

BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 9th JUNE 2020

PRESENT:

Councillors	Mohammed Khan (Chair)
	Julie Gunn
	Julie Slater
	Mustafa Desai
Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	-
Voluntary Sector	Vicky Shepherd
	Angela Allen
Council	Gifford Kerr
	Denise Park
	Prof. Dominic Harrison
	Jayne Ivory
	Sayyed Osman
	Laura Wharton
	Paul Conlon
	Phil Llewellyn
	Anne Cunningham

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting. Apologies were received on behalf of Angela Allen and Jayne Ivory. The Chair informed the committee that although all sectors were not present at the meeting due to the current circumstances the meeting would go ahead although not quorate given the informative and none decision nature of the business to be discussed. The meeting would take place as a briefing meeting for members of the board and partner organisations.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2020 were submitted.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the last meeting held on 18th June 2019 be agreed as a correct record and would be put to the next meeting of the board for formal ratification.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations received.

4. Public Questions

The Chair informed the Board that no public questions had been received.

5. Update on the Health and Wellbeing Arrangements Across Lancashire.

The Board received an update on the Health and Wellbeing Arrangements that were being discussed with Lancashire Authorities. The meeting was informed that the discussions relating to the arrangements were currently on hold and would be restarted when the current situation allowed.

RESOLVED - That the current situation be noted.

6 Update on COVID19 impact on Blackburn with Darwen and Pennine Lancashire.

The Board received an update on the impact of Covid19 on the Borough and neighbouring areas. The Director of Public Health outlined the numbers of confirmed cases and the progress of the infection since March. He outlined the difficulties that the authority faced in terms of the access to data.

He highlighted the rates in the borough by gender and ethnicity and how this had been affected areas of the borough. The inequality of those effected by COVID were discussed and how deprivation, occupation and ethnicity all had effects on mortality rates. The board looked at the way that cases had travelled through the country with the borough reaching its peak later. This had implications for the raising of the lockdown for the country as a whole as the borough had more community transferred cases ongoing. The data on the R rate was shared with members and the implications of this was outlined including the delaying of school opening.

The board looked at the different waves of the pandemic and the implications that would need to be dealt with. This included deaths due to interrupted care on chronic conditions. Phases of the pandemic were outlined and the difficulties that we would face in dealing with each of these including a second peak that may occur and how this would cause issues as it may coincide with the annual winter pressures caused by flu. The annual immunisation programme for the flu would be crucial this year.

In response to a question regarding testing it was stated that we do not have data on the number of tests given, only the confirmed cases as a result of tests. This was part of the access to pillar 2 test results and as some of these were inconclusive it changed the figures. We have been promised these results. The authority had requested to do more testing of not just those with symptoms but affected communities. The issue of complacency given the raising of the lockdown was stressed and the fact that we were behind the curve was worrying. The key message that we were giving out was crucial to success.

RESOLVED - that the briefing and information be noted and the thanks of the Board be forwarded to all those involved for their dedication and hard work.

7. Update on Test, Track and Isolate system and Implications for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Board received an outline on the Test and Trace System and how this would work. The system was evolving and would assist with other measures such as washing and social distancing. The scheme would be fully functional by September. There would be a local outbreak management plan and looking at 7 priority areas and seek to provide a comprehensive response to dealing with local outbreaks. The board received an overview on the next steps for governance, data flow and management and workforce planning. The ways that communication and engagement were outlined and the local outbreak control plan would be finalised by June.

RESOLVED - that the briefing and information be noted and the thanks of the Board be forwarded to all those involved for their dedication and hard work.

8 Joint Strategic Need Assessment

The Board were reminded that it was the duty of the Director of Public Health to present to the board annually an assessment of strategic need. The assessment tied in to the key themes of the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Attention was drawn to the levels of deprivation and the work that was ongoing in relation to Covid19. The rates of vitamin b deficiency in deprived communities was raised and this would be raised with GPs.

The excellent quality of the report was commented on and this had been followed by many authorities. The Director of Public Health commended the work of Anne Cunningham on this assessment and work related to Covid19 analysis.

RESOLVED -

1. That the thanks of the Board be forwarded to Ann for the excellent work on the assessment; and
2. That the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment be approved

9 Suspension of PNA

The Board were informed that the pharmaceutical needs assessment had been suspended given the current climate.

RESOLVED - That the suspension of the pharmaceutical needs assessment be noted.

Signed.....

Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed

Date.....