

Health and Wellbeing Board

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 September 2023 in a conference room at the Council House, Walsall at 4.30pm

Present in person

Councillor G. Flint (Chair)
Councillor Elson
Councillor Nawaz
Dr N. Inglis, Consultant in Public Health
Mrs K. Allward, Executive Director Adult Social Care
Ms P. Mayo, Interim Managing Director, NHS Black Country Integrated Care Board
Ms. S. Cartwright Group Director, Place, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust
Ms C. Jennings, Walsall Housing Sector
Ms Isabel Vanderheeren, Director, Children's Services
Ms V. Hines, One Walsall

Present – Remote

Mr R. Nicklin Chair, Healthwatch Walsall
Ms. M. Foster, Black Country NHS Foundation Trust

In Attendance- in Person

Mrs H. Owen, Democratic Services Officer

013 Welcome

Councillor Flint opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explained that there were some members of the Board who were attending remotely however, whilst he would consult all Board members on their views if a vote was required, only those Board members present in the room were able to vote and that this would be by way of a show of hands.

He directed members of the public viewing the meeting to the papers which could be found on the Council's Committee Management Information system (CMIS) webpage.

Introductions took place and a quorum of members present in-person was established.

014 Apologies and substitutions

Apologies for absence and notice of substitutions were received as follows:

Councillor Pedley
Ms F. Shanahan – substitute Ms C. Jennings
Ms C. Male - substitute Ms I. Vanderheeren

015 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2023, a copy having been sent to each member of the Board be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

016 Declarations of interest

Councillor Nawaz declared an interest in items on the agenda relating to Nash Dom and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

017 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985

There were no items to be considered in private session.

018 We are Walsall 2040

In attendance: Ms K. Griffiths, Head of Policy and Strategy.

Ms Griffiths gave a presentation which provided the final strategy approved by Cabinet in June and the next steps to deliver the strategy.

(see annexed)

A discussion took place, during which time Chief Supt Dolby commented that through the Community Safety partnership agencies, he had had agreement to pursue work to alleviate other sources of harm, specifically road harm and associated preventable or criminal incidents to ensure that the roads were a safer place and he suggested that the WAW2040 strategy could encompass this.

Ms Griffiths noted the suggestion and in response to further questions from members she assured members that regarding the need to ensure green areas in built up housing land, the team was working with planning colleagues to support the delivery of the Local Plan over the next 18 months to ensure that the strategy encompassed local influence. In addition, further work would be undertaken with social housing providers to ensure that their strategic housing view was considered as part of the WAW2040 thinking. The Director of Public Health said that the local plan had also included a local public health perspective as a key theme.

Members supported the plan, noting that the Walsall Together approach was being aligned with the priorities in the strategy.

Ms Griffiths gave assurances that the consultation with communities would include a focus on those communities that were not traditionally reached so that they had more opportunities to influence their futures.

Resolved:

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- 1) Notes the WAW2040 strategy
- 2) Agrees to work towards the 2040 vision and outcomes in delivery of Health and Wellbeing strategy and associated activities.
- 3) Support work to improve wider partnership and communication lines with Walsall Proud Partnership.

019 **Better Care Fund Plan**

In attendance: Mr A. Rust, NHS Black Country Integrated Care Board

Mr Rust presented a report which updated retrospectively on the 2023-25 BCF Narrative Plan and planning template.

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Mr Rust reminded everyone that the Board had agreed retrospective reporting to support national submission dates, which fell outside Board meeting dates. He also reported that the Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee had included the matter of discharge pathways from the manor hospital on its work programme.

Mr Rust took the opportunity to congratulate the Better Care Fund Manager, Ms C. Thompson, who would normally present these reports, who had been seconded to the national BCF fund programme. The Chair and members wished her well.

A discussion took place during which time Mr Rust responded to questions and points of clarification. He confirmed that there was little change to the previous year's plan but that future plans would be aligned to the funding programme expected from the Walsall Together approach and that work was underway with partners across the NHS and the Council to reinforce integrated working.:

In response to a question regarding a need to focus on prevention, the Executive Director, Adult Social Care, Mrs K. Allward explained that the BCF funded a number of mainstream services to meet demands across the health and care system. She said that there were great working relationships across Walsall and was one of the exemplar areas in the country for hospital discharges. In saying that, Mrs Allward added that whilst the funding only went so far it was hoped to release more funding for preventative services in the future.

Resolved

That the Health and Wellbeing board retrospectively receives and agrees the 2023-25 Walsall Better Care Fund Planning Template and Narrative Plan following national submission in June 2023 in accordance with national assurance.

020 **Health Protection Annual report**

In attendance: Mr D. Agbato, Senior Health Practitioner.

Ms U. Viswanathan, consultant in Public Health

Mr Agbato and Ms Viswanathan presented the Annual report.

(see annexed)

Members discussed the report, in particular, a concern raised by members regarding managing the consequences of the upcoming seasonal increase in the use of the night time economy. Mrs Viswanathan gave assurances that a strategy to support sex workers in the borough was being produced which was part of a larger piece of work on other Health Protection issues such as sexually transmitted diseases. She said that part of this was proactively reaching out generally to young people to understand their need for services. In addition, she said that a key focus

of the work was with partners in the Integrated Care Board and housing partners to support those newly arrived to the country and the area, to make sure that they were up to date with vaccinations and supported through the sub-optimal conditions in which they found themselves in.

Ch. Supt Dolby also mentioned that licensees and Pubwatch were happy to use their screens to promote messages. Dr Inglis reported that much of the concerns regarding the night time economy fell within the alcohol and drug strategy which was being finalised for submission to the next meeting and which could benefit from this method of advertising.

With regard to links with the voluntary and community sector, Mrs Viswanathan advised that Public Health was working with the Integrated Care Board, with schools and the with the voluntary and community sector as a significant partner to engage with communities who did not traditionally take up immunisations.

Councillor Flint congratulated Mrs Viswanathan and her team for their work to protect residents which he said was largely hidden, and it was:

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

021 Children and Young People's Alliance and Strategy

Mrs Vanderheeren presented a report which provided an overview of the work of the Alliance and the development of a Children and Young Peoples strategy aligned to We are Walsall 2040 strategy.

(see annexed)

The report was discussed at length, particularly around best ways to reach young people with a number of views and suggestions expressed to be considered as part of the strategy. The Cabinet portfolio holder for Children complemented the team for their forward thinking work as a Directorate to engage with young people and to encourage elected members to think about involving young people in decision making.

During the discussion, Ch. Supt Dolby raised his concerns regarding the constraints upon the police when commenting on licensing and planning applications in that their comments were restricted to crime and disorder objections when there were other wider implications crossing with public health concerns which were important considerations. Dr. Inglis said on a practical level she would welcome there being a triangulation of responses to consultation. The Democratic Services Officer in attendance undertook to report these concerns to the relevant Executive Director.

Resolved

- 1) That the Board supports the work being done with partners through the development of a Walsall Children and Young People Strategi Alliance to secure better outcomes for children growing up in Walsall
- 2) That members are assured that good progress is being made in the development of a meaningful 2040 strategy that will respond effectively to issues identified for children and young people growing up in Walsall.

021 **Family Hubs Programme**

Mrs Vanderheeren presented a report which provided an update of the implementation of the Family Hub and Start for Life programme Walsall and which provided assurance in the delivery of the programme and its alignment to the Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy and its priorities.

(see annexed)

In response to question from members, Mrs Vanderheeren confirmed that there was good engagement with schools and gave examples of the work being done, including child checks and work to understand why vaccination entitlements were not being taken up to look at how to deliver this differently. The Chief Executive of the Black Country Mental Health NHS Trust, Ms Foster noted that there had been concerns regarding engagement with the perinatal mental health strand due to capacity issues and offered to discuss this further with Mrs Vanderheeren to ensure that was resolved.

Resolved:

- 1) That the Board accepts the report and continues to support the delivery of the Family Hub and Start for Life programme in Walsall
- 2) That the board notes the difficulties and risks around the implementation of the Parent and Infant Relationship and Perinatal Mental Health strand due to capacity issues across the Black Country Mental Health Trust and is assured of the work that is being done to resolve this.
- 3) That the Board receives periodic assurances on delivery of this programme as part of the reporting on progress on the Local Health and Wellbeing Strategic Priorities

023 **Healthwatch Walsall Annual Report**

Mr R. Nicklin, Chair, Healthwatch Walsall, presented the report

(see annexed)

Members congratulated Healthwatch Walsall on the work the organisation undertook and for a well thought through report. Dr Inglis mentioned that a Teenage pregnancy strategy was being produced and offered to work together with Healthwatch Walsall on this issue and also the diabetes strategy.

Resolved

- 1) To note the key messages
- 2) To note the contribution of Healthwatch Walsall volunteers.
- 3) To note the work priorities for 2023-24

024 **Walsall Together**

The Group Director Place Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, Ms S. Cartwright, presented a report which update on the development of Walsall Together and gave an overview of the progress of the partnership since the last report.

(see annexed)

Members were pleased with the progress and it was:

Resolved

That the report be noted.

025 Mental Wellbeing Strategy 2022-23

In attendance:

Ms L. Brookes, Head of Mental Health Transformation and Integration, Black Country Healthcare Foundation Trust

Ms Brookes presented a report which updated on progress of the Walsall Multiagency Mental Wellbeing Stakeholder partnership to deliver the strategy.

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the report be noted

026 Emotional Wellbeing Strategy – Children and Young People

In attendance:

Ms. Sarah Hogan, Deputy Director, Children young people and families, Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Ms Hogan presented a report which updated on progress to deliver the strategy

(see annexed)

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

027 Work programme

The Chair reminded members to take note of the items that they were responsible for and to ensure that their reports meet the relevant deadlines.

It was noted that there would be a workshop session in October via Teams to receive mid-year progress on delivery of pledges in the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy for assurance and that a date for this would be sent to Board members shortly.

028 **Date of next meetings** – the following remaining dates were noted for meetings of the Board during the current Municipal Year: 12 December 2023, and 19 March 2024

The meeting terminated at 7.03 p.m.

Chair:

Date: