

## **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, 9 February 2017 at 10.00 a.m.

#### **PRESENT**

Councillor S.J. Dickinson  
(Vice-Chairman, in the Chair)

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Arckless, G.R.	Hunter, E.I.
Atkin, C.	Jones, V.
Bainbridge, V.	Lally, D.
Blair, A.	Reed, J. (substitute member)
Docking, T.	Spring, P.
Glennie, R.	

#### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Allen, D.P.	Observer
Hartwell, A.	Senior Manager - Safeguarding and Education Performance
Malone, C.	Communications Business Partner
Todd, A.	Democratic Services Officer

#### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Davidson, G.	Connect Health
--------------	----------------

### **37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J.G. Davey, Councillor S. Dungworth, C. Keen, P. Mead and G. O'Hare.

### **38. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on Thursday, 8 December 2016, as circulated, be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **39. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Councillor V. Jones disclosed a non registerable personal interest in agenda item no.4 (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Special Educational Needs and Disability) on the agenda as she had a family interest in the subject.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **40. JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY**

(Report filed with the signed minutes as Appendix A).

The purpose of the report was to:

- inform the Health and Wellbeing Board of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) 0 to 25 Years - updated January 2017, and
- to assist with the decision making process around commissioning on a multi-agency basis.

Alan Hartwell, Senior Manager - Safeguarding and Education Performance introduced the report and highlighted some of the key issues identified within the report. Following on from the report a number of issues were raised which members sought clarification and made comment, including:-

- Concerns were raised regarding the increase in the number of children with moderate learning difficulties. Questions were asked as to why there had been an increase; was it better diagnosis, quicker identification or simply more children experiencing levels of SEND. It was reported that there was also still a significant under reporting of this group.
- It was noted that Northumberland had a good record of being able to identify early SEND and had improved data collection methods.
- It was reported that Northumberland had a much higher percentage than the national average of children and young people diagnosed as having an autism spectrum disorder and members questioned why the county had seen such rapid pattern of growth in this category.
- A query was raised as to why there been a continued decrease regarding the data relating to speech, language and communication needs in the county.
- There was a difference in prevalence between genders with males three times

Ch.'s Initials.....

---

more likely to need statements or EHCPs than females. A query as to whether this was in line with the national trend was raised.

Members were advised that the queries about figures produced within the report could simply be recording issues between the different organisations. It was proposed that officers discuss with partners the issues raised, discuss possible reasons for certain trends seen within the data and feedback any responses to the board.

**RESOLVED** that the Health and Wellbeing Board:-

- a) notes and disseminates the contents of the report to a wider audience, and
- b) partners on the board note and feedback to their organisations the implications of this report, take action and feedback any responses, as necessary.

#### **41. NORTHUMBERLAND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION STRATEGY**

Members were updated on the role and remit of the Children and Young People's Participation Group by Cynthia Atkin, Chairman of Healthwatch. (Report filed with the signed minutes as Appendix B).

Members commended the work already achieved in establishing a network of youth participation across Northumberland. The Health and Wellbeing Board was currently looking at its own governance arrangements and this report was timely in ensuring both could work more closely together in the future. Members welcomed the proposal to utilise the Children and Young People's Participation Group as a means of providing a strategic lead, direction and focus for youth participation across the county.

**RESOLVED** that the Health and Wellbeing Board:-

- (a) agree to sign up to the Children and Young People's Participation Group being seen as the engagement gateway for children and young people;
- (b) receive feedback reports from the Children and Young People's Participation Group on young people's views relating to their Health and Wellbeing, to help influence decisions, and
- (c) support the further development of the Children and Young People's Participation Group (this already has involved shared engagement opportunities, task groups to concentrate on particular areas of work).

#### **42. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS**

Members considered the third annual report of the Director of Education and Skills for Northumberland (report filed with the signed minutes as Appendix C). Daljit Lally, Deputy Chief Executive and Alan Hartwell, Senior Manager - Safeguarding and Education Performance introduced the report.

Ch.'s Initials.....

---

Members were pleased to note that schools were beginning to improve compared to 2013/14 and that the local authority was having more impact on supporting that achievement. It was noted that the report provided a very honest appraisal of the current situation and highlighted the vast amount of work undertaken by the Director and his team.

Councillor Arckless, Cabinet Member for Children's Services commended the report. He referred to the good examples of capital investment in schools and what could be achieved when officers from the Local Authority worked with a school in difficulties. However, he also highlighted the Council's changing role with regard to school organisation and the pressures faced by schools with reducing finance and resources available to help maintain and support education across the county.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received for information.

#### **43. HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - WORK PROGRAMME**

Members considered the Health and Well-being board Work Programme (a copy of the work programme has been filed with the signed minutes as Appendix D).

Members were advised of the last Development Session that took place to discuss the future governance structure, role and function of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The session had been very constructive and resulted in a small group being tasked with further work on these issues before bringing a paper back to the board. It was envisaged this further work would be completed in time for the boards next meeting.

It was suggested the following issues also be placed on the Work Programme:-

- Transformation programme including themed board sessions
- SEND Inspection

**RESOLVED** that the Work Programme and suggested items be noted.

#### **ITEM FOR INFORMATION**

#### **44. CONSULTATIONS**

Members of the board were made aware of a number of consultations currently being carried out:-

#### **Section 75 Partnership Agreement 0-19 Public Health Service (Healthy Child Programme) consultation**

Ch.'s Initials.....

---

It was advised that Northumberland County Council and Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust had proposed to enter into a formal partnership agreement to allow the Trust to deliver the 0-19 Public Health Service on the Council's behalf. It was noted that although the partnership agreement itself would not directly affect the service model, views of stakeholders about various aspects of the service were being sought with the consultation running from 17 January 2017 until 16 February 2017.

### **Public Consultation about Rothbury Community Hospital**

It was reported that NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) had started a public consultation on some proposed changes at Rothbury Community Hospital which would run from 31 January to 25 April 2017.

The proposal was a permanent closure of the 12 inpatient beds and shape existing health and care services around a Health and Wellbeing Centre on the hospital site.

A number of drop-in sessions and public meetings had been arranged in Rothbury with the first meeting scheduled for the 16 February 2017.

### **Healthwatch Northumberland Board Chair**

It was reported that Healthwatch Northumberland was now looking to recruit a Board Chair. The closing date for applications was 1 March 2017, with interviews planned for 9 and 10 March 2017.

Members took the opportunity to thank Cynthia Atkin for all her work as the Healthwatch chair and as a member of this board. Cynthia had championed public and patient engagement and ensured the public's views on health and social care in Northumberland were heard. The board wished her well for the future.

### **Healthwatch Northumberland Annual Survey 2016/17**

It was noted that the Annual Survey was now available to seek the public's feedback on their experience of health and social care in the county. The survey was available online and responses needed to be made before 24 February 2017. It was reported that the results of the survey would be made available to the Health and Wellbeing Board, in due course.

**RESOLVED** that the consultations be noted.

## **45. URGENT BUSINESS**

The Vice-Chair advised that he had an item of urgent business regarding a verbal update on the progress made within the Children and Young People's Mental Health Service.

Ch.'s Initials.....

---

The verbal update was urgent because of the need to seek members views before a report was drafted to ensure areas of concern were included and addressed within the proposed paper.

Due to the likely disclosure of exempt information the Chair requested the press and public to be excluded from the meeting during the verbal update. It was agreed that the Health and Wellbeing Board pass the appropriate resolution. It was therefore

#### **46. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

##### **RESOLVED**

- (a) That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act, and
- (b) That the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure for the following reasons:-

##### **Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A**

6 - Information which reveals that the authority proposes a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or b) to make an order or direction under any enactment

The public interest in seeking this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure because contractual negotiations are under way.

#### **47. Children and Young People's Mental Health Service Update**

Members were advised of the progress made to ensure that children and families had timely access to mental health services. However, a number of concerns were raised regarding the service and whether it was delivering its priorities particularly the requirement for it to reduce its waiting times and prioritise the care needs of the most vulnerable groups. Following the update, members advised the service representative of the scope and level of detailed information required by the board at its next meeting.

##### **RESOLVED that:-**

- a) the update be noted, and

Ch.'s Initials.....

---

- b) a full detailed report be scheduled within the work programme for consideration at a future meeting of the board.

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

Ch.'s Initials.....

---