

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday 20 December 2022

Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House, Victoria Square

Action Notes

Present

Councillor Mick Brown (Chair)

Councillors: Kath Hartley, Jane Jones, Gareth Moore, Rob Pocock, Julian Pritchard and Paul Tilsley

Also Present:

Councillor Mariam Khan, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care / Deputy Chair of the BLACHIR Implementation Board

Maria Gavin, Assistant Director, Adult Social Care

Dr Carolyn Kus, Independent Chair of the Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board

Asif Manzoor, Business Manager, Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board

Modupe Omonijo, Assistant Director, Wider Determinants, Public Health (On-line)

Monika Rozanski, Service Lead – Inequalities Public Health

Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health

Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Jayne Bowles, Scrutiny Officer (On-Line)

1. NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chair advised that the meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's meeting You Tube site (www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6_5dnVnYlw) and that members of the press/public could record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. ACTION NOTES/MATTERS ARISING

Actions from 19 July informal meeting:

Q4 Adult Social Care Performance Monitoring Report

Regarding the further informal briefing session to be organised with Andrew Marsh and a representative from University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, Scrutiny Officers have been in touch with Andrew to follow up on this request and are waiting for some proposed dates.

Actions from 22 November meeting:

Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System Ten-Year Strategy

- A note to be provided on what long-Covid services are available in Birmingham.
- A note to be provided on the membership of the ICS Partnership, ICS Board and Place Board.

This information has been requested with an indication of when it will be available and a response is awaited.

Substance Use: Birmingham's Adult Treatment Services

- To provide information on the association between people living in HMOs and exempt accommodation and in treatment for drug and alcohol abuse by Wards.
- CGL to provide information regarding the training that has been given to housing providers.

Scrutiny Officers have been advised that this information will be available by the end of January 2023.

RESOLVED:

That the action notes of the meeting held on 22 November 2022 were agreed.

5. BIRMINGHAM AND LEWISHAM AFRICAN CARIBBEAN HEALTH INEQUALITIES REVIEW (BLACHIR) PROGRESS UPDATE

Councillor Mariam Khan, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care and Deputy Chair of the BLACHIR Implementation Board, Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health, and Monika Rozanski, Service Lead – Inequalities Public Health, were in attendance for this item. Modupe Omonijo, Assistant Director, Wider Determinants, Public Health, was also in attendance on-line.

Councillor Khan thanked the Committee for inviting her to the meeting, with colleagues from Public Health, to talk about the important work they are leading on

with Lewisham Council in tackling health inequalities in the Black African and Black Caribbean communities, and highlighted the following:

- The review has been endorsed by both Lewisham and Birmingham Health and Wellbeing Boards and the report was published in June this year.
- Members of the committee should all have a copy and there is a link to the report on the Council's website.
- The actions being taken to deliver on the recommendations which came out of the review.
- The goal of the review is very simple: to break the cycle of inequalities and disadvantage for Black African and Black Caribbean communities and reduce health inequalities that are affecting them.
- Monika Rozanski, Service Lead – Inequalities Public Health, highlighted further key points regarding the Taskforce.

In discussion, and in response to Members' questions, the following were among the main points raised:

- Members asked why Lewisham had been chosen as partners and it was explained that this followed a discussion back in 2019 when Lewisham visited Birmingham as part of the Childhood Obesity Trailblazer.
- It had been identified that Birmingham has the largest number of African and Caribbean people of any unitary authority in the country and Lewisham has the largest percentage of any authority, so it absolutely worked for this reason.
- What was of interest was Lewisham have a larger Caribbean population and their African population is slightly different to Birmingham, so this has been helpful throughout the journey because in some of the discussion they have more representation from affected communities than we do.
- In the implementation phase, Birmingham and Lewisham are implementing separately but sharing learning with each other as this progresses.
- In terms of how this piece of work can achieve what previous work has not, this review focussed very specifically on what actions need to change and what the opportunities are based on published evidence, lived experience and the involvement of providers.
- There is a lot of commitment from the ICS at local level and many of the things that will be changed through BLACHIR will benefit many other communities.
- The delay between the report being launched in June and the first meeting of the Implementation Board in November was queried and Members were told that during this time there had been a lot of work on engagement and dissemination of the report, getting partners on board, recruiting to senior officer and support roles, and drafting plans. The Commonwealth Games

had also been a factor with the team having to be diverted onto other projects.

- A dashboard will be set up to measure progress. This will be an on-going live document and should demonstrate how measurable outcomes are.
- There is a lot of national interest in the report and it is being taken forward by the NHS England Director of Inequalities who is taking it to all of the NHS Integrated Care System Inequalities Boards to ask what they are doing in response to the recommendations.
- With regard to engagement with Solihull beyond the ICB, Solihull does not have the same ethnic diversity as Birmingham but they recognise the value in collaborating with this work. In terms of the way the governance fits together, the Implementation Board is held by Birmingham and underneath it the ICS has the implementation board that feeds into the overall BLACHIR Implementation Board and also the ICS Inequalities Board, so there is a dual reporting line and that is where Solihull benefits from BLACHIR. It will be interesting how they take some of the work being done on cultural competency and apply it to their central and eastern European population which is a large and growing ethnic community.
- Working initially with West Birmingham and now the Birmingham and Solihull Maternity network system, a network of community researchers has been developed focussing initially on infant mortality, also providing support to other community research projects in the Council. The second element is then mapping all other community researchers we have across the Council and trying to bring them all together and then the third element is building that up as a model for the Council, working with the City Observatory and Richard Brooks.
- The importance of community profiling and going beyond BAME was discussed and it was agreed this is a significant piece of work in terms of recognising inequalities.
- There is also a need to invest in engaging our own staff in recognising inequalities.
- The role of O&S as regards Equalities issues was discussed and Members were told that the Co-ordinating O&S Committee had looked at the Everyone's Battle Everyone's Business action plan. All reports to O&S also now have a covering report with an Equalities section and Members are encouraged to question this if they feel it does not include all the relevant information.

RESOLVED:

That the report was noted.

6. BIRMINGHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

Dr Carolyn Kus, Independent Chair of the Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board, and Asif Manzoor, Business Manager, Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board, were in attendance for this item.

The following key points from the presentation were highlighted:

- During the year, there have been 11,861 concerns raised, of which 843 became inquiries and 90% felt their inquiry had achieved what they wanted.
- There is a large increase in enquiries and concerns raised around abuse and neglect and a lot of that is happening in people's own homes.
- The 4 strategic priorities for 2021/22 were around communication, prevention, making safeguarding personal and learning and development and all the way through those priorities, the person is at the centre.
- The achievements of the Board against those priorities.
- Each Board meeting starts with a citizen's story and these are a key element in terms of learning.
- Three Safeguarding Adult Reviews have been completed from the previous year. They were published reports and the findings have been shared with partners so that they could take away and learn from those.
- This year there have been six adult safeguarding referrals which did not meet the criteria for review but they have been taken forward into the learning and development sub-group to look at how they can learn from those.
- The biggest role of the Board is about seeking assurance from partners that they are doing what they should be doing and that is done through annual statements. The citizen's voice is important, but also the data and intelligence.

In discussion, and in response to Members' questions, the following were among the main points raised:

- With regard to abuse and neglect in a person's own home and the support offered, the Safeguarding Adults Board is not operational so it would be the local authority providing that support. There is a national document which the LGA and ADASS were working on last year around safeguarding for carers.
- The Board had done a safeguarding adults review which focussed on domestic abuse where they had held a practitioners forum to raise awareness around support for carers.
- The number of safeguarding concerns which go on to become inquiries varies nationally. There are some other local authority areas where 99% of concerns become inquiries.
- The Board's role is to seek assurance from the local authority and in Birmingham they know that all safeguarding concerns raised are acted upon.

- An audit has been carried out recently to understand where safeguarding referrals have been appropriate or not, for example there may be a referral for example from the Ambulance Service where it is not a safeguarding issue but that person might have care and support needs and that is what they try to filter out.
- Data and intelligence is key to the Board and they do ask colleagues in Adult Social Care and partners those searching questions and there is also a quarterly performance group with partners which includes data on the number of safeguarding concerns raised and the outcomes.
- Commissioning and the CQC attend the Board and they will be asked what the national and local picture is in terms of support, themes and trends.
- The impact of the pandemic and the cost of living crisis on referrals in relation to neglect and self-neglect was discussed in view of the likely impact on people's mental health.
- In response to a question around concerns that vulnerable individuals who are in exempt accommodation and accessing substance misuse services being at risk of being exploitation, Members were told the Safeguarding Adults Board is not a leader in exempt accommodation. However, Members acknowledged the role of the Board in bringing this issue to the attention of the Committee – and the Council - some years ago and expressed their thanks, as this had been one of the triggers for the inquiry undertaken by the Co-ordinating O&S Committee and the national debate on the issue.

RESOLVED:

That the report was noted.

7. ADULT SOCIAL CARE QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Maria Gavin, Assistant Director, Adult Social Care, was in attendance for this item.

The Chair advised the Committee that due to time constraints they would go straight to Members' questions and the following were among the main points raised:

- It was noted that the proportion of clients reviewed, re-assessed or assessed within 12 months has slipped away over the last 12-18 months and is running at just over 63% with a target of 85%. Members were told that the papers included both the Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 performance reports and the second one does show the situation improving. Adult Social Care had a huge recruitment campaign over the summer and autumn and 62 new social workers have been recruited which will increase capacity for reviews.
- The amount of money raised from the adult social care precept and what it is being spent on was queried. It was agreed that this information would be obtained from Finance colleagues and circulated to the Committee.

Members were also advised that at their next meeting the Resources O&S Committee would be looking at the budget so if there are any comments they wished to feed into that discussion there would be an opportunity to do so.

- Concerns were raised in relation to staff turnover in care homes. Birmingham works with 600-800 providers and as a Council tries to pay more and has a lower turnover than the national average, but still around 25%, and it is difficult for the care sector to compete with other sectors in terms of wages.
- Delayed transfers of care – it was pointed out that there is no indicator for this Committee that demonstrates the reasons why a patient's discharge from hospital is delayed. Reference was made to discussions with Andrew Marsh regarding new measures on discharges and this will be followed up as reported in the actions at the beginning of the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- That the information requested in relation to the adult social care precept would be obtained and circulated to Members.
- That the report was noted.

8. WORK PROGRAMME – DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED:

That the work programme was noted.

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 24 January 2022 at 10.00am.

10. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

None.

11. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

12. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

RESOLVED: -

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 1158 hours.