

## BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

### HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE

**1400 hours on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020, via Microsoft Teams – Actions**

**Present:**

Councillor Rob Pocock (Chair), Mick Brown, Debbie Clancy, Diane Donaldson, Peter Fowler, Mohammed Idrees, Ziaul Islam and Paul Tilsley.

**Also Present:**

Karl Beese, Commissioning Manager, Adults Public Health.

Dr Marion Gibbon, Assistant Director, Partnerships, Insight and Prevention, Public Health.

Elizabeth Griffiths, Assistant Director of Public Health.

Kate Homer, Birmingham Service Manager, Aquarius.

Gail Sadler, Scrutiny Officer.

Sian Warmer, Deputy Director, Change, Grow, Live (CGL).

Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services.

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#### **1. NOTICE OF RECORDING**

The Chairman advised that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (which could be accessed at "www.civico.net/birmingham") and members of the press/public may record and take photographs.

The whole of the meeting would be filmed except where there were confidential or exempt items.

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **3. APOLOGIES**

None.

#### **4. ACTION NOTES/ISSUES ARISING**

The action notes for the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were agreed.

Day Opportunities Proposals Consultation: Outcome of NDTI Report Investigation

On behalf of the committee, the Chair sent a letter to Catherine Parkinson, Acting City Solicitor, on 14<sup>th</sup> October expressing the concerns raised. A response was

received and circulated to the committee on 30<sup>th</sup> October and a copy of the NDTI report was published on CMIS on 30<sup>th</sup> October and was attached to the agenda item of the previous meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

#### Forward Thinking Birmingham

Information on Chronic Fatigue Syndrome pathways was circulated to members on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

#### Adult Social Care Performance Monitoring – April-June 2020

Maria Gavin confirmed that, due to Covid-19, the service user survey is not being conducted this year.

A cross-party informal meeting to discuss the current status of performance indicators and reporting timelines has been arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

#### Work Programme

- The next Birmingham/Sandwell JHOSC will take place at 2.00pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- The disproportionate impact on health of people living in exempt accommodation and house of multiple occupancy (HMOs) will be included as part of an inquiry into exempt accommodation being undertaken by the Coordinating O&S Committee.
- An informal briefing took place on 12<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the Adult Social Care Vision and Strategy.

### **5. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE**

Elizabeth Griffiths (Assistant Director of Public Health) set out the key current data for Birmingham and the West Midlands regarding case rates and demographics including ethnicity; the breakdown of cases into Wards; testing uptake; death data; Community Champions and testing the asymptomatic population.

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

- In response to a question regarding how people could sign up to be Community Champions, Elizabeth said she would provide the link to the BCC website.
- The national NHS team are leading on communication for the vaccine but there is a role for public health and partners around myth-busting and dispelling mis-information.
- Have data on the uptake of vaccinations across the city at a GP level, which does not equate to Ward level, but that information can be shared with NHS colleagues as a useful insight in planning for the vaccine roll-out.
- Hospital admissions are closely monitored and there is a detailed plan in place should the Nightingale Hospital be needed.

- A lot of communications around Covid safe measures are being targeted at areas where high rates of infection are being observed. Also, local action is required working with partners and GPs and wide stakeholder groups to enforce the message.
- Social mixing between households is one of the largest causes of infection i.e. if one person has the infection it is quite likely that others residing in the same household will also become infected.
- Further information was required regarding non-porcine vaccination to reassure communities.
- Notices should be displayed at hospitals to encourage the public to dispose of PPE, in particular face masks, in a responsible manner.

**RESOLVED:**

Elizabeth to clarify:-

- The area 'West Midlands' data covers.
- Public Health England definitions relating to case breakdown by ethnicity to identify if the Bangladeshi population is included in 'Asian Other'.
- The link for information on becoming a Community Champion:-  
[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50231/coronavirus\\_covid-19/2256/covid-19\\_champions/3](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50231/coronavirus_covid-19/2256/covid-19_champions/3)
- Contact Birmingham and Solihull CCG to make enquiries about a non-porcine vaccination.
- Feedback to NHS colleagues suggestion about discarded PPE.

A further update to the next meeting including any additional information on the Covid-19 vaccination roll out programme.

**6. SUBSTANCE MISUSE: BIRMINGHAM'S ADULT AND YOUNG PEOPLES TREATMENT SERVICES**

Karl Beese (Commissioning Manager, Adults Public Health) presented a brief overview of the service from a commissioning perspective including the key commissioning intentions of the CGL contract including supporting families during the recovery process and reducing any associated harm that could be caused to children. The young people's substance misuse service is delivered by Aquarius. Sian Warmer (Deputy Director, CGL) and Kate Homer (Birmingham Service Manager, Aquarius) respectively set out how their services had adapted to be more accessible in order to support clients through the pandemic.

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

- Clarification was sought about the 2-year extension to the CGL contract and Aquarius contract and associated funding.

- Looking to further extend the CGL contract for an additional year to the end of February 2023 in order to mitigate against delays to the re-procurement timeline as a result of Covid-19. There is also an option to extend Aquarius' contract to come into line with the re-procurement of the adult's service.
- More information was requested about the success story of the Home Detox Programme. Previously, clients would go to the service to take part in a therapeutic programme in order to detox. Now clients can choose whether they want to do that or take part via Zoom or Teams etc.
- For clients with substance misuse and a mental health issue, one of the main barriers to working with the Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Trust is around data sharing and where dual consent is required. Discussions have taken place with BSMHT to explore potential possibilities to overcome this e.g. secondment opportunities and co-location.
- Aquarius work in partnership with Forward Thinking Birmingham so every young person who enters the service is screened for their mental health. There is a Consultant Psychiatrist on hand who can look at what support may be required.
- There could be a number of factors why there are more substance misuse clients in particular Wards including deprivation, unemployment etc.
- There are 4 CGL Hubs across the city in the north, central west, east and south. Also, specialist venues such as the Women's and Families Team and Criminal Justice Team. It was suggested that closer engagement of local Councillors in the vicinity of these hubs would help them embed them within local communities.
- Aquarius has a Head Office in Edgbaston but is essentially an outreach service with appointments taking place in schools, Youth Offending offices and home visits.
- Aquarius is working in partnership with the Birmingham Children's Trust and looking to partners to be involved in offering a multi-agency approach to support to families in areas of the city where there are a large number of issues around child protection, children in need cases etc.

**RESOLVED:**

- Councillor Debbie Clancy to be sent information regarding the ring-fenced public health budget.
- Karl Beese to circulate information on the Home Detox Programme and location of the CGL Hubs.
- Next year, during the commissioning cycle, the committee could look at the joint commissioning of a substance misuse service for adults and young people including mental health support.

## **7. PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION: TACKLING PERIOD POVERTY AND RAISING PERIOD AWARENESS**

Dr Marion Gibbon (Assistant Director, Partnerships, Insight and Prevention, Public Health) introduced the report and explained the background to the inquiry. Furthermore, she explained that, due to Covid-19, colleagues had been unable to take some of the work forward and asked that progress against those recommendations be deferred to a later date.

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

- Evidence was sought in relation to whether the increased uptake at food banks had led to period products being distributed more widely.
- In order to tackle the stigma attached to periods there needs to be more education in communities. Public Health are looking to employ Community Researchers to conduct a piece of work on infant mortality. Once the researchers are trained there would be the potential to utilise them to look into some of the issues faced by different communities going forward.
- It was felt that the wording of recommendation 2 should have been expanded to include stigma in communities. Therefore, it was suggested that when the committee receives the next progress report it would also be interested to receive evidence of progress "in the wider communities".

### **RESOLVED: -**

The following assessments were agreed:-

R01 – Achieved

R02 – Not Achieved (Obstacle)

R03 – Not Achieved (Obstacle)

R04 – Not Achieved

R05 – Not Achieved

R06 – In Progress

Marion to contact voluntarily organisations colleagues about the dissemination of period products at food banks.

That a further update report is presented in July 2021.

## **8. WORK PROGRAMME – NOVEMBER 2020**

- The Adult Social Care and Public Health budgets for the coming year was scheduled on the work programme for the December meeting. This will not be available until the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 meeting.
- The December meeting will be an in-depth evidence gathering session for the Infant Mortality review. A draft programme of key lines of enquiry/presenters will be circulated in advance of the meeting in order for members to identify any initial questions that they would like answered.

Those questions should be emailed to the Scrutiny Officer who will forward them to the contributors to prepare a response. At the meeting itself there will be a very limited amount of time for questions. Therefore, any unanswered questions from the December meeting will be addressed at the January meeting.

- Councillor Debbie Clancy to receive a copy of the Terms of Reference and scoping paper for the Infant Mortality review.
- The Coordinating O&S Committee will be undertaking a review of Exempt Accommodation which has cross-cutting themes which includes health. If that review does not address the issues of homelessness and health the committee will request an update report in the new municipal year.

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

None.

**10. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**11. 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.

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The meeting ended at 1600 hours.