

## Health & Wellbeing Board

Meeting of held on Wednesday, 22 January 2020 at 2.00 pm in F10, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX

### MINUTES

- Present:** Councillor Louisa Woodley (Chair);  
Dr Agnelo Fernandes (NHS Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group) (Vice-Chair);  
Councillor Margaret Bird  
Councillor Janet Campbell  
Councillor Alisa Flemming  
Councillor Simon Hall  
Councillor Yvette Hopley  
Rachel Flowers, Director of Public Health - Non-voting  
Guy Van-Dichele, Executive Director of Health, Wellbeing & Adults, Croydon Council - Non Voting  
Robert Henderson, Executive Director of Children, Families and Education  
Hilary Williams, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust  
Steve Phaure, Croydon Voluntary Action - Non Voting
- Apologies:** Councillor Jane Avis, Edwina Morris and Michael Bell

### PART A

10/20 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2019 were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the amendment above.

11/20 **Disclosure of Interests**

There were no disclosures at this meeting.

12/20 **Urgent Business (if any)**

There was none.

13/20 **Public Questions**

There were none.

## 14/20 **Update on ACE and Perinatal Mental Health**

The Director of Public Health introduced the report and explained that her 2018 annual public health report focused on the first 1000 days from conception to the age of 2. The report had made 34 recommendations for action, which were all in progress or completed, which was positive.

The Executive Director – Health, Wellbeing and Adults noted that the action plan created from the public health report was helpful to monitor the progress of the recommendations; he was hopeful to see a similar process with the 2019 annual public health report to ensure a broad delivery of the recommendations. The Director of Public Health added that her independent report for 2019 was focused on food, and welcomed a workshop with the Health & Wellbeing Board Members to develop a work plan for the suggested actions from this.

The CVA representative, Steve Phaure, thanked the Director of Public Health and noted that the CVA had submitted a bid with the Local Government Association to focus on trauma and perinatal health care due to her 2018 public health report, which helped shape their bids throughout the year.

**RESOLVED** – That the Board noted the progress in implementing the recommendations made in the Director of Public Health’s Annual report 2018.

## 15/20 **Homelessness Strategy**

The Director of Gateway Services introduced the report and explained that homelessness legislation required housing authorities to publish a new homelessness strategy, based on the results of a further homelessness review. In way of introduction, she highlighted the following:

- The Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy would deliver on, and contribute, to two of the outcomes the Council had committed to in the Corporate Plan 2018 -22: “*Good decent homes for all*” and “*Live long, happy and independent lives*”.
- The Local Housing Allowance rates had been frozen since 2016 and had recently been slightly lifted; however, residents were still struggling.
- There was a big migration into the borough from more expensive parts of London, which was a contributing factor. The neighbouring authorities also did not have as much private renting accommodation, so homeless people were being placed in Croydon; these people often had complex needs.
- The five key actions were based around intervention and prevention.
- The Somewhere Safe to Stay hub (SStS) at Croydon University Hospital (CUH) was the missing link in Croydon and was working very well; it was a 24/7 support centre with a rapid rehousing pathway. It

had been soft launched in November 2019 and 50 people had already moved through the service with positive outcomes.

- A long-term temporary accommodation plan was currently being developed.
- Consultation events were ongoing and the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy was to be approved and published by March 2020.

The Health & Wellbeing Board were shown a video called "*Rough Sleeping Partnership Working in Croydon 2020*", which was available on YouTube. The Director of Gateway Services thanked all the volunteers and organisations across the borough, who worked in partnership, and had helped develop the Strategy.

The Chair and Vice-Chair thanked the Director for her presentation and the development of the strategy; it was noted that the strategy including a wide range of partners and that the work was already being implemented was extremely positive.

Councillor Hopley thanked the Director and noted that there were a lot of fantastic initiatives included within the report. She expressed concern with the influx of those coming to Croydon due to being on the Gatwick Express line, the Home Office being based in Croydon and having a large support network and community projects available. The Director of Gateway Services explained that those using the services were monitored and it was verified from where they were from and the vast majority of homeless people were not from outside of the borough. The statistics were indicated that Croydon would soon have rates of homelessness as high as Westminster, however, due to the ongoing work and initiatives included within the strategy, this had been prevented. There was a high number of Eastern European homeless people in Croydon but there was government funding available to provide short-term accommodation, for up to six weeks, to help them get back in to employment to prevent long-term homelessness.

During the discussion, the Health & Wellbeing Board Members stated the following:

- The official launch of the SStS was on 30 January 2020 and the Director welcomed a representative from the Health & Wellbeing Board to be present. She also suggested that a couple of Board Members at a time could visit the Hub, which she would organise with the Chair, as it was a small space and the adults were vulnerable.
- Gateway Services were working closely with the CCG, Director of Public Health and social services; it was a whole system approach.
- All partners needed to be informed of the services available, namely the localities services, to ensure referrals were being made.
- A prison navigator role had been developed and newly appointed to; they were working closely with those released from prison and ensuring that nobody was discharged directly on to the street without signposting, a plan and a home.

- Those who chose to appear homeless or were travelling to the borough on a daily basis were not included in the strategy. Intelligence was being collected, alongside the Violence Reduction Unit, regarding those who were begging for money but were not street homeless to ensure they were provided with the correct help and support.
- Begging often became a part of people's lives and had a sociable aspect to it and it was important to provide support in breaking these habits.
- The Director had asked someone who was formally homeless to do a video about how it felt to now have a home to ensure the residents voice was captured.
- There was a high number of people who were appearing to be homeless in the Purley area; the Director of Gateway Services agreed to distribute data to the Health & Wellbeing Board Members regarding how many people were appearing to be homeless and in which areas.
- The third Community Connect/Food Stop would be based in Coulsdon and would provide support to residents in the local area, not just those from Coulsdon. Key partners in the area would be asked to participate and some organisations were already offering to help.

Councillor Hall commented that the Community Connect/Food Stop had been life changing for some families and he had spoken to constituents who had preventing becoming homeless because of them. He also noted that it was important for those in crises, all forms of homelessness, have access to mental health services; the timeliness of this was crucial.

The Director of Public Health congratulated the Director of Gateway Services for her and her teams fantastic work for the most vulnerable living in Croydon. She noted that the Adult Safeguarding Board had identified homelessness as a priority since the strategy had been produced. She explained that there were different types of homelessness and it was important to collect the stories of all to track if there were any patterns and introduced earlier prevention work.

**RESOLVED** – That the Board agreed to note the draft priorities for a Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy for Croydon.

## 16/20 **CYP Mental Health update**

The Head of Commissioning and Procurement Children's, Family and Education, Executive Director Children Families and Education and Director of Commissioning and Procurement introduced the report and explained that a previous report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in October 2019 to provide an update on the work overseen by the Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health (CYP EW&MH) Partnership Board. The report being presented was an update to provide

further information across emotional wellbeing and mental health services for Croydon's children and young people.

During the introduction of the report, the following points were highlighted:

- Croydon Council had set a number of different actions and priorities in recent years and the aim was to link these in to one clear action plan for all services to work towards.
- The Local Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health was annually reviewed and aims were identified to work towards.
- A task and finish group was to be established who would develop a dashboard to monitor and measure data from all providers in the borough.
- The report highlighted the key achievements in 2018/19.
- From February 2020, the single point of contact (SPOC) service would expand to include emotional wellbeing and mental health. Practitioners from (SLaM), specialists from social care, early help, health visiting, education, safeguarding, police, and housing services would be located at Bernard Weatherill House.
- An increase of referrals when the SPOC service was first opened was expected and this information would be collected to review and possibly redesign the resources to meet the need of the residents.
- There was an increasing demand for mental health services and it was positive that additional investments were incoming to meet the demand. There was a requirement for the CCG to invest in mental health services annually, but there was a challenge to ensure this investment used wisely.

In response to Board Members, it was explained that Kooth had been commissioned to deliver online counselling across schools in South West London as part of the Mental Health in Schools trailblazer offer. There was an anonymous chat function for young people if they did not want to seek help from a service.

In response to Councillor Hopley the Executive Director – Children, Families & Education confirmed that all schools in Croydon were engaged, including private schools. It was added that not all schools would be included in the Trailblazers programme but they would all have an offer to access the resources available to schools; it was assured that there would not be a blanket "one fits all" model.

In response to the Healthwatch representative the officers explained that the voice and experience of the young people should be at the heart of the framework, so the timing of the Healthwatch report regarding mental health was useful. There were ongoing projects as funding had been recently

secured but a clear “Croydon one offer”, which would be easy to navigate, needed to be established.

In response to Councillor Campbell it was noted that family therapists would be commissioned and this would be open to foster families; the Head of Commissioning and Procurement Children's, Family and Education agreed to feed further information back to Councillor Campbell regarding this.

Councillor Fitzsimons was present at the meeting as the Lead Member for Scrutiny. He explained to the Board that at the Scrutiny Children & Young People Sub-Committee, on 21 January 2020, it was agreed by Scrutiny Members to look at the fostering services and improve relations. He also noted that Scrutiny Health & Social Care Sub-Committee would be having a joint meeting on 21 April 2020 with Croydon CAMHS and SLaM to review the mental health services in Croydon and invited the Health & Wellbeing Board Members to attend and participate.

During the discussion, the Health & Wellbeing Board Members stated the following:

- The CVA were supporting emotional wellbeing in schools from the summer term, beginning 17 April 2020 and activities organised by various community groups would start again in the summer holidays.
- The redesign of the services should work in collaboration with the Trailblazer programme and monitor the impact collectively.
- The importance of data collection, both qualitative and quantitative, was expressed. An action and outcome plan should be developed, similar to the Homelessness Strategy, to accurately measure the impact. It was important to develop a framework of a full Croydon offer outlining all the services to gain a full understanding.
- It was recommended that all new information should be sent to the officers who presented the report to ensure it was linked in the new framework.
- Communication of the services available to residents was key.
- Foster Carers had noted concern regarding the mental health services available for young people and had requested support with navigating the services; many had expressed concern that if the child were to access these services then they would be removed from the foster carers. It was added that SLaM in Lambeth provided bespoke support for foster carers in terms of training and officers in Croydon were looking at introducing this.

The Chair thanked the officers for their report and requested that a further report be presented at the Health & Wellbeing Board in June 2020 to update Board Members on the progress.

**RESOLVED** – That the Board agreed to:

- 1) Note the additional investment for emotional wellbeing in schools through the Mayor's Young Londoners Fund;
- 2) Note the projects that are developing joint working across the council, CCG and mental health service providers to improve delivery of emotional wellbeing and mental health services;
- 3) Note the 2019 Refresh of the Local Transformation Plan for children and young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health as required by NHS England.

17/20

### **Director of Public Health Annual Report - Food**

The Director of Public Health introduced her Annual Report, which focused on food and the key role it played through the course of Croydon residents' lives and explored the complexity within their system and the associated challenges around obesity, food insecurity and sustainability. The report had used over 100 evidence-based practises to form 22 recommendations, six of which were key, to produce facts as opposed to opinion. She expressed that she would appreciate the Health & Wellbeing Board Members to endorse the recommendations and support the implementation in Croydon.

Councillor Hopley noted that the implementation of the recommendations could be difficult, in particular with getting local businesses involved due to the commercially sensitive nature. In response, the Director of Public Health agreed and explained that the advantage of the Health & Wellbeing Board being involved and endorsing the recommendations was having a wide range of Members being on the Board from various organisations. She suggested holding a workshop with Members to discuss how the recommendations could be implemented.

Through discussion, the Health & Wellbeing Board Members stated the following:

- Food poverty was a concern in Croydon; there were many residents who would be grateful to fill a nine-inch plate.
- There were engagement events held across the borough with the intention of helping less wealthy families, children and schools to learn how to grow healthy foods in large allotments; education had a big impact on influencing the community.
- To encourage a healthier relationship with food for younger people it was suggested that eating healthy needed to become trendy; there could be a focus on body image and eating disorders for instance.
- It should be promoted that eating healthier often saved money.
- Local Government had less power regarding licensing than residents thought; a dialogue with Government could be started regarding the licensing of fast food outlets.

- There were more GP referrals to leisure centres in Croydon than any other borough, which was helping the transformation.
- The Transformation Board should include the recommendations in the Health & Care Plan.

The Executive Director - Health Wellbeing and Adults volunteered to be the sponsor between the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Croydon Transformation Board and suggested that actions should be established within the next six weeks, which he would co-ordinate.

In response to the Vice-Chair the Director of Public Health agreed to work with him on creating a separate piece of work regarding allergies and introducing foods at an early age to prevent these in the future.

**RESOLVED** – That the Board agreed to note the information and recommendations outlined in the Annual Director of Public Health Report, endorse, and support the recommendations.

## 18/20 **Health Protection Forum Update**

The Director of Public Health introduced the report and noted that the report included an update of the ongoing work with seasonal influenza, the MMR (Measles Mumps Rubella) vaccination, BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guérin) vaccination and the pan London priorities. It was noted that a letter from the Director had been distributed to all local schools expressing the importance of the MMR vaccination; it was further requested that the Health & Wellbeing Board members began the conversation with those around them regarding the whether they have the vaccination.

The Vice-Chair noted that London was one of the worst areas in the country for being vaccinated and Croydon had one of the lowest population in a London Borough to be vaccinated. The London Borough of Sutton was the highest borough to be vaccinated, so he suggested that the Health & Wellbeing Board looked at how they were promoting the MMR vaccinations. The Director of Public Health added that the figures in Croydon were improving and she hoped that having a targeted approach would improve these further; it was important to start going out and having physical conversations with people, similar to the localities approach. An action plan had been created and the Director agreed to share this with Board Members.

The Vice-Chair noted that the coronavirus was becoming a concern, however, there was not a vaccination for this yet; the Director of Public Health agreed but noted that people were dying from measles and flu and there were vaccinations for these available.

- Parents were unaware if their child has had both doses of the MMR vaccination or not; it was positive that a letter had been sent to the



schools, but it needed to be ensured that this message would filter to the parents and trigger them to book appointments for the vaccination or to check if their child was already vaccinated.

- Active engagement with the different communities within the borough was crucial.
- It was important to discover the common cause of why people were refusing the vaccinations; the example given was social media promoting the vaccinations negatively to parents.
- A clear message to parents was needed, including, when vaccinations should be had, the process, information regarding receiving a double dose and the importance of vaccinations.
- Teachers were obliged to be vaccinated, however, this was not checked and health workers were also obliged to be vaccinated and obliged to receive confirmation of this from their GP to supply to the employer; it was important that this was changed for teaching staff.
- The first 1001 days focus was important, however, it should be increased to 2001 days (to when the child turned five) to capture a critical period in their lives, including vaccinations.
- Grandparents often held the memory of diseases and the impact from these, so could have an influence on present vaccinations.

**RESOLVED** – That the Board agreed to note the contents of the report and to continue to support the activities and actions to improve flu and MMR vaccinations.

19/20 **London Vision**

The Executive Director – Health Wellbeing and Adults introduced the report and explained that the Healthy London Partnership (HLP) Vision for London was published in October 2019. The Vision outlined 10 priority areas which were closely aligned to the priorities within the Croydon Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Health and Care Plan.

**RESOLVED** – That the Board agreed to note the report.

20/20 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

The meeting ended at 16:55

**Signed:**

**Date:** .....