

## Health and Wellbeing Board

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20 September 2022** in a conference room at the Council House, Walsall at 4.00pm

**Present**  
(in person) Councillor G. Flint (Chair)  
Dr. A. Rischie, Integrated Care Board (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Nawaz  
Councillor Wilson  
Mr. S. Gunther, Director of Public Health  
Ms R. Davies, Walsall College  
Ms I. Vanderheeren, Director, Early Help and partnerships,  
Children's Services

**Present**  
(Remote) Mrs K. Allward, Executive Director, Adult Social Care  
Ch. Supt. Dolby, West Midlands Police  
Ms. M. Poonia, Chair, Healthwatch Walsall  
Ms F. Shanahan, Walsall Housing Sector  
Ms M. Foster, Black Country Healthcare Foundation Trust  
Prof D. Loughton, Chief Executive, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust  
Geraint Griffiths Dale, Managing Director, Integrated Care Board.

**In Attendance:** Mrs H. Owen, Democratic Services Officer  
(In Person)

### 790 **Welcome**

Councillor Flint opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, and explaining the rules of procedure and legal context in which the meeting was being held. He said that he would consult all Board members on their views if a vote was required however, only those Board members present in the Council House were able to vote and that this would be done by a show of hands which would be recorded.

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.

### 791 **Apologies and substitutions**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pedley and Mrs S. Rowe. Substitute member for this meeting only: Ms I Vanderheeren for Mrs S. Rowe.

792 **Minutes**

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2022, a copy having been sent to each member of the Board be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

793 **Appointment of Vice-Chair**

**Resolved:**

That Dr. A. Rischie be appointed Vice-Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board for the remainder of the Municipal year 2022/23

794 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest

795 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

There were no items to be considered in private session.

**Discussion/decision items**

796 **Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-25**

In attendance: Mrs C. Williams, Public Health Specialist

Mrs Williams presented a report of the Director of Public Health which provided the final version of the Strategy.

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Mrs Williams pointed out that, subject to the strategy being approved, it would be published on 1 October 2022. She also sought approval for the final look of the document to be agreed with the Chair prior to publication.

The Director of Public Health, Mr S. Gunther thanked Mrs Williams and the members of the Board for their work on the production of the Strategy. He said that there had been good conversations with partners around the priorities which would be taken forward through relevant governance bodies.

Members concurred and a vote was taken amongst those members present in the room following which it was:

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Board approves the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-25 for publication on 1 October, the final look of the document being agreed with the Chair prior to publication.
- (2) That the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy be acknowledged as the framework to ensure accountability, monitoring organisational outcomes and performance against the agreed priorities by the Board.

797 **We are Walsall 2040**

In attendance: Karen Griffiths, Head of Policy and Strategy

Ms Griffiths gave a presentation which updated on work done collectively with partner members of the Board to develop a shared strategy to shape the borough to work in, live in and visit in the future.

(see presentation slides annexed)

The Chair thanked Ms Griffiths for the presentation which he said showed a positive future for the borough.

Members concurred and a discussion took place, during which time, the following comments were made:

- This strategy was ambitious and was being led by Councillors Wilson and Perry.
- The Community Safety Partnership had declared its commitment to this ambition for the borough, given the feedback from the survey showing that the fear of crime was a high concern for residents. In addition, the Partnership had taken ownership of the Drugs and Alcohol Strategy for the Borough.
- The responses to the residents survey had been 1,500 from 10,000 requests which was considered to be a good response.
- Granular detail would be shared as appropriate with board member organisations.
- With regard to improving diverse but separate communities, a report following engagement with the religious community was currently being evaluated and would be reported to the board in due course.
- The residents survey had shown that people recognise inequalities in the borough, particularly health inequalities and wanted to make lifestyle changes but did not know how to access the information they needed to make those changes. Reducing disproportionality and maximising fair outcomes was being discussed, including for those who were digitally excluded.
- There had not been any particular comments in the survey regarding the quality of the housing stock, although there had been comments about the lack of availability of sufficient housing.

Councillor Flint thanked Ms Griffiths for her presentation which was noted.

## 798 **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)**

In attendance:

Mrs E. Thomas, Public Health Intelligence Manager  
Ms H. Patel, Integrated Care Board and Walsall Public Health  
Mr J. Patel and Ms J. Nicholls, Local Pharmaceutical Committee

Mrs Thomas presented a report which gave the final version of the revised Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022-25

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Mrs Thomas emphasised that the production of a PNA was a statutory requirement and that reports had previously been considered by the board at the draft stages. She directed members to the conclusions set out in the report for each element of the assessment.

A lengthy discussion took place during which the following comments were made:

- Since the last assessment, there had been little change in the number of pharmacies; services remained similar; gaps analysis were the same as previously and so there were no overarching concerns.
- Statutory consultation with both residents and stakeholders had been carried out during the development of the Assessment. The final draft document had been sent for comment to stakeholders who commissioned public services and that two responses had been received to that final consultation which had been taken to mean that others were satisfied with the final draft, given the considerable pre-consultation engagement with those bodies.
- The majority of Sunday services was provided by pharmacies within supermarkets. Regarding Bank Holiday services, NHS England was responsible for pharmacy contracts and they ensure that there is cover by writing to all pharmacies to seek expressions of interest prior to each bank holiday.
- The dispensing rates appeared lower than the national average however, the correlation with areas of deprivation was recognised and pathways were in place to ensure that people in those areas were able to access medication via pharmacies. Service provision in areas of deprivation had been included in the needs assessment.
- Palliative care, urgent care and out of hours services were notified of the availability of pharmacy services.

- The prescribing and dispensing medicines of limited clinical value such as rubbing gel and paracetamol had reduced however, GPs worked with community pharmacists to reduce the impact on poorer communities.
- The community pharmacy scheme enhanced and encouraged signposting to GP services without GP consultation as it was linked to free prescribing
- People that did not engage with their health were less likely to seek help and this was a concern which needed to be addressed in the assessment.
- Whilst some prescribing had reduced, and the availability of medication on-line was increasing, demand for local pharmacies remained stable.

A vote was taken amongst those members present in the room following which it was:

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022-25 as attached at Appendix A be approved.
- (2) That the intention to publish the PNA on the Council's website before the statutory deadline of 1 October 2022 be noted.

**799 Better Care Fund – End of Year Report and 2022/24 Plan**

In attendance: Ms C. Thompson, Better Care Fund Manager

Ms Thompson presented a report which informed members of details contained within the 2022-23 Better Care Fund (BCF) Narrative Plan, planning and Capacity templates, as per national requirements, and prior to national submission

(see annexed)

The Executive Director, Adult Social Care and Hub, thanked Ms Thompson for her work to provide assurance to the board. She said that the information in the plan was regularly monitored through the Joint Commissioning Committee which had representation from both the Integrated Care Board and Local Authority commissioners. In addition, she emphasised that this work was pivotal in ensuring that Walsall's discharge pathways from hospital were some of the best in the country.

A vote was taken amongst those members present in the room following which it was:

**Resolved:**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board receives and agrees the 2022-23 Planning Template, Narrative Plan and Capacity and Demand template for approval to be sought at national level as per national assurance

## **800 Development of Family hubs and Start for Life programme in Walsall council**

In attendance: Mrs I. Vanderheeren, Director, Early Help and Partnership

Mrs Vanderheeren presented a report which provided an overview of the programme and what it meant for Walsall; and which sought to secure support for the delivery of the programme aligned to delivery of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy and its priorities.

(see annexed)

Councillor Wilson, as Cabinet portfolio holder for Children's Services, thanked Mrs Vanderheeren for her work and reiterated that Walsall was one of 75 Local Authorities to take part in the programme to improve outcomes for Walsall families.

In response to questions from members, Mrs Vanderheeren explained that there was a key fundamental change to the previous Sure Start programme and now focused on 'touchpoints' rather than specific buildings. She said that families could get consistent information from a variety of buildings, clearly and with specialist support, through outreach and online, thereby providing that consistent advice in a more flexible and accessible way to suit parents. With regard to understanding who needed that support, Mrs Vanderheeren explained that this was through a needs analysis, collaboration with parents and referral pathways, working with GPs, health visitors, midwives and doctors to get consistent referral mechanisms.

### **Resolved:**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board supports the delivery of the Family Hub and Start for Life programme in Walsall and requests periodic assurances on delivery of the programme as part of the reporting on progress on the Joint local health and wellbeing strategic priorities.

## **Assurance Items**

### **801 Health Protection Forum Annual Report**

In attendance: Mrs U. Viswanathan, Consultant in Public Health

Mrs Viswanathan presented a report which provided an oversight of the work to protect the health of the population from infectious diseases, screening for cancers, monitoring vaccination programmes, and responding to health emergencies.

(see annexed)

Mr S. Gunther, Director of Public Health, as Statutory officer, urged residents to take the opportunities offered for vaccinations and screening programmes to keep the population safe.

**Resolved:**

That the Annual Report be noted.

**802 Walsall Together Annual Report**

In attendance: Ms M. McManus, Director of Place Management, Walsall Together Partnership.

Ms McManus presented a report updating on the development of Walsall Together Partnership.

(see annexed)

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

**Information items**

**803 Mental Wellbeing Strategy – Progress on delivery**

In attendance: Ms C. Folarin, Interim consultant in Public Health

Ms Folarin presented a report which provided an interim update on the delivery of the strategy.

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the direction of travel of the delivery of the Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Strategy.

**804 Work programme**

The work programme was noted. The Chair reminded members to take note of the deadlines for reports to be submitted for publication which had previously been circulated to Board members.

**Date of next meeting** – 6 December 2022.

The meeting terminated at 5.35pm

Chair:

Date: