

Minutes of a meeting of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Wednesday, 23 February 2022 in Council Chamber - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 4.40 pm
Concluded 6.50 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Berry Greenwood Humphreys Godwin Berry Iqbal	Glentworth Clarke	Griffiths

NON VOTING CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Susan Crowe	Bradford District Assembly Health and Wellbeing Forum
Trevor Ramsay	i2i patient involvement Network, Bradford District NHS Foundation Care Trust
Helen Rushworth	Healthwatch Bradford and District

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD IN THE CHAIR

45. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

46. MINUTES

Recommended –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2021 be signed as a correct record (previously circulated).

ACTION: City Solicitor

47. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

No requests were received to remove the restriction on a report or background paper.

48. REFERRALS TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

No referrals were received.

49. BORN IN BRADFORD

The Director, Better Start Bradford Innovation Hub & Bradford Inequalities Research Unit, attended the Committee to give a presentation: Born in Bradford (BiB) research findings on the health and wellbeing of Bradford's children: A focus on the impact of Covid-19, and experiences of adolescence.

The Director was accompanied with a professor from the Bradford Institute for Health Research.

She began by explaining that the BiB team was based at Bradford Institute For Health Research, Bradford Royal Infirmary. That the team had a number of different ongoing programmes of research that looked at quality and safety of translating research into practice, in a healthcare setting. The team was working in consultation with partners such as councillors and other stakeholders.

Following the narration, PowerPoint presentation had ensued that included the following topics:

- BiB: Research Programme Structure
- BiB: A Family of Cohort Studies
- The core BiB cohort (Overview: Primary School Research 2015)
- BiB for All
- Mental Health
- Changing the way data was looked at
- Impact of COVID on Bradford Families
- Financial Insecurity
- Children's Physical Activity & Wellbeing
- Pregnancy and Caring for a baby during Covid-19
- Impact of Research

The following question and answer session evolved:

- It was paramount that the whole process was a sign for problems existing within communities. Before any action could be taken, was it a case for identifying causes in order to suggest correct interventions, whilst establishing whether the interventions would or not work?
 - The research programme gave valuable opportunities to identify and to really understand issues, circumstances, past experiences in order to do the right things to make a positive difference in the long term;
- How were processes identified for the purpose of interventions?

- Identifying potential issues and putting in place interventions through recent healthcare concerns of everyone's experience in recent times across all cultures within a shared framework. This assisted in matching with partners across the district to push the agenda further.
- How were issues with children addressed?
 - The key was to look at the needs of children that we can also use it to look at changing improvements based on what's delivered from various sources of different services; and,
- How healthy were the lines of communication with partners and other agencies?
 - This particular area was a variable one by creation and the organisation had learned that a huge amount of information through the means of communication was very resourceful. In addition, systems were ever increasingly changing by identifying potential issues and addressing them immediately. All partners were matched in communication across the district.

The concluded the discussion on the item by stating that as members they were fully aware of the needs of the communities that they represented despite the work would be a very arduous process, that the explanations presented on changing the way data was looked at for changing interventions was welcoming.

Resolved: -

- (1) That the representatives of Born in Bradford be thanked for their attendance at the meeting and the informative presentation; and**
- (2) That a system for sharing information on an ongoing basis with the Committee on the work of Born in Bradford be established.**

Action: Overview and Scrutiny Lead

50. UPDATE ON THE 0-19 PUBLIC HEALTH CHILDREN'S SERVICE UPDATE

The report of the Director of Public Health (**Document "T"**) provided an overview of the 0-19 Public Health service and informs Members of:

- Background to the 0-19 Public Health Children's Service
- The needs of children and young people locally
- Service reviews conducted during 2020-2021
- Current service delivery
- Future commissioning arrangements

The Consultant in Public Health at Bradford Council was present and narrated the importance in achieving the improvement of children and young people's health was of paramount importance for Public Health.

Through the National Healthy Child Programme 0 to 19, included a Health Visitors Service, a School Nursing Service, and also in the Bradford District, an Oral Health Promotion Team. The Council as an authority, and the Director of Public

Health (DPH) each had specific statutory duties relating to the delivery of the 0-19 Public Health Children's Service (0-19 service) and its specific mandated functions within this included the five health checks for young children, the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) and district wide Oral Health surveys; continued delivery of such must therefore be secured. The Healthy Child Programme provides a national framework to support collaborative work and more integrated delivery.

Following the update, a question and answer session ensued:

- How were the national shortages of staffing challenges which were caused by the pandemic and recruitment issues, in specific, the lack of experienced health visitors and school nurses being addressed?
 - A recruitment plan to increase the skill mix within the health visiting service to ease the workload of the health visitors particularly in the universal tier included a targeted advertising campaign for difficult to recruit to posts;
- What challenges did the service consider to lay ahead?
 - 0-4 years' health visiting services was considered a risk as BDCFT was the main provider of health visiting services. However, a number of steps to mitigate the risks posed by segments of retirement levels including the pandemic and national workforce challenges, included a community children's services Strategy Team at BDCFT established to ease the impact of the amount of safeguarding strategy discussions and social care enquires on the health visiting and school nursing service. Also a recruitment plan to increase the skill mix within the health visiting service to ease the workload of the health visitors particularly in the universal tier;
- How was the information collected through the 0-4 years' research help channel programme framework?
 - This assisted in the integrated providing interventions, which aimed to help parents' carers and guardians to protect children; this included:
 - To help parents, carers or guardians to develop and sustain a strong bond with children.
 - To support parents, carers or guardians in keeping children healthy, safe and reaching their full potential.
 - To protect children from serious disease, through screening and immunisation.
 - Reducing childhood obesity by promoting healthy eating and physical activity.
 - To promote oral health.
 - To support resilience and positive maternal and family mental health.
 - Supported the development of healthy relationships and good sexual and reproductive health.
 - To identify health and wellbeing issues early, so support and early interventions could be provided in a timely manner;
 - To ensure children were prepared for and supported in all childcare, early years and education settings and were especially supported to be ready to learn at 2 and ready for school by 5.
- How were the physical and mental health and wellbeing, and additional

needs and vulnerabilities of children being understood?

- In terms of our requirements for a preventative approach and public health approach, the service had worked closely to ensure a robust training plan was in place. School nursing had a unique role, with a holistic overview of children and circumstances. Their role in relation to schools enabled them to play an important prevention role, identify issues and support or refer early. The aim of the school nursing review was to review the role of the current school nursing; look at other services/roles available in schools to wellbeing; consult with the school nursing team; and, also to draw on alternative models across the region.

The committee made the following comments:

- It was paramount to improve services that people could have access to within local communities;
- Better outcomes would result in a better standard of life for children;
- Improving the lifestyle of the population as a whole as opposed to race scales but on a local setting would make a significant difference in inequalities; and,
- Strengthening a system-level approach was ideal with multi-agency agreement on the way forward to make positive changes to the needs of the most vulnerable.

Resolved: -

That the continued progress to improve the 0-19 service during the remainder of the contract (to April 2023) and for re-commissioning of the service be noted.

Action: Director of Public Health

51. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

A work planning discussion had taken place on the Committee's work programme for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year.

No resolution was passed on this item.

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.