

14 March 2018

AT A MEETING

of the

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

held on the 14th day of March 2018 at 12.30pm

PRESENT:

D Hodgson
C Foster
Councillor A Forth
Councillor S Hunt
Councillor Jackson
M Scott
P Simpkins
S Thompson
K Walker
R Winter

The Mayor (Chair)
Director of Children's Services, Bedford Borough Council
Portfolio Holder for Adults' Services
Portfolio Holder for Children's Social Care and Lead Member for Children's Services
Portfolio Holder for Public Health
Director of Public Health, Bedford Borough Council
Chief Executive, Bedford Borough Council
Accountable Officer, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Director of Adults' Services, Bedford Borough Council
Director, Healthwatch Bedford Borough

An apology for absence was received from Dr A Low, Clinical Chair, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group

44. QUESTIONS

There were no questions from Members of the Board, Members of the Council or members of the public.

45. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 6 December 2017 be confirmed.

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46. **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Item and Minute No.	Member(s) Disclosing an Interest	Nature of Interest	Present or Absent During Discussion of item
Item No. 13– Bedford Borough Officer Transformation Group Minute No. 55	Councillor Forth	Local – his wife is employed by NHS South, Central and West	Present

47. **CREATE A THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH COMMUNITIES CAN FLOURISH**

The Chief Officer (Planning and Highways) introduced the update report on the strategic objectives relating to the priority to create a thriving and sustainable environment in which communities can flourish.

He highlighted the following:

- One of the key successes in promoting healthy travel was the installation of the Riverside Bedford pedestrian and cycle bridge. The bridge was proving extremely popular with almost 6,000 pedestrians and cyclists using it.
- There were a number of opportunities for individuals with disabilities to engage in sport and physical activity, including a weekly sports club at the Bunyan Leisure Centre for young people between the ages of 8 and 18.
- The Council also supported activities to promote positive mental health and wellbeing, such as mindful yoga, as well as physical activity opportunities for 14 – 30 year olds in key deprivation areas of the Borough through the “Just Turn Up” project.
- Over 80 young people regularly took part in the Junior Park Run held at Jubilee Park and the Council’s parks and open spaces were used for a number of other running events.
- Over 300 adults had already taken part in the Active Adults programme introduced in January 2018.
- The Affordable Warmth Strategy was currently in review alongside the Council’s Carbon Management Plan, Carbon Management Strategy and Water Strategy.

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- 247 individuals had been supported in obtaining employment by the Jobs Hub in 2017/18 and there had been 300 apprenticeship starts from August to October 2017.

The Chair recognised the value of the Jobs Hub and advised that funding for the Hub had been extended until the end of March 2020.

He reported that the Council continued to support public transport in the Borough and the Borough had the highest number of route miles served which supported both public transport and improvements in air quality.

RESOLVED:

That the progress against the strategic objectives be noted.

48. HELP OLDER PEOPLE TO MAINTAIN A HEALTHY, INDEPENDENT LIFE FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE

The Chief Officer for Adults' Operational Services, Bedford Borough Council, presented the update report on the strategic objectives relating to the priority to help older people to maintain a healthy, independent life for as long as possible.

He reported on the following:

- Dementia Awareness Week was taking place from 21-27 May 2018 and initial planning was underway, with Tibbs Dementia Foundation hoping to organise an event at The Higgins. A similar event had attracted approximately 360 attendees in 2017.
- Progress was being made in relation to reablement recruitment, with a number of vacant posts being filled.
- The Early Supported Discharge Team had been working with the third sector to develop a clear referral pathway for patients discharged from hospital into the community.
- Following feedback received, the Older Persons Partnership Board meetings were now structured around a small number of identified themes.

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The Chair suggested that the Press Offices of the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group work together with Healthwatch and other voluntary sector organisations to raise the profile of Dementia Awareness Week by supporting social media campaigns around dementia.

In response to a question, the Director of Adults' Services, Bedford Borough Council volunteered to liaise with the Hospital to confirm whether the butterfly scheme was still in operation. This was a local scheme offering a positive and appropriate response to people with memory impairment.

It was suggested that if the butterfly scheme was still in operation, information about it could be promoted during Dementia Awareness Week.

RESOLVED:

That the progress against the strategic objectives be noted.

49. REDUCE PREMATURE MORTALITY BY HELPING PEOPLE LIVE LONGER AND MORE HEALTHY LIVES

The Chief Officer for Public Health, Bedford Borough Council, introduced the update on progress made against the strategic objective to reduce premature mortality by helping people to live longer and more healthy lives.

The Board's attention was drawn to the following:

- The successful completion for opiate clients continued to underperform and, as a result, the service provider had not achieved the performance element of the contract. Frontline led service improvements were being introduced and work with long-term users was being undertaken to better understand the background of individuals who found it difficult to complete.
- A 'Healthier Options' Food Award scheme, developed jointly by the Public Health and Environmental Health teams, had been launched in January 2018 with the leisure sites awarded accreditation. The scheme would be rolled out to non-Council affiliated sites in due course.

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- The Council's Restaurant had agreed to review its food offer and experience gained by the Public Health team in working with Bedford Hospital to reconfigure items in vending machines to encourage healthier options would inform discussions with the building managers.
- Despite the Oomph! Licences not being renewed due to a significant increase in cost, strength and balance exercise sessions would continue to be provided in care homes to prevent falls.
- A Fracture Liaison Service Practitioner had commenced in post at Bedford Hospital as a result of a collaborative project to prevent secondary fractures.

In response to a question, the Chief Officer for Public Health, Bedford Borough Council, confirmed that he would advise Board Members when the Council's Restaurant signed up to the 'Healthier Options' food awards scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the progress against the strategic objectives be noted.

50. GIVE EVERY CHILD THE BEST START IN LIFE

The Director of Children's Services presented the update report on the strategic objectives relating to the priority to give every child the best start in life.

He reported on the following:

- A joint commissioning statement of intent and a draft needs analysis in relation to children and young people with complex needs was being developed.
- The number of Early Help Assessments requested by GPs and midwife continued to increase.
- A SEND Inspection had been undertaken and the resultant letter would be circulated to Board Members on its publication.

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The Board was referred to the letter from the Care Quality Commission on the thematic review of mental health services for children and young people. Bedford Borough had been one of the ten areas to be selected based on evidence of best practice. The review had been supported jointly by the Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group and service providers and a number of positive areas had been identified. There had also been areas of challenge that would be addressed.

On 8 March 2018, a case study relating to Bedford Borough Council on innovation achieved by acting on feedback had been published in "Are We Listening?" a Care Quality Commission review of children and young people's mental health services.

RESOLVED:

That the progress against the strategic objectives be noted.

51. SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING THROUGHOUT LIFE

Rachel Volpe, the Head of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, provided an update on the priorities associated with the strategic objective to support mental health and wellbeing throughout life.

The Board's attention was drawn to the following:

- The East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) would struggle to meet the target associated with Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT). Work was being taken to address this.
- The mental health street triage pilot would conclude at the end of March 2018 and consideration was being given to two future models of service delivery to continue to provide the service.
- Responsibility for suicide prevention had been transferred to Public Health.
- A scoping paper was being prepared in relation to the review of crisis care across the Sustainable Transformation Plan footprint area which would address the lack of inpatient beds in Bedford Borough.

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In response to questions, the Head of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities reported that as part of the evaluation of the street triage trial, consideration would be given to accepting referrals from other care pathways, such as the proposed Urgent Treatment Centre at Bedford Hospital and calls received through 111.

The Clinical Commissioning Group was working closely with ELFT to ensure that there was a stepped approach to mental health services. IAPT was very low level mental health support and it was expected that individuals experiencing mental health crises would be engaging with secondary mental health services.

Board Members expressed concern about the delay in re-introducing inpatient mental health provision into the Borough.

In response to a question on suicide prevention, the Head of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Work reported that work focussing on Bedford Prison was being undertaken by the suicide prevention group. She also confirmed that she would raise the issue of support for detainees at Yarl's Wood at a future steering group meeting. It was noted that NHS England was responsible for the provision of health care in both of those facilities.

RESOLVED:

That the progress against the strategic objectives be noted.

52. JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA) ANNUAL SUMMARY

The Chief Officer for Public Health submitted the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Summary which had been subject to a "light touch" refresh following its update in 2017. The annual summary included updated data and intelligence and a review of the areas for focus. The summary was produced in conjunction with the refresh of the Bedford Borough Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which was currently out for public consultation.

Long term positive trends identified through the JSNA process included an increase in breastfeeding, reduction in the number of mothers smoking at the time of delivery and a downward trend in excess weight in students in Year R, which was against the national trend.

A number of challenges had also been identified, such as a reduction in the number of 13 year old girls receiving the full course of HPV vaccinations, which prevented cervical cancer, an increase in the number of alcohol related hospital admissions, and a rate of emergency admissions for falls among the over 65s that remains above the England and East of England averages.

The Board recognised the significant amount of work required to support the JSNA process.

RESOLVED:

That the 2018 Annual Summary, including those local health and wellbeing outcomes that have improved or worsened since 2017 be considered, and that the areas for action in the JSNA are reflected in the priorities of the draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy be noted.

53. WINTER PRESSURES

The Director of Adults' Services, Bedford Borough Council, introduced a report which provided an update on how the local system had met the demands of winter pressures on health and social care services. In preparation for the winter, system leaders across the health and social care sector had commenced work on a number of initiatives to assist with planning for a challenging winter. The national OPEL framework had been adopted and adapted to meet local needs. The overall OPEL level of the Hospital during the last month had been OPEL 3, with two occurrences of OPEL 4, the highest level that could be recorded. There had been a high level of admissions throughout the winter, with the Hospital struggling to cope with demand.

Additional beds had been spot purchased throughout the winter to alleviate pressure. Regular meetings of service providers and commissioners had taken place to address concerns and additional support had been provided by the Hospital's social work team and the domiciliary care sector.

A number of patients in hospital during the winter had complex needs which meant that there were not ready for early discharge and required longer courses of treatment. A discharge to assess model had been introduced and had been implemented as appropriate. This would also be assessed at the end of the winter period. The Trusted Assessors had also commenced in post and were working closely with the care homes that had signed up to the scheme and this was starting to demonstrate some positive results.

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The Clinical Commissioning Group continued to spread the message to GPs around GP heralded calls and Bedford Hospital had reported an improvement in the timing of the ambulance conveyances arriving.

The Hospital had established a flu plan but the level of demand anticipated from flu related admissions had not yet materialised. An update on the flu vaccination programme had been appended to the report. There had been an increase in uptake in all categories, except for pregnant women.

The Accountable Officer, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, expressed the view that the winter planning was a good example of joint working, with initial planning commencing in September/October. She advised that, as a result of the winter pressures, and the resultant impact on waiting times in A&E, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Hospital were now subject to additional monitoring by NHS England.

Concern was expressed about the performance of the Ambulance Service and the long waits experienced by some Bedford residents for an ambulance. A number of individuals had also commented on the wait for prescriptions from the Hospital Pharmacy which delayed discharge.

The Accountable Officer replied that she would refer the concerns about the pharmacy to the Chief Executive of the Bedford Hospital Trust. The Clinical Commissioning Group had also expressed its concern to the Ambulance Trust.

It was noted that the care home market was under huge pressure. There were a large number of care homes in the Borough but an analysis of the mix of beds that were required had been identified as a piece of work that should be undertaken in the future.

The Director of Public Health commented that the data would have to be analysed at the end of the winter period to identify whether the effect of the initiatives put in place could be demonstrated. She made reference to Frome, Somerset, which had been identified as an area which had experienced a decrease in demand for acute services in the context of an overall increase in Somerset. A community based approach and a social prescribing model had been adopted in the town.

The Chair requested that areas for improvement for next winter, including how best to increase flu vaccination uptake, be identified and report to the Board at its meeting. He referred to rumours that consultants had been authorising leave during the February half-term week, which was recognised as a very busy period, and suggested that discussions take place with the Hospital leadership to ensure that the Hospital was fully staffed during this period.

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It was suggested that someone could be sent into care homes to provide staff with flu vaccinations. This would require staff from all shifts to attend at the same time.

The Director of Public Health reported that the number of school children vaccinated against flu continued to rise as the vaccination programme was extended to additional year groups. This increased 'herd immunity'.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the update on how system partners have managed the impact of winter pressures be noted.
- (2) That the Board receive a report on the learning points identified from this winter and future planning for the forthcoming winter at its next meeting.

54. PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Director of Public Health submitted the refreshed Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) to the Board for approval. A refresh of the current 2015 PNA was required by 1 April 2018. The refreshed PNA was subject to a period of consultation from 16 October to 15 December 2017. Arising from the work on the PNA, the Director of Public Health suggested that consideration be given to increasing the role of the community pharmacist in the local health care system.

The Chief Executive, Bedford Borough Council referred to section 1.4 of the PNA on opportunities to enhance local community pharmacy services. Enhancing the role of community pharmacists would reduce pressure on GPs and acute services and should be pursued locally.

The Director of Public Health advised that the national funding of community pharmacists had reduced and that they were now more willing to engage with Public Health to consider some of the issues listed in section 1.4 and to take a more proactive role in the system.

In this respect, the Chief Officer for Public Health reported that a number of pharmacies in Bedford were participating in a pilot to provide atrial fibrillation and blood pressure tests. One pharmacy had requested additional monitoring machines as the two it had been loaned were in use by members of the public.

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The issue of prescriptions dispensed in hospital and the possibility for these prescriptions to be filled at other, local community pharmacies to prevent patients waiting to be discharged was discussed. The Accountable Officer explained some of the complexities relating to the prescribing of medications in hospital, including payment by results and the fact that consultants were often more willing and able to prescribe more expensive medications that GPs in the community would not. She acknowledged that there may be a system failure leading to this delay.

The Chief Executive volunteered to write to the Department of Health and NHS England supporting consideration of allowing patients to obtain their prescriptions at community pharmacies to facilitate an earlier discharge from hospital.

RESOLVED:

That the final version of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment be approved in anticipation of the statutory deadline of 1 April 2018.

55. BEDFORD BOROUGH OFFICER TRANSFORMATION GROUP: BEDFORD BOROUGH INTEGRATED DELIVERY PLAN

The Chief Executive of Bedford Borough Council, introduced the position statement on the work that had been undertaken by the Health and Care Transformation Officer Group, and in particular progress made on the Integrated Delivery Plan and place-based interventions.

In response to question, the Accountable Officer, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group reported that there was a national requirement to put in place alternative arrangements for individuals presenting at A&E that did not require hospital treatment to be streamed to another facility, which for Bedford Hospital was currently the Cauldwell Medical Centre. It was anticipated that when the Urgent Treatment Centre was provided, individuals would be streamed to that facility.

She also reported that as Herts Urgent Care had been awarded the contract for the delivery of 111 and the GP out of hours service previously provided by BEDOC as the result of a properly conducted procurement process, the Clinical Commissioning Group was supporting the decision previously taken and having conversations with clinical colleagues who had expressed concern about working with Herts Urgent Care.

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RESOLVED:

That the key delivery areas of the Integrated Delivery Plan and scoping exercise to date be noted.

56. BETTER CARE FUND

The Director of Adults' Services introduced her report providing the quarter three update against the 2017/18 Better Care Fund Narrative Plan, which had received formal approval.

A number of areas of progress were highlighted, including the work undertaken to improve the rehabilitation and reablement pathway which had led to fewer cases of fragmentation and the prevention of delayed discharges of care, the introduction of the Carers UK Digital Platform with allowed access to support and advice 24 hours a day, the commencement of an end of life pathway to support people in the end stages of life to receive the care and dedication they needed from trained professionals, supporting them to remain in their home and reduce inappropriate admissions and stays in hospital and the introduction of a night-sitting service to enable carers of palliative patients to rest, secure in the knowledge that their loved one was being supported by a trained worker.

The trusted assessor scheme had been referred to earlier in the meeting and was now fully in operation.

Individuals were increasingly disclosing incidents of domestic abuse to the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service located at Bedford Hospital. Training was being provided across the Hospital to support the project.

The Director of Adults' Services reported that delayed transfers of care continued to remain a challenge. A reduction in the number of delayed discharges had been achieved in 2017/18 when compared to the previous year as a result of a number of health and social care interventions. Work continued and this remained a significant area of focus. Non-elective admissions were also closely monitored.

RESOLVED:

That the progress undertaken towards implementing the plan be noted.

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57. HEALTH AND WELLBEING WORK PROGRAMME

The Board received its updated work programme for information and noted that a report on preparing for winter pressures had been added to the work programme earlier in the meeting.

The Chair reminded the Board that any suggestions for inclusion on the work programme should be forwarded to the Chief Officer for Public Health.

RESOLVED:

That the Work Programme be received.

58. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that the next meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday 20 June 2018 from 12.30pm until 2.30pm in Committee Room 1, Borough Hall, Bedford.

The meeting closed at 1.59pm.

