

Minutes of a meeting of the EAP Health & Wellbeing and Vulnerable People

At 9.30 am on Friday 1st October, 2021

Held in the Council Chamber, Cedar Drive, Thrapston, NN14 4LZ

Present:-

Members

Councillor Helen Harrison (Chair)
Councillor Ken Harrington
Councillor John McGhee

Councillor King Lawal
Councillor Russell Roberts
Councillor Chris Smith-Haynes

Also in attendance

Councillor A Mercer - Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Officers

David Watts – Executive Director Adults, Communities & Wellbeing
Lucy Wightman – Director of Public Health
Francesca McHugo – Democratic Services

19 Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed the Executive Member for Housing & Communities, Councillor Andy Mercer to the meeting.

20 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor G Shacklock.

21 Members' Declarations of Interest

The Chair invited those who wished to do so to declare any interests in respect of items on the agenda.

The following declarations were made:-

Minute Number	Councillor/Officer	Type of Interest
23	King Lawal	Other Interest – as a manager of a social care company and involvement with Groundwork Northamptonshire
23	John McGhee	Interest – relative receives funding from Northamptonshire Sport related to employment.
23	Lucy Wightman	Other Interest – as a board member of Northamptonshire Sport

22 Minutes of the Meeting Held On 27 August 2021

It was AGREED:

That the minutes of the Health, Wellbeing & Vulnerable People Executive Advisory Panel held on 27 August 2021 be agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

23 Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight

The Director of Public Health introduced a briefing document which built upon the Public Health England research which followed a four year pilot on the Whole Systems Approach (WSA) to obesity.

The complexity of the obesity problem was outlined and members noted the red RAG rating (adult weight) and amber RAG rating (children's weight). The importance of engaging in a 'Health in all Policies' model of working was also highlighted.

Members supported the 'WSA to Healthy Weight' and the work needed to secure implementation of an overarching strategy to tackle obesity.

During the panel discussion, the following principal points were raised:

- i) The relationship between mental health, bullying and the age of social media should be more explicitly addressed within the WSA;
- ii) The Council should lead by example with provision of staff support and opportunities along with outreach programmes to include depots and community hubs;
- iii) Non weight bearing activities should be identified to support those with limitations;
- iv) Data driven to highlight evidence in relation to planning SPDs to try and include in local plan;
- v) Weight tracking should be extended to monitor sustained weight loss over more than 2 years;
- vi) The approach needs to be consistent and sustainable across North Northamptonshire;
- vii) The Adult Learning Service could provide an opportunity for provision of healthy weight education.

It was AGREED:

- a) That the general principles of the whole systems approach to tackling healthy weight and obesity be supported.

- b) To recommend to the Director of Public Health that the following points be considered in future revisions of the 'Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight':
- i) An overarching strategy be developed to encompass all social classes;
 - ii) A consistent approach be developed across North Northamptonshire;
 - iii) The relationship between mental health, bullying, and the age of social media be explicitly referenced within the WSA to healthy weight;
 - iv) The council lead by example, developing opportunities for staff programmes, including outreach projects to depots and community hubs;
 - v) Barriers to exercise should be identified and alternatives sought;
 - vi) Increased monitoring be undertaken to assess sustained weight loss over a period of 2 years;
 - vii) A data driven approach be undertaken to support the Council in planning policy development;
 - viii) Collaboration be sought with Adult Learning to increase opportunity for health education.

24 Afghan Refugees and Resettlement

The Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing outlined the work undertaken to date in mobilising the North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Afghan Resettlement Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) and preparatory work in anticipation of both a bridging hotel and longer-term resettlement requests. The Executive Director thanked the Department of Public Health for support given during the quarantine and bridging process.

Members noted the council response to date to the Afghan resettlement requests and the initial pledge made to support at least ten families to resettle in North Northamptonshire.

During discussion, members raised the following principal points:

- i) Assurance was sought that landlord background checks, safety certifications and suitability and quality of housing provided would be in line with NNC housing policies;
- ii) Security of tenure for a minimum of an initial 12 months was welcomed;
- iii) Securing accommodation in suitable neighbourhoods would be important for community integration;
- iv) The ability to apply for British citizenship after a period of five years for Afghan families was welcomed;
- v) Provision was identified to support in accessing and completing applications for financial aid;

vi) The financial implications of resettlement and integration costs should be noted to avoid any future surprises should government funding cease.

vii) It was considered that the Armed Forces Covenant should apply to Afghan families where applicable.

It was AGREED:

- a) That the council response to date to the Afghan resettlement requests and the initial pledge made to support families to resettle in North Northamptonshire be noted;
- b) That the work to date in mobilising the North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Afghan Resettlement Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) and preparatory work undertaken in anticipation of both a bridging hotel and longer-term resettlement requests be noted;
- c) The following feedback and suggestions be recommended to the Executive for consideration:
 - i) That future resource be identified to close potential funding gaps if required'
 - ii) Provision be identified to support applications for permanent housing and financial aid; and
 - iii) The Panel supports the granting of security of tenure for a minimum period of 12 months.

25 Health & Wellbeing Papers

The Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing introduced a report and presentation outlining the relationship of place and sub-place within the Integrated Care System.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing reflected on the North Northamptonshire Health & Wellbeing Board workshop that had been held on 23rd September 2021 and thanked officers for the informative presentation. It was noted that the questions discussed at the workshop were outlined in section 2.5 of the report.

During discussion, members raised the following principal points:

- i) The future role of the HWBB seemed to be unclear;
- ii) It was important to recognise the accountability of the HWBB in addressing inequalities;
- iii) The system should work from the grassroots up – by identifying appropriate grassroots forums for local involvement;
- iv) Local forums either new or existing, once agreed, should be properly constituted and embedded in the governance structure;

- v) The Council should challenge itself on the term 'Place'. The definition was unclear;
- vi) It should be recognises that communities could be interpreted as self-defined groups, as opposed to geographical areas; and
- vii) The Panel noted the intention of the Executive to deliver welcoming and accessible community hubs.

It was AGREED that:

- a) The presentation and questions discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) workshop be noted;
- b) The verbal update from the Executive Member for Adults Health and Wellbeing and the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing on their reflections from the HWBB workshop be noted;
- c) The following points be recommended to the Executive for consideration in the ongoing work around the creation and implementation of the Integrated Care System (ICS):
 - i) Clarity be given to the future role of the Health & Wellbeing Board;
 - ii) Appropriate grassroots forums be identified to support local engagement;
 - iii) Any local forums be embedded in the governance structure of the council;
 - iv) The meaning of 'Place' within the ICS system be further considered.

26 Forward Plan of Executive Items

The Panel received the Executive Forward Plan covering the period 1 September 2021 to 31 December 2021.

It was AGREED that the Executive Forward Plan of items be noted.

27 Work Programme

Members reviewed the forward list of items for future consideration by the panel.

It was AGREED that the following items be added to the work programme of the Health, Wellbeing & Vulnerable People EAP:

- i. Adult Education Offer (December 2021)
- ii. Left behind communities- Scrutiny Task Group update (November 2021)
- iii. Public Health Communications and Engagement Strategy/ Data gathering (December 2021)
- iv. Big Community Funds (ongoing update item as requested by the Panel)

28 Updates and Alerts

The Director of Public Health updated members on the rollout of the winter flu vaccinations and the current uptake of Covid-19 vaccinations.

It was confirmed that all scheduled deliveries for the local area had been fulfilled following initial supply concerns. Members noted that the 2021 flu vaccination programme had been extended to include those aged over 50 and school aged children.

Members also noted that the Flu communications strategy would launch the week commencing 4 October 2021.

It was AGREED:

That the updates on winter flu prevention and the Covid-19 booster vaccine rollout be noted

29 Close of meeting

The Chair thanked members and officers for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Chair

Date

The meeting closed at 11.46 am