

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
CARE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MEETING

Tuesday, 25 June 2019

PRESENT: Councillor S Green (Chair)

Councillor(s): M Charlton, W Dick, B Goldsworthy,
M Goldsworthy, M Hood, R Mullen, J Wallace, A Wheeler,
M Hall, Diston, H Haran and K McClurey

APOLOGIES: Councillor(s): K Ferdinand, I Patterson, P McNally, J Lee
and J Gibson

CHW139 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Committee agreed the minutes of the last meeting, held on 23 April 2019 as a correct record.

CHW140 CONSTITUTION

The Constitution of the Committee and the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair for the 2019/20 municipal year, as approved by the Council at its meeting on 17 May 2019 was noted.

CHW141 ROLE AND REMIT

The Role and Remit of the Care, Health and Wellbeing OSC was reported and noted.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted

CHW142 BRIEFING - RADIOLOGY EQUIPMENT TRINITY SQUARE, GATESHEAD

The Committee received a briefing note and verbal update on the replacement of the Radiology Equipment at Trinity Square, Gateshead.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted

CHW143 ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH - MAKING GATESHEAD A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE THRIVES - END OF YEAR ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY 2018/19

The Committee received a report which provided the year end assessment of

performance and delivery for the period 1 October 2018 to 31 March 2019 in relation to the Council's Thrive agenda.

The report forms part of the Council's performance management framework and give an overview of progress for the priorities appropriate to the remit of Care, Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC).

The Council's new strategic approach Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives, was approved by Cabinet in March 2018 to ensure the Council continues to get the best outcomes for local people and remains a viable and sustainable organisation in the future.

Committee were advised at the meeting in December 2018, that a review of the strategic indicators has been undertaken to ensure their appropriateness in measuring performance relating to the Thrive agenda.

The current strategic indicators were reviewed in January 2019 to ensure they continue to be appropriate in measuring performance in respect of the Thrive agenda. 1 new indicator was identified and is identified in appendix 1 (appended to the main report). The new indicator will be incorporated into the first report of the 2019/20 cycle. The service proposed further review and refinement of the strategic indicators during the year, in light of the development of the CWL Strategic Priorities set out in Appendix 2 (appended to the main report)

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted
 - ii) The Committee endorsed that the activities undertaken during the period October 2018 to March 2019 were supporting delivery of the Thrive agenda.
 - iii) The Committee agreed that the report be referred to Cabinet on 16 July 2019.

CHW144 OSC REVIEW: SUICIDE, EVERY LIFE MATTERS, SCOPING REPORT

The Committee received the scoping report outlining the process to be undertaken for the review of Suicide in Gateshead, entitled 'Suicide, Every Life Matters', agreed in the annual work programme for 2019/20.

The report describes the process for taking the proposed review forward and the evidence that will be considered. It seeks the support of the OSC committee over the coming year to consider the context of suicide from a local, regional and national perspective and to agree a local way forward for Gateshead. To support their scrutiny of the topic the committee will hear from those working to address suicide in Gateshead and further afield, sharing their experience and knowledge on the issue.

It is proposed that the review will take place over a ten-month period from 25 June 2019 to 21 April 2020. It will involve the presentation of expert evidence, research and Experts by Experience.

The process and timescale was presented to the Committee as an appendix to the main report.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted
 - ii) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the scope, process and timescale as set out in the report.

CHW145 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received the provisional work programme for the municipal year 2019/20.

The work programme was endorsed at the meeting held on 23 April 2019 and Councillors have agreed that further reports will be brought to future meetings to highlight current issues/identify any changes/additions to this programme.

Appendix 1 (appended to the main report) sets out the work programme as it currently stands and highlights proposed changes to the work programme in bold and italics for ease of identification.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted
 - ii) That further reports on the work programme will be brought to Committee to identify any additional policy issues, which the Committee may be asked to consider.

CHW146 DECIDING TOGETHER - PROGRESS UPDATE

The Committee received a presentation by representatives from Northumberland Tyne and Wear (NTW) NHS Foundation Trust outlining progress on the implementation of 'Deciding Together – Delivering Together'

It was highlighted that implementation had focused on the following priorities

- Access to mental health services, and making this more streamlined and easier to navigate including the development of a safe haven hub
- Redesign of mental health inpatient beds in accordance with decisions made through the Deciding Together consultation
- Availability of short-term non-hospital crisis beds for Gateshead residents (this service is already available to Newcastle residents)
- Developing services for older people and ensure physical health, mental health and social care needs are met. Include a more integrated approach when responding to crisis situations
- Strengthen and improve the community-based services

The Committee was advised that, as a result work around Urgent and Emergency response, considering gaps identified in current services, is being developed through CCG led group. Mental Health and Learning Disability Service Directories are also being developed and work is also taking place with Our Gateshead and Information Now in Newcastle who host news, events and regular activities by groups and organisations across the area, to include information on NTW's Mental Health and Learning Disability NHS services. Mental Health Concerns (MHC) are also working

with their core partners on the provision of non - hospital crisis beds in Swalwell, Gateshead and these should be available soon.

The Committee was informed that work around urgent and emergency response for older people in crisis is being developed through a CCG led group to reflect the different commissioning arrangements in each locality. Continued work is also taking place across pathways to prevent / reduce admissions /promote effective discharge.

Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust has also recently completed a major refurbishment of its inpatient facilities for people with cognitive conditions.

Work has also been taking place to reduce waiting times for Adult Mental Health community assessment and treatment; develop a mental and physical wellbeing pathway for people who are on long-term medication and a step- up hub which prevents people from getting worse and needing support from the crisis team.

A buddy system for care co-ordinators is also being developed providing continuity for people if their care coordinator is on holiday or not available. Recovery clinics are also being established to support people to prevent relapse, manage their medication, manage their long - term mental health conditions and help to prepare for being discharged from the team. Improved links with primary care and the local authority are also being created and further development work is planned. The Trust is also looking to work more closely with GPs around accessibility to mental health services as part of the longer- term planning in community.

In terms of the redesign of mental health beds the Trust has been successful in gaining £54m in public funding to improve buildings and the estate within secure care services (Northgate site) and the development of a state-of-the-art adult acute care facilities on the St. Nicholas' Hospital site. The Trust expect new centre of excellence to be open in 2023. However, as an interim move the Tranwell unit in Gateshead will move across resulting in two female and one male ward in Hadrian and a further male ward at St Nicholas Hospital. All wards will move to improved accommodation on St Nicholas site within the next 3-4 years.

The Committee was informed that NTW older people's services in Akenside and Castleside within the CAV will remain where they are during this time, while future accommodation is being considered. There will be no change at the present time to the accommodation. However, the Committee was advised that it was likely that the Trust will look to relocate these services at some point in the future.

Details of the proposed timelines for acute ward moves were provided to the Committee. The Committee was advised that it was anticipated that the withdrawal from the Tranwell Unit would take place in October 2019. There had been a slight delay in securing the end of the service due to clinical reasons.

The Committee was informed that the refurbished facilities at the Hadrian Clinic did not provide ensuite facilities due to the nature of the building but the finalised facilities on the St Nicholas Hospital site will have ensuite provision.

The Committee noted that some members had visited the recently refurbished

facilities at the Hadrian Clinic and raised concerns that they did not include ensuite provision. The Committee expressed their disappointment that the refurbished facilities at the Hadrian Clinic did not include the provision of ensuite facilities as this had been previously highlighted as one of the key reasons why the Tranwell Unit was no longer fit for purpose and the Committee had been led to believe that it was a safety issue that such facilities were not in place.

The Committee was advised that representatives of the Trust who were present during the visit had understood that the Committee had been pleased overall with the work that had been carried out as the Committee had commended them on the work carried out. It was acknowledged that concerns in relation to the lack of ensuite facilities had been raised by members of the Committee. However, representatives of the Trust had been clear at the time that unfortunately, due to the nature of the building, it was not possible to provide ensuite facilities at the Hadrian Clinic. The Committee was advised that the Trust is doing its best to improve mental health provision and has spent £1.5m to improve the facilities at the Hadrian Clinic. The facilities now in place are much better than previous facilities and the facilities at the Tranwell Unit are a step towards the provision that the Trust is working towards putting in place at St Nicholas Hospital.

Assurances were provided to the Committee that a lack of ensuite facilities at the Hadrian Clinic was not a safety issue. The Committee was advised that in terms of the level of facilities provided the Trust is viewed as class leading across the NHS.

The Committee was advised that there are a significant number of wards nationally which are dormitory style and the Trust does not have any of these. Once all refurbishments are complete the Trust aims to be one of the first organisations to be fully ensuite. The Committee was advised that the Trust has put in a huge amount of effort to provide facilities at the best possible standard for Gateshead residents. The Committee was advised that the Trust provides some of the best in-patient services and its services have been rated as outstanding by CQC. The Committee was assured that the Trust is committed to providing the highest quality in patient care. The Committee was also assured that the Trust provides excellent safe services.

The Committee highlighted that as local councillors they sometimes have residents who are in mental distress attend their surgeries and indicated that going forwards it would be helpful to have contact information for support services across the borough.

It was also highlighted that during the earlier workshops relating to the vision for mental health services discussion had focused on the provision of several mental health hubs and it was queried whether it was now the case that there would be only one. The Committee was advised that the workshops were held to generate discussion on what people viewed as the ideal position. This piece of work was not being progressed by the Trust but was being led by Mental Health Concerns and now that the Long Term Plan has been published and there is information on investment they should be able to provide further information on this matter.

The Committee expressed concern that it had taken approximately three years to get to this point.

Trust representatives acknowledged that this had been a lengthy process but this had been due to the availability of capital funding. The Committee was advised that the Trust was the only organisation in the NE to receive national funding, due to the fact it had such a good case and is cause for celebration as it means that facilities can be improved to the highest standards.

Approximately fifteen years ago the Trust had one of the worst estates in the country but they have had a long term strategy and have invested to make sure the Trust has the best provision / services and they are now on the last part of that journey. It was acknowledged that there are still a lot of improvements to be made but it was considered that the Trust provides some of the best mental health services in the country.

A representative of Healthwatch Gateshead noted that Healthwatch Gateshead had been involved in the initial workshops in relation to the Deciding Together – Implementing Together process but indicated that there had been no engagement with them since then.

Representatives of the Trust apologised and stated that this would be addressed following the meeting.

A member of the public raised concerns in relation to bed capacity for acute mental health provision in Gateshead and the use of out of area provision for Gateshead residents and the movement of forensic services. As a result, the member of the public felt that there was a need to retain the Tranwell Unit.

Representatives of the Trust advised the Committee that last year across Newcastle and Gateshead there were only 136 occasional bed days where patients were placed in appropriate provision outside of the NTW area. This amounted to 0.5 percent. The Committee was advised that the Trust is one of the best performing Trusts in this particular area.

In terms of bed capacity, the Trust is managing occupancy levels and currently is slightly above the national average. However, the NewcastleGateshead CCG area still has more bed capacity than other parts of the patch. The Trust is committed to achieving no out of area placements in the next three years.

The Committee was informed that secure services are a separate matter to the services covered by the Deciding Together proposals.

The Committee sought assurances that when individuals were sent to out of area placements they were still receiving a good standard of care. Representatives of the Trust assured the Committee that they are committed to providing the best services possible for Gateshead residents and out of area placements were managed very closely in terms of how and where and were kept to a minimum.

Representatives of the Trust invited the OSC to be involved in the design phase for the new in - patient unit and to visit the new Bamborough unit at St Nicholas Hospital in due course.

The Committee thanked the Trust for the offer and accepted the Trust's offer and reassurances on the issues raised but indicated that it had been important to highlight those issues with the Trust and seek relevant reassurances for the benefit of Gateshead residents.

Representatives of the Trust reiterated that they are fully committed to providing the best services for Gateshead residents and acknowledged that there are always areas where an organisation can improve.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted
 - ii) That further progress updates be provided to the Committee in due course
 - iii) That the Committee accept the Trust's offer of being involved in the design phase for new in-patient unit and visiting the new unit in due course

Chair.....