

Health and Wellbeing Board

Thursday, 11 November 2021

Present: Councillor K Clark (Chair)
Councillors C Burdis, P Earley, M Green and J Kirwin
W Burke, Director of Public Health
R Scott, North Tyneside NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
J Charlton, Healthwatch North Tyneside
P Jones, Healthwatch North Tyneside
C Riley, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
S Thomas, Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service
C Wheatley, Northumbria Police
Y Probert, Age UK North Tyneside
C Gavin, Voluntary and Community Sector Chief Officer Group
D Titterton, YMCA North Tyneside

In attendance: R Nicholson, K Allan, M Robson, North Tyneside Council
M Hunsley, North Tyneside CCG
J King, North Tyneside Carers Centre

Apologies: J Old, Director of Children's and Adult Services
K Kale, Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Trust
D McNally, Age UK North Tyneside
A Paradis, North Tyneside CCG
S Woodhouse, North Tyneside Council

HW9/21 Appointment of Substitute Members

Pursuant to the Council's constitution the appointment of the following substitute member was reported:-

Yvonne Probert for Dawn McNally (Age UK North Tyneside)

HW10/21 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Councillor Peter Earley declared a registerable personal interest in relation to the carers survey because he is a Trustee of the North Tyneside Carers Centre.

Councillor Karen Clark declared a registerable personal interest in relation to the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy because she is a Director and Employee of Justice Prince CIC which receives funding and has a contract with the Council.

HW11/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 September 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Chair

HW12/21 Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

At its meeting in July, the Board had agreed an approach to tackle inequalities in health and wider socio-economic factors via a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for North Tyneside. In September the Board had received a progress report on this work when it had considered an analysis of what inequalities were, an analysis of the direct and indirect impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and a summary of the evidence base which had been compiled of approaches to tackling inequalities. Since then, further work had been undertaken to profile current activity in the borough and to consult with a wide range of stakeholders. The culmination of this work had been the preparation of a new Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy entitled “Equally Well: A healthier, fairer future for North Tyneside 2021-25”.

The Board was presented with details of the proposed new strategy which was focussed on:

- a) The wider determinants of health such as education, employment, digital inclusion, housing and income;
- b) Tackling barriers to healthy behaviours and lifestyles by getting alongside communities to understand the issues they face and treating them as experts in their lived experience;
- c) The places and communities we live in and with to mobilise solutions, informed by an understanding of local needs and assets; and
- d) An integrated health and care system to commission and deliver joined up effective services that are easy to access.

Once the strategy was approved, the next step would be to develop an implementation plan to take forward the delivery of the strategy. This plan would be shaped by a second phase of community engagement, to be delivered by local voluntary and community organisations, so that proposed solutions and interventions could be co-produced and informed by the lived experience of residents. The plan would include a method by which the Board could measure and monitor the impact of its approach to tackling health inequalities.

The Board welcomed the strategy and approach, thanked those involved in its preparation for their hard work and passion and looked forward to the next stage in the process to engage with communities in developing solutions. It was noted that there was no explicit reference within the strategy to external drivers for change such as national funding mechanisms. These drivers could be incorporated into the implementation plan as risks or dependencies, but it was suggested that the local system also needed to recognise the resources it had available and think differently about how they are used.

Resolved that the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy “Equally Well: A healthier, fairer future for North Tyneside 2021-25” be approved.

HW13/21 Carers Survey

The Board received a joint presentation from Healthwatch North Tyneside and the North Tyneside Carers Centre on the findings to emerge from an online survey of carers undertaken during the summer of 2021.

The presentation described carers circumstances, their experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic, its impact on different aspects of their lives and the key issues to emerge from the survey which included loneliness and isolation, anxiety about Covid-19, balancing work

and caring responsibilities and financial pressures. Carers had also given their views on their experiences of services closing or changing during the pandemic and more specifically their access to healthcare and treatment.

The following key themes from the feedback were being shared with service providers and commissioners through relevant partnership boards:

- a) the need for information so that people can navigate services and/or help themselves;
- b) the importance of access to services when people need them;
- c) the need for a more co-ordinated approach so that a holistic view of a carers needs are understood;
- d) pre-existing problems have been magnified by the pandemic; and
- e) the quality of service for the person they care for is critical.

The Board welcomed the feedback which gave a useful insight into the experiences of carers. Board members related the key issues to emerge from the survey to their own experiences of caring for family members during lockdown and noted the immediate response of some partners to specific issues to arise from the survey.

HW14/21 Better Care Fund Plan 2021/22

The Better Care Fund (BCF) was one of the Government's national vehicles for driving health and social care integration. It required the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Council to agree a joint plan, owned by the Board, for the use of a pooled budget to support integration.

The Board was presented with the proposed North Tyneside Better Care Fund Plan for 2021/22. This included the value of the Fund, its key features, its governance arrangements and metrics to be used to support the national conditions. The plan had evolved over a number of years as an element of the implementation of the North Tyneside Future Care Strategy. The plan provides for a range of investments in community-based services, intermediate care beds, enhanced primary care in care homes, a hospice-at-home service for end of life care, a community falls first responder service, liaison psychiatry for working-age adults, support for people with learning disabilities and support for carers.

The plan would have to be submitted to NHS England by 16 November 2021 for assessment against the following national conditions:

- a) A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners, signed off by the Board;
- b) NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to the CCG minimum contribution;
- c) Invest in NHS-commissioned out-of-hospital services; and
- d) A plan for improving outcomes for people being discharged from hospital.

Resolved that (1) the North Tyneside Better Care Fund Plan 2021-22 be approved; and (2) the Director of Services for Children and Adults, in consultation with the Chair of the Board, be authorised to make any further revisions to the Plan considered necessary prior to the deadline for its submission to the NHS on 16th November 2021.

HW15/21 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

It was reported that the Board had a statutory duty to prepare a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) and review it every 3 years. The purpose of a PNA was to determine if there were enough community pharmacies to meet the needs of the population of North Tyneside and to act as a guide for commissioners to determine services which could be delivered by community pharmacies to meet the identified health needs of the population.

The PNA had been due to be renewed and published no later than 1 April 2021. However, the Government had announced a suspension of publishing PNAs, from April 2021 until April 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A further 6 month extension had then been granted 1st October 2022.

The Board was presented with a proposed implementation plan and timetable for the review and update the PNA, including a plan for consultation in line with statutory guidance, leading to the Board agreeing the final version to be published by 1st October 2022. It was proposed that a steering group be appointed to oversee the review and this group comprise of representatives from:

- a) North Tyneside CCG (commissioning and pharmaceutical leads);
- b) North of Tyne Local Pharmaceutical Committee;
- c) Healthwatch North Tyneside; and
- d) North Tyneside Council (Public Health, Communications and Engagement).

Resolved that (1) the implementation plan for reviewing, updating and publishing the PNA by the deadline of 1st October 2022 be approved; and
(2) a steering group be appointed to oversee delivery of the implementation plan comprising representatives from those organisations listed above.