

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

Tuesday, 8 September 2020

PRESENT: Councillor S Green (Chair)

Councillor(s): M Charlton, W Dick, K Ferdinand,
B Goldsworthy, M Goldsworthy, M Hood, R Mullen,
I Patterson, J Wallace, A Wheeler, P McNally, M Hall,
J Gibson, Diston, H Haran, K McClurey and B Oliphant

APOLOGIES: Councillor(s): J Lee

CHW178 MINUTES

The Committee agreed the minutes of the last meeting held on 3 March 2020 as a correct record.

CHW179 MAKING GATESHEAD A PLACE WHERE THRIVES - END OF YEAR UPDATE OF PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY 2019/20

The OSC received the end of year update of performance and delivery 2019/20 in relation to the Council's Thrive agenda for the indicators and activity linked to care, health and wellbeing delivered and overseen by Adult Social Care and Public Health services within the Council.

The report sets out the performance overview linked to 20 strategic outcome identified as providing a high-level picture of the strategic priorities for the Council and its partners in care, health and wellbeing.

All 20 indicators were appended to the man report with performance data provided where this was available at the end of the period. There was also an update provided on the key activities and achievements over the last 6 months, with key activities identified in each service area for the upcoming 6-month period.

The report follows the standard framework for the Year End 2019/20 performance, it also identifies the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on performance as well as potential future implications. The current strategic indicators are in the process of being reviewed and a new performance framework adopted for the Council. Therefore, it is anticipated this will be the last report of this format linked to these indicators.

RESOLVED - i) The Committee agreed that the activities undertaken during October 2019 to March 2020

- were supporting delivery of the Thrive Agenda
- ii) The Committee requested further information on the council's current work on Air Quality Emissions, Austerity measures and work to tackle obesity and an update on sampling work carried out by the Drug and Alcohol Services
 - iii) The Committee noted that Cabinet will consider a composite performance report at their meeting on 20 October 2020.

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CHW180 COVID-19 UPDATE

The Committee received a report and presentation setting out an overview of the Gateshead Health and Care System response to the Covid19 pandemic.

The Committee were advised that Health and Social Care Partners in Gateshead have an excellent history of integrated working, including regularly scheduled meetings which provide strategic, tactical and operational oversight of our integration programme.

In a coordinated response to Covid19, all meetings were rescheduled as virtual meetings, and a number of additional meetings/cells were established to coordinate our response to the pandemic.

The meetings/cells covered a range of topics, including but not limited to:-

- Hospital Discharge – 7 day model, 8 am – 8 pm
- Care Home Support
- PPE
- Testing
- Workforce coordination
- Infection Prevention and Control
- System oversight
- Care Home Tracker
- Epidemiology
- Community health and GP coordination
- 'Hot site' development
- Estates
- Technology
- Finance/payments to care providers
- Coordination with LA Hubs

Initially many meetings/cells met on a daily basis, seven days a week (including bank holidays), and whilst they continue to meet, most have now scaled back to one or two times per week.

The focus of the meetings/cells was to ensure a coordinated approach across the

health and care system; ensure all agencies were working to the agreed national guidance; enable mutual aid across organisations, identify and escalate organisational or system risks; and provide assurance to Council and Partner Corporate Management Teams.

Examples of best practice demonstrated during the crisis were outlined to the Committee:-

- Testing of the health & care workforce and vulnerable people
- Sharing/pooling of PPE during points of shortage
- Hospital Discharge to Assess model
- Workforce support across the statutory partners
- Deployment of health 'clinic' employees to support Eastwood
- Daily support to Care Homes
- Outbreak control management
- Referrals from/to health, care and the shielding hubs
- Pooling and sharing of resources and donations

Teams across organisations rapidly adopted technological solutions, to enable virtual meetings, and in health and care settings, technology was deployed to reduce face to face contacts between professionals and members of the public.

The Committee were also advised that local teams also linked into national and regional networks across commissioning, health, social care and public health, to ensure that best practice was understood and shared across a much wider network.

The nature of the meetings/cells meant that rapid learning and review was enabled, so that the system response could adapt and evolve as the nature of the pandemic changed and we learnt from what has worked well and what we could do better.

As noted, many of the groups continue to meet on a scaled back basis, but with the confidence that more regular meetings can be stood up, should there be a local spike in infections.

New guidance on Hospital Discharge and Continuing Health Care was published on 21 August 2020 to be introduced from 1 September 2020, and partners are working together to identify the changes that will be required (including the requirements in respect of those people who were discharged under the Covid19 funding arrangements).

Learning from the work that has been achieved during the pandemic is now feeding into our future developments as a Health and Care system, as we reset our objectives in the light of the pandemic experience.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted
 - ii) The Committee wished to place upon record their thanks and appreciation to all staff involved in the response to the Covid19 pandemic

Chair.....