

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH & ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH JULY, 2022

MEMBERS: Councillors James Hockney (Chair), Andy Milne (Vice Chair), James Hockney, Andy Milne, Nicki Adeleke, Kate Anolue, Ahmet Hasan (Associate Cabinet Member (Enfield North)), Nia Stevens, Emma Supple and Mohammad Islam

Officers: Bindi Nagra (Director of Health & Adult Social Care), Dudu Sher-Arami (Director of Public Health), Doug Wilson (Head of Strategy & Service Development), Vicky Main (Head of Integrated Learning Disabilities) and Suzanne Connolly (Governance Officer)

Also Attending: Cllr Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from the following:

Cllr Eylem Yuruk, substituted by Cllr Mohammad Islam
Cllr Alev Cazimoglu, substituted by Cllr Nesil Caliskan

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest registered in respect of any items on the agenda.

3. INTRODUCTION - PURPOSE OF MEETING

The Chair explained that the purpose of the meeting was to receive details of priorities for the coming municipal year, including key issues, and then for the members to prioritise items for the work programme.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Kate Anolue proposed the minutes of the previous meeting, which were seconded by Cllr James Hockney. The minutes of 16 March 2022 were **AGREED**.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference were received and noted.

6. LOCAL PRIORITIES FOR 2022/23

Cllr Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council, gave details of the areas of focus for the coming year.

1. External parties – the NHS who were a major stakeholder.
2. Services – integrated care systems, the North Central London (NCL) Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and how to get the most out of the changes.
3. Primary care services – this was an ongoing issue, particularly GP provision and Chase Farm out of hours service.
4. Mental health transformation – young people.
5. Adult Social Care – reforms, cabinet report.
6. Public health – reducing obesity and its links to poverty, smoking, preventing bad health by increasing screening.

Doug Wilson, Head of Strategy & Service Development, added that Integrated Care Systems (ICS) were to promote partnerships, however there were concerns about a lack of focus on Enfield. He also mentioned the transformation work across mental health services and identifying new investment.

Vicky Main, Head of Integrated Learning Disabilities, stated that working groups had been established to look at the risks of the reforms. The most significant risk identified was around staff resources to implement the reforms. It's estimated a 25% increase was required. It was difficult to attract qualified staff.

Dudu Sher-Arami, Director of Public Health, voiced concerns around drug treatment services as the current contract was ending in March 2023. She suggested the Scrutiny Panel look at this to help inform the commissioning process.

Bindi Nagra, Director of Health & Adult Social Care, felt there were three elements for the panel to focus on;

- i. The legal responsibility to scrutinise the NHS and any changes
- ii. The development of ICS and mental health services
- iii. Challenges across primary care.

Alongside this, the following topics were mentioned:

- i. Internal adult social care and public health, as well as the care cap and how the department plans to implement this.
- ii. Care Quality Commission inspection of adult social care – the area had not been inspected for 15 years so lots of preparation was taking place and working with partners.
- iii. Annual Safeguarding report – a standing item each year.

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In response, the Chair congratulated the department for receiving an award and then the following comments and questions were received from panel members:

1. Cllr Anolue had concerns about dental care for children. It was thought there had been a previous report on children's oral health, however this could be looked at more widely, for example around access to care.
2. The Leader stated that mental health was a risk for NCL as the care in Enfield was not as good as neighbouring boroughs, such as Camden. The provision must be good, not just expanded. The borough had an issue with adolescent mental health and services within the community required improvements.
3. Cllr Supple raised concerns about women's health and family planning. Cllr Milne added cervical cancer to this.
4. Cllr Islam asked about mental health wellbeing centres in the borough. Officers advised there were services available and plans to develop a centre allowing walk-ins.
5. Following a discussion about smoking it was noted that this had reduced nationally and in Enfield, although there were increasing concerns about vaping. There were plans to increase areas designated as smoke free, however it was a culture change and could impact civil liberties. It was suggested to have focussed and targeted help, for example pregnant women and young people.
6. Cllr Hockney asked about health visitor appointments and officers confirmed these were now face-to-face and drop-in clinics were running. The Leader highlighted potential issues with access/opening hours.
7. Cllr Adeleke asked about a review of health inequalities. Officers advised that all their work focussed on this and that recommendations from the Epic report remained relevant.
8. A discussion took place around Covid and plans for the winter, rising cases and vaccines. It was noted this was a standing item on the Health & Wellbeing Board.
9. Cllr Islam questioned about council run care homes and officers confirmed there was only one in the borough, however Enfield commissioned approximately eighty and still had responsibilities around quality of care.

The Chair extended thanks to the Leader and Officers for the very detailed overview of the priorities and for answering questions.

The Leader and Officers left the meeting at this point.

7. PLANNING THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2022/23

The Chair, Cllr Hockney, highlighted the key areas of focus as follows:

1. Integrated Care Systems (ICS)/NCL
2. Primary care access – GPs, A&E, dentistry
3. Mental Health transformations
4. Adult social care

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5. Safeguarding report
6. Public Health – obesity, smoking/vaping, drug/alcohol use
7. Women’s health
8. Covid – recover, vaccinations, inequalities.

Panel members agreed these priorities and added the following comments:

1. Cllr Supple raised concerns about the number of deaths at home.
2. There were a number of issues around women’s health including cervical cancer, access to family planning and health visitors, pregnancy packs and period poverty.
3. Cllr Anolue raised concerns about having enough time to discuss topics in detail. It was agreed to request an additional meeting **ACTION** for Chair to contact the Monitoring officer.
The Chair also suggested having a “task and finish group” outside of this committee.

It was noted that work would take place with officers and external parties, such as the NHS, to create and agree the work programme.

8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of the future meetings were noted.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.