

HEALTH & ADULTS SCRUTINY SUB- COMMITTEE

Monday, 20 July 2020 at 6.30 p.m.

Online 'Virtual' Meeting - <https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

This meeting is open to the public to attend.

Members:

Chair: Councillor Kahar Chowdhury
Vice-Chair: Councillor Marc Francis

Councillor Shad Chowdhury, Councillor Denise Jones, Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan, Councillor Andrew Wood and Councillor Amina Ali

Substitues:

Councillor Shah Ameen, Councillor Zenith Rahman and Councillor Helal Uddin

Co-opted Members:

David Burbidge
Sue Kenten

Healthwatch Tower Hamlets Representative
Health & Adults Scrutiny Sub-Committee Co-optee

[The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members]

Contact for further enquiries:

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E-mail: David.knight@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Web: <http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>

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agenda



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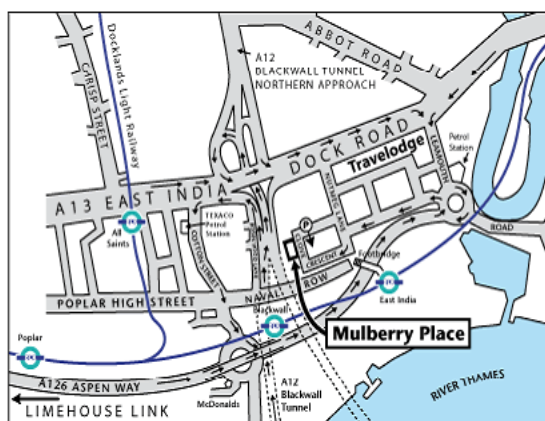
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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

5 - 6

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, please see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are reminded to declare the nature of the interest and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it's the Members' responsibility to declare any interests and to update their register of interest form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of your interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

7 - 12

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 12th March, 2020.

3. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Keep Tower Hamlets Safe - Local COVID-19 Outbreak Plan

- Test and contact trace;
- Shielding vulnerable people in Tower Hamlets; and
- Supporting BAME groups amidst the dangers of covid19.

(Lead – Somen Banerjee, Director of Public Health, LBTH) (45mins)

3.2 Impact of Covid-19 on Mental Health

(Lead – Edwin Ndlovu, Director of Operations, East London Foundation Trust) (30 mins)

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

Next Meeting of the Sub-Committee

The next meeting of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee will be held on Date Not Specified at Time Not Specified in Online 'Virtual' Meeting - <https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

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Agenda Item 1

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS– NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii) Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests. In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive.

(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless:**

- A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. **If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.**

(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

Guidance on Predetermination and Bias

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

Further Advice contact: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer,
Tel: 0207 364 4800.

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH & ADULTS SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.23 P.M. ON THURSDAY, 12 MARCH 2020

THE AMBROSE KING CENTRE, THE ROYAL LONDON, HOSPITAL, MOUNT TERRACE, WHITECHAPEL, E1 2BB.

Members Present:

Councillor Kahar Chowdhury (Chair)
Councillor Marc Francis (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Denise Jones

Councillor Andrew Wood

Co-opted Members Present:

David Burbidge

– Healthwatch Tower Hamlets
Representative

Sue Kenten

– Health & Adults Scrutiny Sub-
Committee Co-optee

Apologies:

Councillor Shad Chowdhury
Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan

Officers Present:

Jack Kerr
Jamal Uddin
Dr Somen Banerjee
Chris Banks

– Strategy & Policy Manager
– Strategy Policy & Performance Officer
– (Director of Public Health)
– Chief Executive, Tower Hamlets GP
Care Group CIC

Chris Lovitt
Denise Radley

– (Associate Director of Public Health)
– (Corporate Director, Health, Adults &
Community)

Sukhjit Sanghera
Joanne Starkie

– (Health, Adults & Community)
– (Head of Strategy and Policy - Health
Adults and Communities)

Rushena Miah

– (Committee Services Officer)

1. TOUR OF THE AMBROSE CENTRE

The tour of the centre was cancelled due to Barts Health advice on covid-19. The Chair announced that an update on Covid-19 would be presented in the any other business section of the meeting by Somen Banerjee, Director of Public Health.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed Members and guests to the meeting.

3. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests. The Chair disclosed a personal interest in that his wife worked in the health and social care sector.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2019 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

5. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

5.1 Sexual Health Services- update on new services

The Committee received a report and presentation from Chris Lovitt (Associate Director of Public Health) and Vanessa Apea (Barts Health Trust) on updates to the sexual health contract.

In response to the presentation Members made the following comments:

- Members noted an overspend of £350,000 and asked whether this could be attributed to the rise in population. Presenting officers said that only half of the overspend was attributed to Barts, the other half was from out of borough services. Officers said that better integration, the e-service offer and targeted support to risk groups would enable the service to use the budget more efficiently.
- Public Health funding pressures was discussed. Officers said a two million pound saving was made after the service update.
- There was a discussion on PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) noting that a trail had taken place on black women in the borough because they were a risk group. Officers said costs associated with PrEP planning could be borne by the council b PH England would pay for the drugs. Officers said the trail experienced administrative issues and a mainstream service was not yet ready.
- Officers assured members that sexual health services were fully integrated into the boroughs GPs and Pharmacies. Patient engagement on available support was an ongoing communications exercise.
- Officers said around 10% of all STI tests were from repeat patients. They said all young people who had repeatedly presented to services were provided with an integrated sexual health advisor and online support.

- Members asked if young gay or bisexual were receiving tailored support. Officers said historically gay men had gone to the Chelsea and Dean Street surgery for support but with the newly refurbished Ambrose King Centre they were hoping to bring back local residents because the services were better, for example Barts could provide more testing and contraceptive options.
- It was noted the Ambrose King Centre was designed for co-location desk space with other services for example the drug and alcohol team. In addition all satellite sites were designed for co-location.

ACTION: for the sexual health services budget to be reviewed by the Committee in June 2020.

RESOLVED:

To note the report.

5.2 The GP Contract 2020/21

This item was postponed to the April 2020 meeting of the committee.

5.3 Adult Social Care Charging Update

Joanne Starkie, Head of Strategy & Policy HAC, provided the committee with an update report on actions requested by Members on the prior adult social care report.

- Members thanked officers for the comprehensive action log and hoped lessons had been learnt.
- Members strongly recommended that in future consultation exercises there should be an independent and external sense check on service change impacts.
- Officers explained that a charging consultation had been launched on proposals that will change the way the council calculates how much residents pay towards the cost of community-based adult social care services. They presented **two options:**

Option 1

- Increase the maximum amount people can be asked pay towards their care from £250 per week to £1000 per week.
- Reduce the 'standard utilities allowance' from £15 to £5.
- Provide respite and carer relief services free of charge, if they are put in place primarily to meet the needs of a carer following a carer assessment. At the moment these services are chargeable to the person receiving adult social care services.

It is estimated that 28 people will be impacted by increasing the maximum weekly contribution. If a person is not currently contributing the maximum of £250 per week, they will not be impacted by this proposed increase.

It is projected that reducing the 'standard utilities allowance' to £5 will impact 1,239 people.

Option 2

- Increase the maximum amount people can be asked to contribute towards their care from £250 per week to £300 per week.
- Remove the £15 'standard utilities allowance'.
- Provide respite and carer relief services free of charge, if they are put in place primarily to meet the needs of a carer following a carer assessment. At the moment these services are chargeable to the person receiving adult social care services.

It is estimated that 28 people will be impacted by increasing the maximum weekly contribution. If a person is not currently contributing the maximum of £250 per week, they will not be impacted by this proposed increase.

To have a weekly maximum contribution of £300 per week, the 'standard utilities allowance' is removed in this option. We estimate that this will impact 1,304 people.

The consultation will run from **Monday 9 March 2020 to Sunday 31 May 2020**.

RESOLVED:

To note the report.

5.4 Health & Social Care Integration Update

The committee received an update on integration from Warwick Tomsett - Joint Director of Integrated Commissioning.

In response to the presentation the following comment were made:

- Members wanted to know if there was shared integrated budget. Officers said organisations were funded separately but the better care fund was a joint provision by the Council and CCG. Members advised that integrated budgets were essential to meaningful integration and officers should plan towards this.
- Members also said it was important to capture user engagement and patient stories and present these at board meetings. Officers said this was beginning to happen.
- ELFT representatives informed the committee that they were building a bank of patient stories and were hoping to present stories next year.

- Officers said impact measurement was recorded using the 'I statements'.
- It was noted the Tower Hamlets Together partnership reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Lead Member for Health said partnership working in Tower Hamlets was one of the best across London.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the report.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Council Budget:

Denise Radley, Corporate Director for Health Adults Community, summarised proposed savings in the council's annual budget with regards to adult social care. The chair informed the committee that he had met with the corporate director prior to the committee meeting regarding the proposals.

- There was a proposal to merge Riverside day centre and a day hostel.
- Savings would be made in adult social care charging, telecare and rehab. These would be phased over three years and were indicated in the current budget.
- The day centre proposal would fall into the next financial year.
- The day hostel proposal would fall into year two of the budget.
- The telecare proposal would fall into year three of the budget.

In response to the update

- Members said that they were aware of the savings proposals in the budget but the option 2 discussed earlier in the meeting was not in the budget analysis to Members.

ACTION: Denise Radley to provide the committee with a budget analysis on the two options for the adult social care charging proposals.

- Members were concerned about the compatibility of the patients from the two day centres because one focused on general care and the other catered to clients with dementia. The strongly recommended that in-depth consultation takes place with the service users.

COVID-19

The second item of urgent business was an update from Somen Banerjee Director of Public Health on Covid-19.

The Director said that the situation was changing rapidly. He summarised that:

- the goal was to delay the peak of the virus into the warmer months when beds were generally free because flu season was over.
- everyone should be washing their hands with soap and water and gel sanitiser if they did not have access to soap and water.
- People should practice social distancing and only come in to work for key services.
- The council could expect 40% of its staff off sick in the coming months.
- A contingency planning exercise was to be conducted at the council the following day.
- The situation may continue for approximately 6-9 months. Colleagues would have to work together to minimise anxiety and maintain core services.
- A borough emergency command centre may be set up at the council depending on the scale of the issue.

Members made the following comments:

- The screens at the ideas stores, council and all council websites and social media should display Covid-19 precautions. Officers said they could do this.
- Members wanted to know if any support was being offered to local retailers. Officers said it was an issue that would have to be addressed at the national and local level.

ACTION: for all contingency measures with regards to Covid-19 to be communicated to the Health Scrutiny Sub Committee in particular plans on business continuity and vulnerable people.

ACTION: covid-19 precaution message across all council sites and social media.

RESOLVED:

To note the AOB.

The meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.

**Chair, Councillor Kahar Chowdhury
Health & Adults Scrutiny Sub-Committee**