

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

Tuesday, 1 November 2016

PRESENT: Councillor N Weatherley (Chair)

Councillor(s): M Charlton, W Dick, B Goldsworthy,
M Goldsworthy, L Kirton, I Patterson, J Simpson, J Wallace
and A Wheeler

APOLOGIES:

Councillor(s): C Bradley, D Davidson, M Hood, J Kielty,
P McNally and R Mullen

CHW16 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the last meeting held on 13 September were agreed as a correct record.

CHW17 MATTERS ARISING

Healthwatch Gateshead reported that they had investigated the reports by patients of delays being experienced with the NHS 111 Service and the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS). The Service has admitted to staff shortages at present with an increased level of demand. NEAS has reassured Healthwatch Gateshead that these issues are being investigated as a matter of urgency.

Alice Wiseman reported that the NEAS have been recently rated as 'Good' by the CQC. The NEAS have 75 staff ready to come off training programmes which should help to alleviate the current staff shortages and it was suggested that the NEAS should be invited to a future meeting of the OSC to discuss the recent CQC rating.

RESOLVED - that the information be noted.

CHW18 PROPOSAL TO CLOSE BEDE BRANCH SURGERY

The Committee received a report and presentation regarding an application by the partners of St Albans Medical Group to close the branch surgery at the Bede Centre, Old Fold Road, Gateshead and outlined details of the engagement process carried out so far with patients and stakeholders.

The Bede Centre flooded in February 2016 which resulted in clinical sessions being transferred to the main Felling practice site. Due to a combination of staffing shortages and the impact of service charges on the practice's finances, the practice

is proposing to close the Bede branch site. No complaints have been received and patients have accessed services at Felling Health Centre from February 2016.

The Committee understood the rationale behind the proposed closure but were disappointed to note that another GP surgery was being lost in the borough, especially in an area of low car ownership and high deprivation.

The Committee were reassured that the pharmacy at the Bede Centre, which provides a delivery service, would remain open as this is governed under a separate contract, and also asked for feedback from the engagement exercises to be provided.

The Committee sought to understand why a small group of patients had only been accessing the Bede site and was advised that the consultation had highlighted transport as an issue. The Committee was reassured that in terms of access to the main Felling practice, there is a regular bus service and Age Concern also offers a service offering transport to the Felling Practice at a small charge and where the driver waits.

The Committee also sought to understand what was being done to address the issues raised by CQC and improve standards at the practice. The Committee was informed that the practice was working with CBC Federation to review systems and processes and an overhaul of the appointments system was taking place. Skill mix at the practice was also being addressed to ensure that GP's time was being used more efficiently.

The Committee queried whether the main site at Felling has sufficient capacity to cope with the patients who had been attending the Bede branch surgery. The Committee was informed that the Bede branch had been closed since February as a result of flooding at the site and the surgeries carried out at that site had subsequently been incorporated into the schedule at the Felling site.

The Director of Public Health advised the Committee that this scenario will be the first of others coming to OSC in the future as reduced funding and GP recruitment problems are being experienced across the country.

RESOLVED - that the information be noted.

CHW19 REVIEW OF THE ROLE OF HOUSING IN IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING - FIRST EVIDENCE GATHERING SESSION

The Committee received a report and presentation in the first evidence gathering session examining the role of the supply of housing in Gateshead, with a particular focus on stock managed by The Gateshead Housing Company/anticipating the demand for and supply of housing in the future and highlight particular issues which are relevant to health and wellbeing and the activity being progressed to address these issues.

The Committee received two presentations:-

- Working with the existing stock, Anneliese Hutchinson, Service Director for Development and Public Protection and Jon Mallen- Beadle, Managing Director, The Gateshead Housing Company and
- Planning for future housing need, Anneliese Hutchinson and Neil Wilkinson, Spatial Planning and Environmental Manager.

Future evidence gathering sessions will cover the following:

December

- Provide an overview of the relationship between health and housing standards (ie. Condition, management and energy efficiency)
- Particular focus on fuel poverty
- Consider the role of housing and place

January

- How housing support and advice services maintain and improve health and wellbeing

The Committee expressed concern at the pay to stay initiative, the proposed impact on market rents being introduced and the proposed transfer of council stock by the Government and wished to support officers continuation to lobby government for clear legislation to be made available as soon as possible.

Committee expressed concern at the government's definition and ruling on affordable rents and asked for further information to be provided to councillors at a future meeting.

- RESOLVED -
- i) that the information be noted
 - ii) that the support of the committee be given to officers to continue to lobby government
 - iii) that further information be provided to committee on the definition of affordable rents
 - iv) that a letter highlighting the OSC's concerns be forwarded to government

CHW20 GATESHEAD HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - PROGRESS UPDATE

The Committee received a progress report of Gateshead Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Health and Wellbeing Board Forward Plan for 2016/17 and strategic priorities for Gateshead identified through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) were presented as well as the Strategic and Operational Plans during the period April to September 2016.

The Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2016/17 was also agreed by HWB and the Board also received an update on progress in relation to the Performance Management Framework.

As part of the Board's assurance agenda, the following updates were also considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board:-

- Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 Action Plan
- Safeguarding Adults Strategic Plan 2016-2019 and Annual Business Plan
- Healthwatch Gateshead Annual Report 2015/2016 and Priorities for 2016/17
- Drug Related Deaths Annual Report for 2015 and an overview of drug related deaths in 2016 to date
- Learning Disability Joint Health & Social Care Self- Assessment Framework

Other issues that were considered by the Board included:

- Social Prescribing in Gateshead
- Personal Health Budgets
- Smoking Still Kills: Smoke Free Vision 2025
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Live Well Gateshead Evaluation
- Primary Care Co-commissioning
- National Review of the Voluntary and Community Sector in improving Health, Wellbeing and Care Outcomes

The Committee also requested that a further detailed report be provided to the OSC on the Health Needs Assessments (HNAs) for Homelessness (looking at multiple and complex needs through the lens of homelessness) and Black and Minority Ethnic Communities.

- RESOLVED -
- i) that the information be noted
 - ii) that a further detailed report be brought back on the Health Needs Assessments (HNAs) for Homelessness

Chair.....