

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Thursday, 17 December 2020

PRESENT – Councillor K Nicholson (Cabinet Member with Health and Housing Portfolio) (Chair) Councillor Clarke (Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio), Councillor Harker, Councillor Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council), James Stroyan (Acting Director of Children and Adults Services), Penny Spring (Director of Public Health), Richard Chillery (Operational Director of Children's and Countywide Care Directorate) (Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust), Sam Hirst (Primary Schools Representative), Nick Lindsay (Head Teacher Longfield Academy) (Secondary Schools Representative), Dr Amanda Riley (Chief Executive Officer) (Primary Healthcare Darlington), Michelle Thompson (Chief Executive Officer) (Healthwatch Darlington) and Rachel Morris (Head of Department for Nursing and Midwifery, School of Health and Life Sciences) (Teesside University)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Nichola Kenny (Director of Performance) (County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust), Jo Murray (Right Care Right Place Delivery Lead (Durham and Darlington)) (Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust), Ken Ross (Public Health Principal) (Public Health), Christine Shields (Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Transformation) and Hannah Fay (Democratic Officer)

APOLOGIES – Councillor Mills (Cabinet Member with Adults Portfolio), Brent Kilmurray (Chief Executive) (Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust), Sue Jacques (Chief Executive) (County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust), Steve White (Interim Police, Crime and Victim's Commissioner) (Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, Durham Police Area), Carole Todd (Darlington Post Sixteen Representative) (Darlington Post Sixteen Representative), Rita Lawson (Chairman) (VCS Strategic Implementation Group) and Jennifer Illingworth (Director of Operations, Durham and Darlington) (Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust)

HWBB7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Michelle Thompson, Healthwatch Darlington declared an interest in Minutes HWBB10 and HWBB11 below. There were no other declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

HWBB8 TO HEAR RELEVANT REPRESENTATION (FROM MEMBERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC) ON ITEMS ON THIS HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AGENDA.

No representations were made by Members or members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

HWBB9 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS BOARD HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2020

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Health and Well Being Board held on 3 September 2020.

It was noted that the meeting was inquorate.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of this Health and Wellbeing Board held on 3 September 2020 be brought to the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

REASON – To enable the Minutes to be agreed.

HWBB10 COVID-19 IN DARLINGTON

The Director of Public Health and Public Health Principal gave a presentation updating Members on Covid-19 in Darlington and in doing so reinforced the campaign in relation to Hands, Face, Space.

Details were provided of the five measures used to assess the Tier levels; case detection rates in all age groups; case detection rates in over 60's; rate of cases falling or rising; positivity rate; and pressure on the NHS; that Darlington remained in Tier 3 following the announcement by Government.

In relation to case detection rates, it was reported that cases peaked in the second wave on 15 November with 361 cases per 100k and that the current rate was 197 cases per 100k; and that whilst the rate was still in decline, it was slowing. The 80-89 and 90+ age groups had seen an increase in the number of cases in the last fourteen days, and that this increase was largely attributed to outbreak in care homes. The case detection rates in the over 60's was trending downwards; and the positivity rate in Darlington was currently 9.4 per cent which was higher than the North East and England

In relation to pressure on the NHS, it was reported that the rate of admissions was showing a slight increase; and that bed occupancy and ICU occupancy had peaked in November and was starting to decline.

Members were advised that case rates across Darlington and the Tees Valley had decreased between 1 and 8 December 2020; there was an active outbreak in a care home in Whinfield; and that a multi-disciplinary outbreak control team was in place to monitor outbreaks in Darlington. Members also noted that Care Homes had reported 36 outbreaks since March 2020; and household transmission was the greatest source of positive cases in Darlington.

Following the announcement that the Government had placed Darlington in Tier 3, details were provided on the government guidance in relation to this Tier; Darlington would remain in Tier 3 for at least two weeks until the next review. Reference was also made to the new government guidance regarding the 'Christmas bubble'; the community lateral flow testing, which was underway in Darlington; and the Covid-19 vaccination programme was outlined.

Reference was made to the work of the Public Health team in supporting education settings in Darlington throughout the pandemic; and the work of officers in setting up the community testing site.

Discussion ensued on the vaccination programme; the Chief Executive Officer, Primary Care Network advised Members that the vaccination would be rolled out after Christmas and that the over 80's would be the first to receive the vaccine; GP's would be making contact with the relevant people when the vaccine was available; NHS staff would receive the vaccine once all Darlington residents over the age of 80 had received it, of which there were 5000 residents; and that a robust process was in place to provide the vaccine to care homes residents once national approval had been given.

RESOLVED – (a) That the thanks of the Board be conveyed to the Director of Public Health and Public Health Principal, for their informative presentation.

(b) That the thanks of the Board be conveyed to the Public Health team for their work during the pandemic.

REASON – To convey the views of the Board.

HWBB11 SYSTEM WINTER PLAN SUMMARY 2020/21

The Director of Performance, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust submitted a report (previously circulated) on behalf of County Durham and Darlington LADB, updating Members on the System's Winter Plan 2020/21.

The submitted report stated that members of County Durham and Darlington LABD had been compiling the System Winter Plan 2020/21 for the last few months; that the plan was based on each organisations recovery and reset plans following the first wave of COVID-19; contains a combination of mitigations; and that work was ongoing to develop further mitigations and mutual aid responses across the ICP and ICS footprints, working with NHS England and the North East Commissioning Support Unit.

The report outlined the key objectives of the winter plan; reference was made to the initiatives in place to manage and mitigate anticipated system pressure which included optimising capacity, optimising the uptake of flu vaccination, task and finish group to roll out the latest discharge practice guidance; and support packages for the health and wellbeing of staff and members of the public.

Details were provided of the key risks; the plan aimed to mitigate these risks should they materialise at unprecedented levels; and the escalation and regional oversight processes in place were outlined.

Discussion ensued on the process of discharging COVID patients from the hospital.

RESOLVED – (a) That the plan be received.

(b) That the increased levels of risk in relation to the winter period, given the combination of winter pressures and COVID, be noted.

(c) That the ongoing work to agree mutual aid responses across the North East and Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS), and that the rapid response of LADB partners to the release of new guidance, be noted.

REASON – To assure the Board that a System Winter Plan has been put in place to protect services over the winter period and that there is robust daily oversight.