

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Thursday, 18 March 2021

PRESENT – Councillor K Nicholson (Cabinet Member with Health and Housing Portfolio), Councillor Clarke (Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio), Councillor Harker, Councillor Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council), James Stroyan (Director of Children and Adults Services), Penny Spring (Director of Public Health), Sue Jacques (Chief Executive) (County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust), Nick Lindsay (Head Teacher Longfield Academy) (Secondary Schools Representative), Rita Lawson (Chairman) (Darlington Voluntary and Community Sector Engagement group), Dr Amanda Riley (Chief Executive Officer) (Primary Healthcare Darlington), Michelle Thompson (Chief Executive Officer) (Healthwatch Darlington), Mark Pickering (Chief Finance Officer) (NHS Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group) and Jennifer Illingworth (Director of Operations, Durham and Darlington) (Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Lisa Holdsworth (Commissioning Officer) (Darlington Borough Council) and Hannah Fay (Democratic Officer)

APOLOGIES – Dr Posmyk Boleslaw (Chair) (NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group), David Gallagher (Chief Officer) (NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group), Michael Houghton (Director of Commissioning Strategy and Delivery) (NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group), Mike Forster (Operational Director, Children's and County Wide Community Care Directorate) (Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust), Alison Slater (Director of Nursing) (NHS England, Area Team), Sam Hirst (Primary Schools Representative) and Carole Todd (Darlington Post Sixteen Representative) (Darlington Post Sixteen Representative)

HWBB12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Michelle Thompson, Healthwatch Darlington declared an interest in Minute HWBB15 and HWBB16 below. There were no other declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

HWBB13 TO HEAR RELEVANT REPRESENTATION (FROM MEMBERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC) ON ITEMS ON THIS HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD AGENDA.

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

HWBB14 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS BOARD HELD ON :-

(1) 3 SEPTEMBER 2020

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

RESOLVED – That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

REASON – They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

(2) 17 DECEMBER 2020

Submitted – The notes (previously circulated) of the inquorate meeting of this Health and Wellbeing Board held on 17 December 2020.

RESOLVED – That the notes of the inquorate meeting be approved as a correct record.

REASON – They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

HWBB15 COVID-19 IN DARLINGTON

The Director of Public Health and Public Health Principal gave a presentation updating Members on Covid-19 in Darlington.

Details were provided of the four tests and the key points of the road map out of lockdown; that the easing of restrictions would be done in four steps with a minimum of five weeks between each step; and that the Stay at Home campaign would continue throughout all stages in the road map.

In relation to the deployment of the vaccine programme in Darlington, it was reported that as of 11 March 2021 34,489 vaccines had been given; 94 per cent of those aged 70 year had received their first dose; and that 37.14 per cent of all adults had received their first dose. Reference was made to the variation in uptake of the vaccine between areas in Darlington, and that the reasons for this variation were being investigated.

In relation to the effectiveness of the vaccine in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated, it was reported that there had been a decrease in the number of COVID emergency admissions and in hospital bed occupancy.

Members were advised that case detection rates were lower than the five year average; the case detection rate in over 60's had increased from December but remained lower than the younger age groups; and that the seven day case rate was showing a slowing in the rate of new positive cases.

Members were advised that 98.3 per cent of Darlington's positive cases were the Kent variant.

Details were provided of the cumulative totals for testing in Darlington, including PCR tests, lateral flow tests and school based testing; and the expansion of testing opportunities by the Department for Health and Social Care

Reference was made to the COVID-19 recovery next steps which included the development of a recovery framework, offering the opportunity to align this public health approach with other agendas including economic recovery and climate change; and a health inequalities impact assessment had been undertaken in the North East which had identified vulnerable groups to be considered a part of the recovery plan.

The Chair made reference to the increase in cases in Darlington that had been reported in the media; that this was an increase of 35 cases in the previous week and was attributed to the movement of young people; and that Darlington had been working well in relation to COVID-19.

Discussion ensued on the figures for lateral flow tests and the effectiveness of the vaccine.

RESOLVED – That the thanks of the Board be conveyed to the Director of Public Health for her informative presentation.

REASON – To convey the views of the Board.

HWBB16 DARLINGTON CARERS' ACTION PLAN 2020-22

The Director of Children and Adult Services submitted a report (previously circulated) providing information about carers in Darlington and seeking endorsement of the Darlington Carers Action Plan 2020-22 (also previously circulated).

The report stated that the 2011 census identified that there were 11,048 carers in Darlington; a national Carers Action Plan for 2018-20 was published by central government in June 2018, outlining the cross-government programme of work to support carers in England and building on the previous National Carers Strategy; and that despite a stated intention by government to publish plans for carers post 2020, nothing had been published.

It was reported that the Darlington Carers' Strategy Steering Group had developed a Darlington Carers' Action Plan for 2020-22 as a local response to the needs of carers; and that this was based on the key themes of services and systems that work for carers; employment and financial wellbeing; supporting young carers; recognising and supporting carers in the wider community and society; and building research and evidence to improve outcomes for carers.

Members were informed that the COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in a decrease in referrals to both the Carers Support and Young Carers Services; and that these numbers were starting to increase again.

RESOLVED – (a) That the Darlington Carers' Action Plan 2020 – 22 be endorsed.

(b) That Members act as champions for carers in Darlington and consider how to support progress of the carers' agenda in Darlington

REASON – To enable Darlington to continue to support carers and to be responsive to the challenges carers face as a result of the pandemic.

HWBB17 SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM(S) (IF ANY) WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR OF THIS BOARD ARE OF AN URGENT NATURE AND CAN BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING.

The Leader advised Members of a recommendation from Cabinet on 9 March 2021 that the Health and Wellbeing Board investigate the impact of hot food takeaways on the health of residents, and in particular on childhood obesity in Darlington; and that this information was required in order to introduce supplementary planning laws.

RESOLVED – That the Health and Wellbeing Board investigate the impact of hot food takeaways on the health of residents, and in particular on childhood obesity in Darlington.

REASON - To contribute to the further health and wellbeing of the Town.