

Minutes of a meeting of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Wednesday, 6 December 2023 in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 4.30 pm
Concluded 7.25 pm

Present – Councillors

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

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

COUNCILLOR JAMIL IN THE CHAIR

40. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Trevor Ramsey disclosed a personal interest in the item Bradford Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2022/23 (Minute 44) as he was an elected governor for the Bradford District Care Trust.

Action: Director of Governance

41. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

42. REFERRALS TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no referrals received by the Committee.

43. BRADFORD SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

The Bradford Safeguarding Adult Board's (BSAB) annual report for 2022-2023 outlined the activities carried out by the Board and its partner agencies to protect vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect. The report of the Chief Executive (**Document "Q"**) 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 Integrated Care Board (ICB), who are jointly responsible for the safeguarding partnership arrangements.

The Chair welcomed the Safeguarding Children's Board Manager, Board Manager, Business Unit Manager, the Deputy District Commander Bradford Police and the Independent Chair of the BSAB to the meeting.

Following a synopsis of the report the following Q&A session ensued:

- Breakdown by individual wads 2022/23 year would be appreciated?
 - An improved quality of data would be focused on in future presentation of reports;
- What were the associated costs associated per case?
 - The costs associated with individual cases varied due to having to meet dissimilar challenges according to the merits of individual cases. Not every case was the same. However, the Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board was funded by a range of partner agencies, with financing responsibility lying jointly with the three statutory partners: the Local Authority, West Yorkshire Police, and the Integrated Care Board . These partners are equally responsible for funding the Board's activities. The budget for the BSAB was reviewed annually and discussed with the partner agencies to ensure sufficient funding was available to support the Board's work in safeguarding adults at risk;
- How had the service coped with the of clearing the backlog of work?
 - This was a challenging area for the reason that many experienced employees had left this Council to work for the Care Quality Commission in Leeds due to better salary packages. Therefore, the service had focused on engaging with young people by raising awareness of the need for young people to attain specialised education and skills to work in the safeguarding adult's field; and,
- Was feedback given to referrers?
 - Anyone reporting a safeguard issue would receive feedback from the service.

The Deputy District Commander Bradford Police stated that the issue of safeguarding concerns came in various forms and therefore it was important to get all services connected in so that all professionals worked in consultation with one another

In response, it was explained that to connect all professions was a significant change in comparison to previous ways of working. That the importance of recognising each other's area of specialist fields and then to work in consultation for the purpose of one shared goal would make significant improvements in the area of safeguarding.

The Chair thanked officers for the comprehensive update contained in the report.

Resolved:-

That the Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2022/23 and the operational adult safeguarding information be noted and that the Board's next annual report and an update on operational adult safeguarding be presented in 12 months.

To be actioned by: Office of the Chief Executive / Strategic Director, Adult Social Care and Health

44. HEALTHY MINDS - BETTER LIVES, BRIGHTER FUTURES. UPDATE ON WORK UNDER THE STRATEGIC PROGRAMME FOR MENTAL HEALTH

The report of the Priority Director for Mental Health (**Document "R"**) provided an update from the Healthy Minds mental health programme for Bradford District and Craven. The main focus of the report is on the community mental health workstream which has produced an action plan for improving physical health and reducing premature mortality in people with serious mental illness (SMI), learning disabilities or with an autism spectrum condition. The report also included an update on the work to improve our talking therapies uptake and estates provision. This work was overseen by the Healthy Minds board.

The Chair welcomed the representatives of the Mental Health Team.

A synopsis of the report was given. There were three very different groups of people, but they shared challenges in terms of physical health and disparity in health outcomes which were partly due to physical health needs being overlooked. For too many people this meant living for many years with a long-term physical health condition and with reduced quality of life, as well as on average a dramatically reduced life expectancy. This report also included an update on the NHS Talking Therapies, previously known as IAPT, outlined the national rationale for changing the name of this suite of services. In addition,

A Q&A session ensued:

- How much of a difference had been made to date in the area of autism?
 - The inception of the strategy aim was to address the barriers and issues people had shared as difficulty to access and navigate services that were fragmented, had high thresholds and criteria, needed improvement in terms of quality, support and waiting times. Progress had been made as an evidence-based framework to ensure the meeting of the strategy objectives; and,
- There had been reaction towards non follow-up of assessment or the lack

of concern shown by professionals. In this case, how were these concerns and similar other reactions being addressed to improve the service?

- Our strategy will aim to address the barriers and issues people have shared with us such as difficulty to access and navigate services that are fragmented, have high thresholds and criteria, need improvement in terms of quality, support and waiting times. We will use an evidence-based framework to ensure to meet four key objectives, integration and joint services, supporting the council's workforce, improving access and waiting times, providing high quality services that promoted independence and recovery, and to ensure the support was close to where people live.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted and that a further report on mental wellbeing and mental health be presented in 12 months.

To be actioned by: Priority Director for Mental Health, Bradford District & Craven Health and Care Partnership

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