

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.35 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2019

MP702 - TOWN HALL MULBERRY PLACE

Name

Councillor Kahar Chowdhury
Councillor Eve McQuillan
Councillor Gabriela Salve Macallan
Councillor Kyrsten Perry

Role

Chair
Vice-Chair
Member
Member

Other Councillors:

Councillor Denise Jones

Cabinet Member for Health Adults &
Community

Others present:

Adrian Osborne
Ann Corbett
Anna Livingstone
Ashton West
Carrie Kilpatrick
Chris Ley
Chris Lovitt

LBTH Finance Partner
Divisional Director Community Safety
Tower Hamlets GP Care Group
SPP Officer LBTH
THCCG/LBTH
Tower Hamlets GP Care Group
Associate Director Public Health
LBTH

D. Zador
Dan Burningham
David Jones

ELFT
CH CCG
Interim Divisional Director Adult
Social Care

Dezlee Dennis
Dr Katie Cole
F. Miah
Jack Kerr
Matthias Schnepfel
Paul Swindells
Rushena Miah

TH Drug & Alcohol Team
Associate Director Public Health
LBTH
SPP Manger LBTH
TH Drug & Alcohol Team
Reablement Team Manager LBTH
Committee Officer – Democratic
Services

Steve Collins
Warwick Tomsett

THCCG Finance Advisor
Joint Director of Integrated
Commissioning

Apologies

Councillor Andrew Wood, David Burbidge – Healthwatch Co-Opted Member

1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor Eve McQuillan declared a personal interest in that she worked for the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2018 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

3. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

[The Chair decided to take agenda items in a different order than published. The first item presented was Health and Substance Misuse, followed by the Health and Social Care Budget Report, the Reablement Action Plan and then the Health Based Places of Safety Report. For improved readability the minutes will follow the order published on the agenda].

4. HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE

The Committee received the report of Dezlee Dennis – Substance Misuse Commissioning Manager and Katie Cole –Associate Director of Public Health, on Health and Substance Misuse. Colleagues from the Tower Hamlets Drug and Alcohol Team (DAAT) were present to answer questions from Members.

In response to Member questions, officers provided the following:

- 52% unmet need was below the national average. The DAAT said they were in the process of identifying potential service users by engaging with the Adult Social Care Team, the Child Social Work Team and mental health service provider partners. There were plans to employ a DAAT Liaison Officer at the Royal London.
- Officers were aware of the need to extend their support to specific user groups including the LGBTQ+ and BAME communities.
- Substance misuse was linked to adverse childhood experiences and domestic violence was a risk factor. Officers suggested higher rates of deprivation, poverty, crime, homelessness and other socio-economic deprivation were possible reasons for why opiate use in Tower Hamlets was higher than some of the other London boroughs.
- Approximately 90% of the aging opiate cohort have been using for 9 years or more.
- The topic of extended safety for women was discussed. Officers said potential areas for commissioning in 2019/20 included women only days and co-production work with women.
- Commissioning for 2019/20 would be an extension of existing service provision. There were no plans to drop services.
- MESH programme includes up to 20 visits as part of universal partnership plus. This was a key prevention service.
- It was noted that hostels played an influencing role in drug use as residents tended to include recovering addicts.

The Chair thanked Officers for their presentation.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the presentation.

5. HEALTH BASED PLACES OF SAFETY

The Committee received the report of Carrie Kilpatrick – Deputy Director of Mental Health and Joint Commissioning and Dan Burningham – Mental Health Programme Director City and Hackney CCG.

In response to Member questions officers provided the following:

- The proposal to reduce sites from 20 to 9 hubs did not mean there would be fewer beds. The hubs would receive investment to expand their site space to accommodate more people. An additional suite would be built at the Homerton Hospital and Sunflower Court.
- People will be diverted to the Homerton from June 2019 when the new suite is ready. There would be a small impact (0.1%) on the A&E service at the Homerton and the possibility of the use of the in-patient wards, if a bed could not be found within the hub.
- Alternative flows include hubs at Camden and Haringey.
- Members were concerned about the distance if provision was out of borough. They said people tended to want to use services closer to home.
- Officers explained that the Raid service at the Royal London was inadequate and users would receive better specialist care at the hubs.

The Chair thanked the speakers for their report.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the report.

6. REABLEMENT SERVICE SCRUTINY REVIEW ACTION PLAN

The Committee received the report of David Jones, Interim Divisional Director of Adult Social Care and Paul Swindells, Service Manager for Reablement.

Reporting officers summarised the recommendations made in the Reablement Service Scrutiny Review Action Plan and provided an update.

In response to Member questions, officers provided the following:

- The triage process mentioned in recommendation 3 (That the Reablement Service develops a communications plan linked into the

launch of the new integrated single pathway..), would only apply to people who are processed through the social care or rehab route. Acute therapists played a key role in identifying people who required a reablement pathway.

- There was a discussion about measures used to calculate savings. There were two approaches that could be taken, one was to calculate actual cost of savings resulting from reablement and a second calculation could be made based on 'cost avoidance' and this could apply to new people coming into the system, who would not have the same care plan as previous users. Officers said it would be difficult to capture cost avoidance.
- Officers were optimistic that the £556k savings for 2019/20 could be found.
- The reablement service is responsible for making assessments. The Localities Team are responsible for producing a support plan with the individual who is then supported by the relevant localities team.
- The reablement team would be proactively capturing user feedback from next month. Some negative feedback was expected due to differing perceptions on the value of reablement and the expected level of service post assessment.

ACTIONS:

1. For officers to follow up on Barts medication boxes recommendation.
2. To find out why the majority of referrals are made for women (64%)
3. To find out how many Referrals were made by REAL.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the report.

7. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BUDGETS

The Committee received the reports of Adrian Osborne-Finance Business Partner LBTH, and Steve Collins – Finance Advisor Tower Hamlets CCG on the budget for Adult Social Care Services, the draft medium-term financial strategy and the THCCG draft operating plan 2019/20.

In response to questions from Members, officers provided the following:

- The benchmarking on expenditure did not reflect the level of demand. It was noted that each local authority collected and presented data differently which was a weakness in the data collection method.

- Although the borough has a small older population, the demand for the service was higher than expected. This was likely due to high levels of complex needs and disability in the borough.
- The year ahead would look at re-scoping day opportunities
- When asked if the 20% savings target was realistic, officers advised that this would be approximately £1 million pounds worth of savings and were achievable, if efforts were made to minimise duplication or triplication of provision across partnered providers.

The Chair thanked Officers for the presentation.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the report.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Inner North East London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (INEL JHOSC):

The Chair informed the Committee that the INEL JHOSC representative position was vacant. He agreed to attend the 13 February 2019 INEL JHOSC meeting but asked if a Member could volunteer to attend the following meeting, on 20 March 2019. Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan agreed to attend the March meeting.

It was noted the 20 March 2019 meeting date clashed with Tower Hamlet's full Council meeting. Jack Kerr (SPP Policy Manager) agreed to contact Newham to request a date change for INEL JHOSC.

RESOLVED:

1. Councillor Macallan to attend the March 2019 INEL JHOSC meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.01 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Kahar Chowdhury
Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee