

**HEALTH AND ADULTS
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Monday 23rd January 2017**

PRESENT – Councillors Mahmood (Chair), K Foster, Humphry's, Marrow, Oates, Smith and Whittle.

Also Present –

Cllr Desai	Executive Member for Health and Adult Social Care
Dominic Harrison	Director of Public Health
Andy Griffiths	Chief Officer, Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen
Ben Pearson	Project Manager, Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen
Ron O'Keeffe	Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen
Rebekah Mottershead	Principal Democratic Services Officer

RESOLUTIONS

22. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Apologies were received from Cllr Roberts.

23. Minutes of the Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on the 21st November 2016

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st November 2016 be agreed as a correct record.

24. Declarations of Interest in items on this Agenda

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

25. Public Health Risks and Priorities; An Update

The Chair welcomed the Executive Member for Health and Adult Social Care and the Director of Public Health to the meeting and invited them to provide Members with an update on the key risks and priorities they had advised of at the beginning of the year, and how the department was managing demand.

It was reported that there was a rising demand for the health and care service, and that systems and practises were being devised to meet this demand whilst addressing significant budget efficiencies.

Members were provided with the GDP spend on health for England in comparison to other European countries and the numbers of doctor and nurses and current occupancy rates in local hospitals. It was reported that in recent weeks, bed occupancy rates had hit 95%, which was above the 85% recommended threshold for a hospital to work effectively. It was noted that this in itself created new risks in a time where budgets across health and social care were under pressure.

The Committee was reminded that the key Public Health Delivery Risks were;

- ***Rising poverty and inequality***, increasing health and social care needs and risks
- ***Cuts to 'health-relevant' investment***, reducing effectiveness of public health interventions and stalling of health improvement
- ***NHS transformation for efficiency*** leading to service reconfiguration
- ***Public Health Grant Budget cuts*** 2.2.% Department of Health cuts in year & further 2.5% in 2017/18 (additional to 6.2% recurrent from 2015/16)

It was noted that life expectancy in the borough continued to be a challenge, compared to the national average it was going down in the borough and was under 75 years of age. It was reported that data on this was needed and would be looked at.

In response to a question as to what other areas and countries were doing to improve life expectancy that we Blackburn with Darwen was not, Members were informed that the CCG was looking into this, but one area of concern was that cancer screening did not have as high an uptake as it should. It was noted that possibly a campaign was needed around this.

Members felt that more work needed to be done to enable the NHS and the Council to better work together to tackle prevention and this could be achieved if both parties worked together more closely.

It was reported that work across Penne Lancashire and the District was underway, including;

- 0-19 schools programme delivering by the end of 2017,
- Eat well competition was now being consulted upon,
- Integrating prevention work was being done with the Council's prevent team.

RESOLVED –

That the Executive Member for Health and Adult Social Care and Director of Public Health be thank for their attendance.

26. Committee's Work Programme

The Chair welcomed to the Committee the Chief Officer and Project Manager from Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen the meeting to present to Members an overview of their key findings and recommendations from their carers report as previously requested by the Committee.

It was reported that Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen had decided to explore the views & experiences of Adult Carers in Blackburn with Darwen. It was noted that according to Carers UK 1 in 8 adults cared for family & friends on an unpaid basis, with 6000 more people becoming Carers every day.

Members were reminded that in the 2011 Census there were 5,430,016 Carers in England, this accounted to an 11% increase since the 2001 Census. It was estimated that there will be 9 million Carers in the UK by 2037.

The report outlined to Members the research methodologies used by Healthwatch, who they had engaged with, research findings and a conclusion with 8 recommendations. Members held a discussion with Healthwatch around the key issues their findings had made and felt that a lot of positive actions could be drawn.

Members thanked Healthwatch for their report and the work that they had done with carers, with the Committee endorsing all 8 recommendations contained within Healthwatch report.

The Chair then asked the Principal Democratic Services Officer to remind Members of some issues and discussions that had taken place with the Executive Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Director for Public Health and Healthwatch, highlighting the main issues of debate that had been raised.

The Committee were reminded that they would be kept up to date with all the Social Care retendering processes to allow for their input pre-decision when needed.

RESOLVED –

That the Committee's work programme for the remainder of the 2016/17 municipal year be noted.

Signed..... Date.....

Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed