

COUNCIL – MEETING CANCELLED 13 MAY 2021

OVERVIEW OF HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee has undertaken.

Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust Quality Accounts 2020/21 and 2021/22

2. Members received a PowerPoint presentation from the Director of Quality Governance and Head of Planning and Business Development, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust providing an update on the progress made on the Quality Account improvement metrics and priorities for 2020/21 and outlining the proposed quality improvement priorities for 2021/22.
3. Members were advised that the four quality improvement priorities for 2020/21 were supported by 40 actions, of which ten were completed, 26 were not complete and four were no longer relevant. We noted the impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of these priorities.
4. Details were provided of the Quality Metrics as of Quarter 3 2020/21, of which there was data available for nine of the ten quality metrics. It was reported that three of the quality metrics were reporting Green whilst six were reporting Red and all six of the Red metrics were showing an improvement when compared to 2019/20.
5. Members held an in depth discussion on the quality metrics and have requested the inclusion of comparative data in future reports to enable Members to understand the performance of Durham and Darlington against the Trust and against NHS Trusts countrywide.
6. We have also requested further information in relation to Quality Metric 7 'Percentage of patients who reported their overall experience as excellent or good', and also for the CAMHS inpatient facilities and waiting times for Darlington CAMHS service.
7. We were advised of the proposed quality improvement priorities for 2021/22 which were Care Planning; Feeling Safe; and Compassionate Care and the detailed planning actions for each priority were outlined. We also noted that the suite of Quality Metrics were under review and that these would be aligned more closely to the improvement priorities.

Covid-19 in Darlington

8. We received a presentation from the Director of Public Health and Public Health Principal updating us on the COVID-19 situation in Darlington (please see [link](#) to presentation).

9. We were provided with updated figures for the four tests that must be met for England to progress through the stages of the Governments road map out of lockdown and noted that infection rates would be monitored closely as progression through the stages of the road map continued.
10. Particular discussion ensued on self-isolation. Members were pleased to note the intentions for in depth work on self-isolation with a focus on support available to residents and that Darlington were part of a local tracing partnership with NHS track and trace.

Customer Engagement Strategy 2021/24

11. We gave our consideration to the draft Customer Engagement Strategy 2021/24 which sets out the process for how the Council will involve and empower its tenants, including how the engagement activities will be monitored and reported.
12. We were provided with details of the four specific themes of the Customer Engagement Strategy, Providing the right information, Listening to our tenants, Making decisions with our tenants and Maximising scrutiny and accountability and were pleased to note that an annual Engagement Plan would support specific actions within the strategy with regular updates to the Tenant's Board and to this Scrutiny Committee.
13. We have requested that this Scrutiny Committee receives six monthly progress reports on the Customer Engagement Strategy 2021/24.

Joint Autism Review Group

14. Scrutiny received a report presenting the outcome and findings of the Joint Autism Review Group, established to examine the autism provision within Darlington Borough Council, and this Scrutiny Committee considered the most appropriate way to progress the key themes identified by the joint review group.
15. The Committee agreed with the recommendations of the review group, that a cross party autism working group be established to progress the key themes of training and awareness, support, diagnosis and employment. We also gave consideration to the membership, frequency and reporting arrangements and a number of recommendations were made to Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 4 May 2021.

Work Programme 2020/21

16. We have given consideration to the Work Programme for this Committee for the Municipal Year 2020/21 and possible review topics. The work programme is a rolling programme and items can be added as necessary.

Councillor Ian Bell
Chair of the Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee