

Minutes of a meeting of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Wednesday, 21 June 2023 in Council Chamber - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced	1630
Adjourned	1745
Recommended	1755
Concluded	1900

Present – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	BRADFORD SOUTH INDEPENDENTS
Jamil Humphreys Ahmed Godwin Johnson Wood	Coates	Griffiths

Observers: Councillor Ferriby, Portfolio Holder Healthy People and Places; Councillor Mitchell; Trevor Ramsay (Healthwatch Bradford and District); Susan Crowe (Bradford District Assembly Health and Wellbeing Forum)

COUNCILLOR JAMIL IN THE CHAIR

1. **ALTERNATE MEMBERS (Standing Order 34)**

Apologies: Councillor Nunns

2. **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

No disclosures of interest were received.

3. **MINUTES**

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meetings held on 6 October, 24 November, 15 December 2022, 19 January, 16 February and 22 March 2023 be signed as correct records.

4. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted to review decisions to restrict documents.

5. REFERRALS TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no referrals received by the Committee.

6. CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS TO THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Resolved –

That it be recommended to Council that the following non-voting co-opted members be appointed to the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2023/24 Municipal Year:

- 1. Susan Crowe – Bradford and Craven Co-Production Partnership**
- 2. Trevor Ramsay – i2i patient involvement Network, Bradford District NHS Foundation Care Trust**
- 3. Helen Rushworth – Healthwatch Bradford and District**

ACTION: Director of Legal and Governance

7. WEST YORKSHIRE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Resolved –

That the Committee nominates Councillor Jamil and Councillor Coates to sit on the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

ACTION: Overview and Scrutiny Lead

8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved –

That the dates of future meetings of the Committee for the 2023/24 Municipal Year, scheduled to take place at 4.30pm in City Hall, Bradford, be noted.

- Wednesday 21 June 2023**
- Thursday 27 July 2023**
- Thursday 28 September 2023**
- Thursday 26 October 2023**
- Thursday 23 November 2023**
- Wednesday 6 December 2023**

- **Thursday 25 January 2024**
- **Thursday 29 February 2024**
- **Thursday 14 March 2024**

LEAD: Director of Governance

9. BRADFORD SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

The report of the Chief Executive Office (**Document “A”**) presented the Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board's annual report for 2021-2022. The report outlined the activities carried out by the Board and its partner agencies to protect vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect. It further covered a range of areas, including efforts to improve outcomes for at-risk adults, case reviews, safeguarding training, performance quality assurance, and progress against priorities. By providing a transparent assessment of multi-agency safeguarding activity, the report aimed to demonstrate the strength of the safeguarding arrangements in the Bradford District. The report was presented on behalf of the three statutory safeguarding partners, the Local Authority, West Yorkshire Police, and Clinical Commissioning Group, who are jointly responsible for the safeguarding partnership arrangements.

The Board Manager from the Safeguarding Children's Board was in attendance and with the invitation of the Chair, gave a synopsis of the report to the committee. The representative summarised that, the BSAB was legally required to complete an annual report under the Care Act 2014. The Act required local authorities and their partners to work together to set up Safeguarding Adults Boards to oversee and coordinate safeguarding activities in their areas.

The annual report was an essential component of the Board's statutory responsibilities. It helped ensure that all partner agencies were accountable for their safeguarding activities and that there was transparency in how activities were carried out. The report provided an opportunity for the Board to evaluate the effectiveness of its safeguarding arrangements and initiatives, identify any gaps in service provision, and set priorities for future action.

In short, completing an annual report was essential for the BSAB to fulfil its legal obligations, promote transparency and accountability, and engage with stakeholders to ensure that safeguarding remains a priority for all partner agencies.

Following introduction, a question and answer (Q&A) session ensued:

- Information was sought on the subject of feedback?
 - On a general basis, feedback was positive and supported which was due to the strong structure within the safeguarding framework. Nevertheless, feedback that required immediate attention was responded to immediately in order to avoid extended trauma. To further the ongoing work, a newsletter was produced in addition to regular engagement work. In terms of follow up support work, there was a joint Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures set out the framework to respond to concerns raised about abuse and neglect of adults at risk. These sit alongside all the

support and work across the region to prevent abuse and neglect from occurring;

- In the context of the complexity of the ongoing work, had the service come across work themes that may cause foreseeable challenges?
 - Maintaining a stable workforce was always a challenging obstacle. Currently, there was a 21% employment turnover and the root cause staff renewal being income levels;
- How was information being translated to meet the language needs of individual communities for families that were new to the country?
 - A system had been put in place to employ staff to translate information according to the needs to language requirements;
- At what stage would a Section 42 qualify for the purpose of additional support needs?
 - This would be in response to indications of abuse or neglect in relation to an adult with care and support needs who is at risk and is unable to protect themselves because of those needs;
- How were people in general made aware of knowing how to report?
 - A community and engagement officer had been appointed and a sub group that oversaw the work of engagement activities. However, it was a normal reaction for people to report issues to the Police. Due to partnership working with the Police, referrals were regularly being made to the service. Police involvement was not limited but was working alongside the service in all aspects of support needs for the vulnerable; and,
- Following the findings of the Quality Care Commission, what had been done to improve the standards of care and support?
 - The focus on how to deliver a better quality care and support service was paramount for the Council and immense work was ongoing to improve and strengthen the delivery of all services.

The committee requested that the breakdown of activities on an individual ward basis would be preferred during a future update of the BSAB.

The Chair thanked the officers for the detailed information contained in the report.

Resolved: –

That the Committee nominates Councillor Jamil and Councillor Coates to sit on the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

ACTION: Overview and Scrutiny Lead

10. BRADFORD DISTRICT AND CRAVEN HEALTH AND CARE PARTNERSHIP JOINT FORWARD PLAN

There was a statutory requirement for Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) to develop Joint Forward Plans (JFPs), which set out how they will operationalise their strategies. Each place within West Yorkshire has been asked to provide their local contribution to the NHS West Yorkshire ICB JFP.

The report of the Health and Care Partnership (**Document “B”**) presented the Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership Joint Forward Plan.

At the invitation of the Chair, the Deputy Director accompanied by the Associate Director of the Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation and Trust alongside the Strategic Director of Health and Wellbeing jointly gave a synopsis of the report. The Health and Care Act 2022 set out new statutory arrangements for health and care systems including the creation of ICBs. As part of these changes, requirements were set out for the development of Integrated Care Strategies, which would be owned by Integrated Care Partnerships, and Joint Forward Plans, which would be owned by ICBs, and would describe the delivery of the NHS elements of this strategy. The JFP is therefore a statutory document owned by NHS West Yorkshire ICB.

On the 23 December 2022, guidance on developing the JFP was published. The guidance supports ICBs and their partner NHS trusts and foundation trusts to develop their first 5-year JFP with system partners. The JFP should demonstrate how the ICB will operationalise its strategy, with the first plan due for submission on 30 June 2023.

A Q&A session followed:

- What work was being undertaken to acknowledge the valued contribution made by communities?
 - The services being delivered, directly impacted the lives of people. Therefore, committing to ensuring that the work of our partnership was influenced by the population through conversations and engagement. Connecting, listening to, and having a consistent feedback loop with communities on an ongoing basis would also help to build trust. The People Plan was inclusive of all health and care partners and was also focused around creating a sense of belonging: To create a compassionate and inclusive culture where everyone feels they belong, have a voice, and feel empowered to make a difference;
- In regards to reducing inequalities, how would the understanding of issues be achieved?
 - Supporting the Community Partnership (CPs) to develop plans on how they can reduce inequalities. A toolkit had been developed to assist in 'reducing inequalities' with evidence and data pack for each CP. The toolkit provided a lightweight but systematic framework for planning, designing, and assessing action;
- It was clear that the pace of improvement for face to face appointments was extremely slow. What was the root cause for the gradual improvement?
 - Current workforce and retention of staff was a big challenge. Gaps in nurses and the recent strikes brought costly challenges to the delivery of improving the quality of service levels. In addition, care in general practice becoming more complex, GPs and their teams were also seeing more people than ever. For example, the average number of appointments in general practice in all cities throughout the country was in the region 240,000 appointments. However, was reaching a figure of around 400,000 appointments. For this reason, difficult models were being addressed to move forward;

The following comments were made by the committee and officers:

- Due to the ever increasing use of technology and that the NHS was looking at digital systems but it was important take factor the eventuality of people may not wish to consult their health concerns through digital devices;
 - In response, the focus had turned to how technology could maximise the opportunities in the digital arena focusing on aspects such as e-consults and Assist pathways to support GPs with referrals, patient initiated follow up and the use of digital devices; and patient optimisation as part of their ongoing support and care whilst awaiting treatment. This aspect would be a positive in terms of filling the gap of a decreased workforce;
- It was evident that an increasing demand for all health and care services and therefore to focus priority on addressing the backlog from the Covid-19 pandemic was paramount.

The Chair closed the discussion by stating that in hindsight, it was important to acknowledge the extreme pressures the NHS was under and that professionals were working tirelessly to improve services as much as possible with the resources available.

The committee thanked the representatives for attending the meeting.

Resolved –

That the Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership Joint Forward Plan be noted and welcomed and that officers be thanked for an informative report.

LEAD: Strategic Director, Health and Wellbeing

11. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

The report of the Director of Governance (**Document “C”**) discussed the Committee’s work programme 2023/24 in advance of its presentation at the next meeting for adoption.

Resolved –

That a Programme of Work 2023/24 be presented for consideration and adoption at the Committee’s meeting of 27 July 2023.

Action: Overview and Scrutiny Lead

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER