS Sunderland CCG
Janette Sherratt	-	NHS Sunderland CCG
Adam Wuni	-	NHS Sunderland CCG
Councillor Ronny Davison	-	Sunderland City Council
Petrina Smith	-	NEAS
Lindsay Gibbins	-	Gentoo Group
Liz Highmore	-	DIAG
Karen Graham	-	Office of the Chief Executive, Sunderland City Council
Gillian Kelly	-	Governance Services, Sunderland City Council

HW25. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Leadbitter, Neil Revely and Ken Bremner.

HW26. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

HW27. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 24 July 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

HW28. Feedback from Advisory Boards

Adults Partnership Board

Councillor Miller informed the Board that the Adults Partnership Board had met on 8 September 2015 and the main issues considered had been: -

- Health and Wellbeing Board Agenda
- Launch of Age Friendly City
- VCS Provider Event
- Terms of Reference and Core Purpose

The Chair asked if there had been any discussion at the Partnership Board about the increase in the national minimum wage and the impact this would have on the sector. Providers would be unable to pay staff at that rate without increasing the cost to service users and it could reach a stage where homes would close because operators could not afford to run them.

Councillor Miller stated that there was lobbying taking place to try to have care home services accepted as new businesses and this was a technical argument with the Treasury.

Colin Morris commented that in Sunderland there were successful monitoring arrangements for care homes and good working relationships with providers. He was confident that the Council would work closely with homes if they were at risk.

It was noted that in recent years a care provider in the city had folded and there had been capacity to take service users into alternative settings at the time. This had happened with 28 days' notice and Councillor Miller commented that unless problems were being flagged up with the Council, then they would not be aware that they existed until a provider was a month away from closure.

Fiona Brown advised that officers in People Services made sure that they were up to date with all Care Quality Commission (CQC) reports so that they had intelligence about the care homes in the city. The service tried hard to ensure that there was enough supply of places but also that people were placed in homes at an appropriate point in their lives. The Recovery at Home Service would bring together Sunderland Care and Support, district nurses and out of hours GP services and was aimed at supporting people to wellness at home and reducing the demand for places in care homes.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

NHS Provider Forum

Ken Bremner informed the Board that the NHS Provider Forum had met to consider a presentation on the role of Health Prevention.

Gillian Gibson stated that the presentation had looked at what could be done in relation to the workforce as the poor health of the population also had a negative impact on the recruitment and productivity of the local workforce. The Provider Forum was considering how best to approach the prevention agenda and would report any resulting recommendations to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

Children's Trust

Councillor Smith reported that a workshop had been held on 6 August 2015 to discuss the future arrangements for the Children and Families advisory group of the Health and Wellbeing Board and a further meeting would be held at the end of October to progress the priority setting process.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

HW29. Update from the Health and Social Care Integration Board

Dr Pattison advised that the Health and Social Care Integration Board had met on 25 June, 23 July and 10 September 2015 and he stated that there was a sense of the Board 'coming together' and starting to firm things up. He highlighted that the Board had resolved some virement issues and had discussed the financial challenges ahead and the plans to address these. The real benefits of the Better Care Fund would be seen within the integrated teams and services such as Recovery at Home.

It was queried at what stage public engagement would be undertaken and Dave Gallagher commented that the Integration Board was overseeing the Better Care Fund but with regard to matters such as the integrated teams, there had been conversations with the public and stakeholders and engagement sessions had been held at the Stadium of Light. Partners were at the stage of trying to set the system up and were listening to advice from the public and patients; the first element of this would be the launch of the single contact number. Dr Pattison acknowledged that it was important to send a message to the public that there was an Integration Board and what its role was in the new ways of working.

The Chair commented that it was important to move forward on this agenda. He referred to the ongoing discussions around regional devolution and that leaders had steered away from devolving health services as it had been noted that the Manchester deal had reduced the funding available for health activity.

Dave Gallagher stated that the Better Care Fund had always been about bringing services together and avoiding duplication and that people would start to see a difference when everything went live. He noted that the advantage of having Vanguard status was that the city was being shown as having some of the answers to national problems.

Gillian Gibson asked if there would be any benefit in thinking about the rationalisation of hospitals as in the past, this would have been managed regionally. Dave replied that it would be sensible to manage some things on a scale basis but if devolution was to include health then there would have to be a way of keeping focus on the right things at the right level.

Dr Pattison highlighted that there was a considerable transformation going on and it may seem that things were more complicated and difficult initially but partners were aware of this and hoped that people would be patient while issues were worked through. People would be familiar with navigating through an existing service and the new systems would be different.

The Chair noted that it was important that the changes were monitored over time to identify trends developing but added that clinicians had been asked to work differently and these new approaches were the best way of achieving the aims for health and wellbeing in the city.

Kevin Morris enquired how the changes and the launch of the single number were being communicated and Dr Pattison said that there was a full engagement plan for patients, families and carers. He undertook to provide this document for Kevin.

Accordingly, the Health and Wellbeing Board NOTED the update from the Health and Social Care Integration Board.

HW30. Ofsted Inspection

The Local Authority Perspective

Fiona Brown, Chief Operating Officer, People Services, delivered a presentation to the Board providing an improvement update on Children's Safeguarding Services.

Fiona outlined the background to the current position of the Children's Safeguarding Service, explaining that an improvement plan had been produced in July/August 2014 to address issues identified by an external review of the service. Improvement activity had been ongoing from that time, however an Ofsted inspection between May and June 2015 had found Children's Services in Sunderland to be inadequate.

The Minister for Children had placed Sunderland Children's Services in intervention and Nick Whitfield had been appointed as Commissioner for Children's Services in the city. Following the Ofsted report, £6m of additional funding was to be invested in the service over 2015/2016 and an additional 16 managers and 93 social workers were in post by 2 September 2015.

The role of an interim Director of Children's Services had been proposed and would be presented to the Council meeting on 23 September 2015 for ratification. The Council had negotiated the secondment of Steve Walker from Leeds City Council to fulfil this role and there was a clear commitment by the Council to ensure that children and young people in Sunderland were safe.

Ofsted had identified a number of significant concerns and made 27 recommendations. A draft single improvement plan had been developed to address these recommendations and would be shared with key partners at the first meeting of the Improvement Board on 6 October 2015. Nick Whitfield would act as Chair of this Board.

Ofsted had referred 21 cases back to the Council through 'Annexe H' which was used when the inspection team had serious issues of concern. Fiona advised that Children's Services undertook an immediate review of all of these cases and identified a clear set of actions for each of them. Appropriate arrangements were now in place for all 21 cases.

The Board received a summary of the issues which had been raised in relation to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, Child Protection Processes, Recording and Performance Management and Looked After Children and Care Leavers and were advised of the immediate actions which had been taken to address these concerns.

Dr Pattison noted that workforce issues were a problem across all sectors and asked if the staff who had been recruited were permanent or through locum arrangements. The Chair commented that it seemed to be better financially for social workers to work for an agency and they did not always have the same public service ethos as permanent members of staff. He understood that there were some workers employed on a temporary basis to address backlogs.

Fiona Brown confirmed that it had been the case that agency workers had been moved in to deal with the backlog in the system, however two to three permanent social work staff were being recruited each month. The Council was talking to longstanding agency workers about moving towards permanent positions and 15 newly qualified social workers had been recruited over and above the current establishment. The Chair noted that lessons had been learned from the Strengthening Families approach and that dealing holistically with a family was much more effective.

Dave Gallagher commented that the presentation described a bad place but it was positive that there was now clarity about what was not working and what needed to be fixed and all partners would have a role to play. The Chair added that the presentation did not convey the breath-taking pace at which the action had been taken.

The increase in staffing was welcomed but it was queried if this would have any impact on the staff available for adults in the city. Fiona Brown advised that officers were looking at the pressures being faced in relation to deprivation of liberty and were discussing the resource implications with the Head of Personalisation.

The Chair stated that the case was being made to Government that it was impossible to manage with the level of resources available. Pressures and problems on the ground had not always been accepted higher up the chain but professionals had to speak up and highlight these issues.

Gillian Gibson echoed the Chair's comments and said that partners needed to look further at prevention, how good parenting could be encouraged and how certain approaches could be taken to stop issues escalating.

Councillor Miller commented that the authority needed to be prepared to deal with the impacts arising from the introduction of Universal Credit and changes to Working Families Tax Credit. The Chair stated that he would like to have information come back to the Board about the capacity in the community to manage benefit claims online as he had noted the large numbers of people queuing to use public computers to complete forms for Job Seekers Allowance.

It was suggested that Sarah Reed could be approached to identify a contact from the Department for Work and Pensions who might be able to provide information to the Board. The Chair highlighted that partners need to have the full information on what was available and the city was giving the impression that it could cope but it was unclear whether this was actually the case.

With regard to social workers, Councillor Davison asked if the need for the current level of support for them had always been there. Fiona Brown stated that this support had been patchy and managers were now able to provide appropriate supervision, whilst other staff were responsible for driving forward frontline practice.

Update from the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board

The Board received a report from the Colin Morris, Chair of the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board on the review of the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board which was undertaken at the same time as the Ofsted inspection of Children's Services.

The previous inspection which had taken place in April 2012 had found the range of inspection services to be good, however the judgement delivered in July 2015 deemed services, including the Safeguarding Board, to be inadequate. There were seven specific recommendations identified for the Local Safeguarding Children Board: -

- Ensure full Board approval of agreed priorities and action planning
- Ensure that the Board is able to effectively monitor the quality and impact of services for children across the Partnership
- Accelerate implementation of an early help strategy, ensuring that it was consistent with the 'multi-agency threshold guidance' document and then monitor its effectiveness
- Review multi-agency training to ensure it supports and promotes front line practice and is able to respond to demand following imminent publication of a high number of Serious Case Reviews (SCRs); then ensure lessons are learnt and improvements embedded
- Agree with partner local authorities on Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP), a coordinated response to the high number of SCR's awaiting publication
- Ensure that multi-agency arrangements for the oversight of children missing and at risk of sexual exploitation or trafficking are driven by effective information sharing, performance monitoring, action planning and are strategically coordinated and monitored by the Board

- Review the resources available to undertake the governance of Multi-Agency Looked After Partnerships (MALAP) to ensure a sufficient focus

The Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board had recognised that there were issues in relation to the Board's effectiveness and had acted upon a number of recommendations arising from a development event held in September 2014. Ofsted had acknowledged that a great deal of progress had been made but felt it was too early to judge if these changes had achieved the desired impact.

Following the receipt of Ofsted's recommendations, a Recovery Plan was developed and was attached as an appendix to the report. A number of actions had already been progressed including the Early Help Strategy which the Safeguarding Board was responsible for making sure was effective. There was now a clear arrangement for the sub-committees to monitor the recommendations from Serious Case Reviews and the training that followed would evidence if improvements were being made.

The Safeguarding Board had been aware that child sexual exploitation would be an issue and this was a police led process which was now back on track and moving to a position of strength.

The MALAP had been taken on by the Safeguarding Board to try and keep it going but this had now gone back to the local authority and a new appointment would take the lead on this.

The Safeguarding Board was planning to publish six Serious Case Reviews before Christmas. Colin advised that the criteria for calling a Serious Case Review had recently changed and care had to be taken to classify the cases which would benefit from a Serious Case Review without dampening down the process.

The Chair said that he understood the Serious Case Reviews to be about learning in relation to the circumstances of the case and Colin highlighted that it was also about learning in relation to a spectrum of issues and not about holding people to account. He added that other local authorities in the region were also seeing an increase in the number of Serious Case Reviews, however Sunderland had been very transparent about which cases should be subjected to a review.

The Chair thanked Fiona and Colin for the comprehensive report and stated that the Council had written to the Commissioner for Children's Services to outline the progress which had been made. Fiona confirmed that the Council was awaiting feedback from the Commissioner and noted that the authority had prioritised the most urgent issues. A great deal of improvement had been made, although it was accepted that some areas were not as advanced as officers would have liked, the focus remained on ensuring that all children in the system were safe.

The Board RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the contents of the presentation and the report be noted;
- (ii) the good progress already made in terms of addressing the recommendations from the Ofsted inspection be acknowledged; and

- (iii) further reports be received outlining progress in the implementation of the recommendations.

HW31. General Practice Strategy for Sunderland

The Clinical Commissioning Group submitted a report providing an update in relation to the development of a Strategy for General Practice across Sunderland.

Dave Gallagher advised that the report outlined the process which was being undertaken to describe what GP services would look like in the next few years. Feedback from an event held in June 2015 had been shared with all GP practices along with an online survey to confirm if the key themes identified were an accurate reflection of the discussions on the day.

Work had been commissioned for engagement with the public and engagement with stakeholders had been carried out through the Transformation Board and open events. The first draft of the strategy was scheduled to be developed by 30 September 2015 and would be considered by the Governing Body and Executive Committee during October and reported back to the Health and Wellbeing Board in November.

Councillor Smith asked about the initiative for the Development of Self Care awareness, including school children, and Dave stated that this would be picked up as the process moved to the next stage, as the focus had so far been on GP hospital led care. Gillian Gibson was leading on this piece of work and she added that at the recent Public Health England Conference, there had been discussions about meeting need through involving volunteers in GP practices.

Dr Pattison emphasised the need to get the strategy right as there were some practices under immense strain and there were real challenges ahead for GPs. He drew the Board's attention to the fact the GP training scheme was only 50% full this year and of those who completed the course, 60% emigrated within one year. Nursing provision had been greatly enhanced over recent years but this had reached capacity. Dr Pattison expressed the wish to see more local doctors and nurses coming through the system and highlighted that the strategy could only be based on what could be done in Sunderland.

It was highlighted that the wait for an appointment with a nurse could be longer than the wait to see a GP and there were still issues in some practices in relation to accessibility and the lack of a Patient Participation Group.

Dr Pattison stated that, whilst practices were not contracted to have a Patient Participation Group, he found it surprising that some did not. The Board were informed that Healthwatch had carried out some research around these groups and that the report arising from that work could promote the participation groups. Kevin Morris added that the research was aimed at identifying good practice and the scope for sharing this.

Dr Pattison said that there was an expectation of how you GP practices would engage set out by the Care Quality Commission and this could form part of the GP Strategy if it was deemed to be a significant matter.

It was RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the progress on developing the General Practice Strategy be noted; and
- (ii) further update reports be received.

HW32. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

The Chief Officer, Sunderland CCG, submitted a report setting out guidance on the development of Local Transformational Plans to support improvements in children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, setting out the current position, self-assessment and proposed areas for development and seeking member support for the CCG approach to developing the plan.

The NHS England guidance described an integrated systems approach to driving improvements in children and young people's mental health outcomes with the NHS, public health, voluntary and community, local authority children's services, education and youth justice sectors all working together to achieve them.

Janette Sherratt advised that all local areas had been asked to produce transformational plans and the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Transformation self-assessment had been completed by partner organisations. The draft self-assessment would be taken to the CAMHS Partnership, Mental Health Programme Board and the Scrutiny Committee and the transformational plan would be submitted to NHS England on 16 October 2015. The Health and Wellbeing Board were asked to consider the main priorities from the self-assessment.

The report outlined the existing services available and also identified where there were gaps and Michelle Turnbull advised that it needed to be determined how these could be addressed in partnership with others to enhance the universal services offer and to enable children and young people and their families to build up resistance to self-manage their circumstances. There had been a 50% increase in CAMHS activity and a skilled workforce was required to deliver these services.

If the transformation plan was agreed, the CCG would be notified in early November and if the plan met the assurance criteria in full, £600,000 would be provided to support the plan year on year.

Councillor Smith commended the report and the Chair asked how much confidence there was in the self-assessment providing a true picture. Janette stated that commissioned services were closely monitored and the CAMHS Partnership had been active for ten years and worked well together. Michelle added that the CCG was always working to ensure that the right people were part of that group and the self-assessment had gone back to the CAMHS Partnership for any further

amendments. The transformation plan would be continuously developed and would be a living document.

It was also highlighted that there was already a pooled budget for CAMHS and transparency on spending but there would be some difficulties in capturing the contribution of universal services such as schools and health visiting. The Chair commented that young people's lives continued to be more difficult than they had ever been and there was a need to boost these mental health services, with the earlier issues being captured, the better. He hoped that all parties were determined to embed this plan in their work.

Dave Gallagher stated that partners were a lot of the way there but the plan would take things even further. He advised that the Board would have to authorise him to sign off the Transformation Plan in order for it to be submitted by the set deadline.

Kevin Morris highlighted that with regard to the discrimination against mental health patients, there was a parallel workstream looking at the public perception of mental health. Janette reported that there was a national plan for a major 'Stigma Campaign' which would be developed locally with MIND. Gillian Gibson noted that by emphasising prevention, this reduced the stigma and said that it would be helpful for Public Health to have an involvement with the CAMHS Partnership.

Having considered the report, the Board RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the contents of the report be noted;
- (ii) the proposed process to produce the CAMHS Transformation Plan detailed in Section 3.2.2 of the report be approved;
- (iii) the Chief Operating Officer of the CCG be authorised to sign off the Transformational Plan on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board by 30 September 2015; and
- (iv) regular progress updates be received.

HW33. Smoke Free Play Areas

The Sunderland Tobacco Alliance submitted a report providing an update on smoke free play areas in Sunderland and presenting members with the rationale for proposed changes and feedback from a consultation exercise.

Gillian Gibson advised that there continued to be a high prevalence of smoking in the city and it was planned to request people not to smoke in and around children's play areas. The scheme would bring about several benefits:

- Decrease the opportunity for children to see adults smoking around them
- Creating an environment in which smoking is not seen as the norm thus potentially motivating smokers to cut down or to quit
- Protecting the environment and saving local authorities money by reducing tobacco related litter

- Offering further protection from the harmful effects of second hand smoke.

The Locality Public Health Team had surveyed 347 local people in parks during August 2013 and 98% had been in favour of the banning of smoking in outdoor children's play areas.

Councillor Speding expressed the view that banning smoking in play areas may not achieve the required outcome and suggested that the aim should be the prevention of smoking in all areas of the park. Other Board Members were in agreement that the entire park should be classified as a 'Smoke Free Zone'.

Gillian Gibson advised that although this could not be enforced, it could be promoted and park employees asked to point out relevant signage, encouraging users of the parks not to smoke.

Accordingly, the Board RESOLVED that they support the voluntary code to make Sunderland's parks Smoke Free.

HW34. Health and Wellbeing Forward Plan and Board Timetable

The Head of Strategy and Performance submitted a report presenting the Board forward plan for 2015/2016.

Karen Graham requested that Board Members let her know if they had any items for future meetings or suggestions for in depth closed partnership sessions.

Fiona Brown suggested that the Board may like to receive a report on the city's plans to support any refugees from the conflict in Syria should they be placed in Sunderland as part of the Government's dispersal programme.

The Board RESOLVED that: -

- (i) consideration be given to topics for in depth closed partnership sessions for 2015/2016; and
- (ii) the forward plan be noted and requests for any additional topics be passed to Karen Graham.

HW35. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Friday 20 November 2015 at 12noon

(Signed) P WATSON
Chair

