

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

GATESHEAD HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

FRIDAY 28 JANUARY 2022

PRESENT

Councillor Leigh Kirton	Gateshead Council (Chair)
Councillor Gary Haley	Gateshead Council
Councillor Jonathan Wallace	Gateshead Council
Councillor Martin Gannon	Gateshead Council
Dr Mark Dorman	Newcastle Gateshead CCG
Lynn Wilson	Newcastle Gateshead CCG/Gateshead Council
Joanna Clark	Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust
James Duncan	Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Alice Wiseman	Gateshead Council
Siobhan O'Neill	Healthwatch Gateshead
Stephen Kirk	Community Based Care Health
Peter Udall	Gateshead Council

IN ATTENDANCE:

John Costello	Gateshead Council
Andrea Houlahan	Gateshead Council
Stephen Kirk	Community Care Based Health
Steph Downey	Gateshead Council
Mel Bramwell	Gateshead Council
Saira Park	Gateshead Council
Peter Wright	Gateshead Council
Helen Conway	Gateshead Council

HW301 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Lynn Caffrey. Cllr Bernadette Oliphant, Cllr Michael McNestry Caroline O'Neill and Lisa Goodwin.

HW302 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

- i) The minutes of the last informal meeting held on 10 December 2021 were agreed as a correct record
- ii) The Board formally endorsed the Better Care Fund submission for 2021/22 that was endorsed by the informal meeting of the Board on 10 December 2021 (as required by NHS England to have formal endorsement)

HW303 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED:

i) There were no declarations of interest at this meeting

HW304 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT: BEHIND THE MASKS, GATESHEAD'S COVID STORIES - ALICE WISEMAN

The Board received a presentation from the Director of Public Health entitled 'Behind the Masks, Gateshead's Covid Stories'.

The Annual Report set out the background to the key themes of report and highlighted the direct impact of Covid-19 on Gateshead people and how organisations, individuals and communities have gone above and beyond to respond to the challenges they have faced.

The report then focused on the impact of the pandemic on the six policy objectives set out in the 'Marmot Review, Fair Society, Healthy Lives (2010) and adopted by the 'Gateshead Health and Wellbeing Strategy: Good jobs, homes, health and friends'.

Rather than setting out traditional recommendations, the report concludes with a number of lessons from our Gateshead Covid stories:

Lesson 1 – we must continue to prioritise the policy objectives set out in our Health and Wellbeing Strategy (published February 2020). Our Covid stories have shown us that, while they may be more challenging than ever, they remain the key areas to tackle so we can reduce levels of inequality and alter the circumstances that lead to inequality.

Lesson 2 – we must continue to take action on poverty at every opportunity. We must make sure that the services that provide advice and support to those in the communities of place and interest, who have been most affected by the pandemic, receive the resources that they need to mitigate the damage that poverty brings. This means we will have to do different things in different places striving for equity and not equality.

Lesson 3 – children and young people have experienced significant disruption to their lives at key stages in their development. Supporting children, young people and families to make up ground lost in the pandemic as soon as possible, is critical to preventing problems being stored up for generations to come. We need a focus on how we support our children and young people to recover. Our response will need to be differentiated by the stage of life.

Lesson 4 – there must be an increased focus on preventable action across all our services. In particular, we need to consider how we support mental health and well-being in all our services and at all levels. The long term consequences of the pandemic for the health of the local population will take time to be fully understood but it is already evident that there has been a negative impact on many people's mental health. Health behaviours including physical activity, alcohol consumption and smoking are also early areas to address.

Lesson 5 – we must engage communities in developing the solutions – enabling people to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives is, as we know, part of the solution. We must work with communities to hear and understand the things that matter to them and what works for them. During Covid-19, we've seen how successful this approach has been in making information and support accessible and relevant to different communities.

Lesson 6 – we need to continue to harness the power of social action in communities. During the pandemic, local community groups stepped up to support their vulnerable neighbours. We saw how powerful this could be when there is a collective goal everyone can get behind. We need to find a way to support this type of community action.

Lesson 7 – we need to ensure that those innovators and service developments that have improved access to services are identified and mainstreamed whilst recognising that they may not be appropriate for everyone and all circumstances. There needs to be a range of options, particularly for those who are digitally excluded whilst recognising that others have benefitted from being able to access services remotely.

Lesson 8 – the initial waves of the pandemic have demonstrated how much successful partnerships can achieve when local government, health and public sector partners, charities, the voluntary sector and community groups come together behind a shared goal. We need to continue to build on this renewed focus and purpose as we look to the future.

RESOLVED:

- i) The Board noted the contents of the presentation and agreed with the action to tackle the lessons from our Covid experience in Gateshead.

HW305 ADDRESSING POVERTY (CHILDREN & FAMILIES) - ANDREA HOULAHAN

The Board received a presentation on the impact of poverty on children and families and on work taking place to address poverty within families by the Children and Families service.

The presentation set out key data relating to poverty and what the research is telling us, supplemented by case studies that demonstrated the complexity of individual cases.

The key challenges from a social work perspective were also outlined and discussed, including the importance of tailored support to meet the needs of children and their families.

RESOLVED:

- i) The Board noted the contents of the presentation.

HW306 HEALTHWATCH GATESHEAD UPDATE - SIOBHAN O'NEILL

The Board received a report and presentation which provided an update on the range of work being conducted by Healthwatch Gateshead.

It was reported that Healthwatch Gateshead have used the domains within the Healthwatch England (HWE) Quality Framework. This tool has been developed to support local Healthwatch to take stock and make improvements and to help local councils in their commissioning and monitoring of Healthwatch. The domains are:

- Leadership and decision-making
- People
- Sustainability and resilience
- Collaboration
- Engagement, Involvement & Reach
- Influence & Impact

The presentation set out details of what Healthwatch have been doing over the last year, how it has gone about its work, the people it has engaged with, what it has learned from the work undertaken and how this will feed into its future work going forward. This included case studies which set out how Healthwatch responded to people who got in contact with them or were referred to them e.g. by Gateshead CAB.

The report concluded by looking ahead and next steps. It was noted that Healthwatch wants to develop its role in making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives by:

- Amplifying the voice and experiences of health and social care for those people and communities facing the greatest inequalities
- Improving understanding of people's experiences as health and social care are further integrated
- Collaborating to increase our reach and collective impact

RESOLVED:

- i) The Board noted the contents of the report

HW307 COVID-19 RESPONSE & VACCINE UPDATE - ALICE WISEMAN / LYNN WILSON

The Board received an update on the current situation within Gateshead regarding the COVID-19 response and vaccine update.

RESOLVED:

- i) The Board noted the contents of the report

HW308 GATESHEAD CARES SYSTEM BOARD UPDATE - MARK DORNAN / ALL

Dr Mark Dornan provided the Board with an update from the system and will circulate the slides after the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- i) The Board noted the contents of the update

HW309 UPDATES FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

HW310 FOR INFORMATION (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED)

Child of the North – building a fairer future after COVID-19 & Community Care article (Child Poverty)

- RESOLVED - i) The Board noted the report

HW311 AOB

The Chair asked that it be formally recorded in the minutes, their thanks and appreciation to Caroline O'Neill for her service to the Council as she will be leaving the Council shortly. The Board wished her well for the future.

The Board also congratulated James Duncan on becoming the new Chief Executive of CNTW.