

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

At a meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Morpeth on Thursday, 14 November 2019.

PRESENT

Councillor R.R. Dodd
(Chair, in the Chair)

BOARD MEMBERS

Campbell, R (Substitute Member)	McEvoy-Carr, C.
Jones, V.	Riley, C. (Substitute Member)
Lothian, J.	Thompson, D.
Mead, P.	Warrington, J. (Substitute Member)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Bennett, Mrs L.M.	Senior Democratic Services Officer
Campbell, R.	Assistant Director CNTW
Nokes, A.	Director of Commissioning on behalf of NHS Northumberland CCG
Raine, A.	Assistant Director, Northumbria Health Care FT

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from S. Brown, E. Morgan, R. Firth, Councillors W. Daley, S. Dickinson, and C.R. Homer.

24. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on Thursday, 10 October 2019 as circulated, be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

25. REPORT OF ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER, NHS NORTHUMBERLAND CCG AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System Strategic Five Year Plan 2019

This report was withdrawn due to purdah.

Ch.'s Initials.....

26. REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

Better Care Fund

This report was deferred to a future meeting.

27. REPORT OF THE NORTH TYNESIDE AND NORTHUMBERLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD INDEPENDENT CHAIR

North Tyneside and Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board

Paula Mead, Independent Chairperson of the Safeguarding Adults Board, presented the Annual Report 2018/19 and Annual Plan 2019/20 providing an overview of the work carried out under the multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding adults in 2018-2019. (Report filed with signed minutes as Appendix C).

She went on to outline key issues which were raised in the Annual Report as follows:-

- Multi agency approach via the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) had made a huge difference.
- Service users were triaged more effectively.
- MASH dealt jointly with adult and children and ensuring that there was effective integration and transition between the two.
- There was a particular focus on issues such as domestic abuse, sexual abuse and exploitation, neglect, and modern day slavery.
- There was a duty to carry out safeguarding reviews where the criteria were met. Details of two cases in which vulnerable adults had died were published along with the learning from these cases.
- In one of these cases, the family had, unusually, requested that the name and details be published and these were now available on the website.
- The multi-agency Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) provided a helpful way forward in understanding the new emerging area of criminal exploitation including County Lines, sexual exploitation, cuckooing, hate crime and criminal gangs.

RESOLVED that the Annual Report 2018/19 and Annual Plan 2019/20 be received.

28. REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT CHAIR

Final Annual Report 2018/19 Safeguarding Children in Northumberland

Paula Mead, Independent Chair of the Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB), presented the final Annual Report of the Board. She provided an overview of the work carried out under the multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding children during the period April 2018 - September 2019. (Report filed with signed minutes as Appendix D).

She went on to outline key issues which were raised in the Annual Report as follows:-

- This report covered an extended period of 18 months due to the change in arrangements and replacement of the Board with the Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (NSSP).
- The NSCB had been graded as 'Good' in the last Ofsted Inspection and it was hoped to retain this good work and that these strengths continued.
- There was a drive to move forward in an effective and more efficient way and the regional safeguarding partnership would assist with this.
- A serious case review was published regarding N, a six week old baby with significant needs. An area for learning had arisen which highlighted the need to not just focus on mothers but also to work with fathers in safeguarding cases.
- Priorities for the NSSP in 2019-20 were
 - Further promoting preventative and early help approaches
 - Neglect
 - Working with fathers
 - Improving focus on the child's experience of services and better embedding it in practice
 - Impact of domestic violence on children and young people.
 - Child sexual and criminal exploitation, Missing and Gangs and Groups including County Lines

Members welcomed the report. The following responses to questions were made:-

- The Joint Targeted Area Inspection identified some very specific areas development for instance a risk/problem profile of Northumberland in relation to exploitation which had not yet been produced by the police.
- The Inspectors expected to seek constructive challenge between partners.
- The recruitment of social workers was a major challenge nationally. Northumberland County Council recruited newly qualified social workers and had set up an academy (ASYE) to ensure that they had a good experience and good training. The academy was currently on its third cohort and had been successful so far. Social Workers spent six months in the academy and then went out to work with area teams.
- An aim was to make agency social work less attractive by limiting salaries and so helping to retain permanent staff.
- When children were asked what improvements they wanted to see, they sometimes came up with different suggestions to adults. Mental health issues were often raised as was climate change and bullying but children wanted to stress the importance of having fun.
- County Lines and Cuckooing was not currently a major problem in the North East according to the police but no service was complacent in this issue.
- There was a distinction between County Lines and local drug dealing.
- A lot of multi agency work was taking place looking into exploitation and it was hoped that by working together these issues could be tackled.
- Staff were being trained to look out for signs of exploitation.

RESOLVED that

Ch.'s Initials.....

Health & Wellbeing Board, 14 November 2019

- (1) the content of the Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board Final Annual Report be noted.
- (2) the replacement of the NSCB by the Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (NSSP) as set out in the Children and Social Act 2017, be noted.
- (3) A report be submitted to the Board in spring 2020 providing more details about County Lines and the extent of the problem in the North East.

29. JOINT WINTER PLAN 2019/20

Members received a detailed presentation regarding the Joint Winter Plan 2019/20. (A copy of the presentation is filed with the signed minutes.)

Key points from the presentation included:-

- Partnership planning
- Improved waiting time performance at A & E.
- 9.7% increase in A & E attendances creating significant demands on the service.
- Preparation - Additional staffing needs identified, focus on flu vaccination and robust infection control measures
- Acute - additional staffed escalation beds, and acute beds at NSECH. NHS 111 now able to book appointments directly at Wansbeck and Hexham Hospitals.
- Discharge Planning - Home safe escalation process in place, working with NEAS re. same day discharge
- Primary Care - G.P. Out of Hours resources reviewed for staffing and suitable vehicles. NHS 111 able to redirect patients with minor illnesses to community pharmacy.
- Further System Actions -
 - ED/Acute - NEAS alignment of resources (staff and vehicles). Ability to book GP appointments from UTC/UCCs and NSECH.
 - Equipment Loans Service extending hours to support hospital discharge. Work with Care Homes re. assessment response times and reassessment.
 - Community - Clinical Neighbourhood Matrons/Clinical Leads to prioritise discharge planning and admission avoidance activity.
 - Residential care home project
 - Targeted messages to local communities
- Major Surge - Open ward 9 as winter ward, switch off elective work
- Brexit - Plans in place to ensure services keep going.

The following comments were made in response to questions by Members:-

- Nurse Practitioners and trainee Nurse Practitioners had been recruited and the level of vacancies was much lower
- There was a 10% increase in junior doctors being attracted into the region of live and work.
- A similar model was being looked at for nurses.

30. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting scheduled for 12 December 2019 was cancelled due to the General Election. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7 January 2019, at 10.00 a.m. in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Morpeth.

CHAIRMAN

DATE