

People Overview and Scrutiny

6th December 2021.

Present: Councillor Liddle, in the Chair, Humphrys, Smith, Hussain, M., and Whittle.

Also Present: Dominic Harrison,
Imran Akuji, Children's Services
Elizabeth Clarkson, Children's Services
Paul Conlon, Democratic Services

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Irfan and Hussain.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th October 2021.

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2021 were submitted.

RESOLVED- that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

3. Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations made at the meeting.

4. Public Health Update and Adult Social Care Update.

The Committee received an update on public health in the Borough from Professor Dominic Harrison Director of Public Health. The Committee were informed that the Borough was at present the 26th Lowest out of 190 local authorities in cases of covid in the country. The borough was slightly below the national vaccination rates. He drew attention to the infection rates that occurred in the Borough and the link to deprivation and different socio economic levels in society. Members discussed the uptake and rates of booster vaccines being given in the Borough and the way that these were being distributed. Members also looked at the rates of flu vaccinations being given and how this may help the residents and NHS in the long term. The Committee looked at the current staffing situation in care homes in the Borough especially following the deadline for mandatory vaccination of staff.

The Committee thanked the Director of Public Health for his attendance and presentation.

Resolved- That the Committee note the vaccination take up rates in the Borough and the work that has been done and continue to ensure the maximum take up by residents.

5. Youth Forum Update.

The Committee received an update on the work of the youth forum. The Forum were very busy looking at a range of issues that affected young people in the Borough. The current issues being examined included:-

- Vaccination and supporting the drive to get people vaccinated and boosted.
- Young people and crime
- Mental health in young people
- The website and accessibility together with links to poverty.

The views of young people would also assist in the vaccination programme achieved maximum take up by dispelling myths and fears and promoting immunisation.

RESOLVED- That the work of the youth Forum be noted and their involvement in the vaccination take up campaigns be welcomed.

6. Young People Participation Strategy

The Deputy Youth MP gave an update on the Children and Young People's Participation and Voice Strategy. A copy of the Executive Summary was circulated setting out

- What participation means to Children and Young people
- How children and young people wanted us to work with them
- The Value and Attitudes, Knowledge, Skills and processes and the doing of what young people feel and think.
- How we will know we are making a difference, and,
- The Participation Pathway

Members commented on the positive, professional and clear way that this had been presented. The Committee discussed the key messages of the strategy which were 'to do with not to' and how the key message of the strategy would be disseminated. Members agreed that if we all owned the strategy the message would get out.

RESOLVED- 1. That the Children and Young People's Participation Strategy-2021-24 be endorsed and all those involved in the production be thanks for their hard work and clear product design.

2. That the guidance in the participation Strategy be used to ensure that the Committee maximises the valuable contribution Children and Young People can make to the work of the Committee.

7. Reconfiguration of Health Services in the Region.

The Committee were reminded that a considerable number of reconfigurations to services provided by the NHS were to happen in the next few years. The intention of the changes was to improve the quality and access to services throughout the region and to ensure that there was a consistency of service provision. The Committee were informed that Andrew Bennett, Interim Chief Executive of the ISC had been invited to attend the Committee virtually however due to a failure in technology this was not possible. Members discussed the wide ranging changes that would be delivered by the proposed reconfigurations and it was important that the Committee were made aware of these as early as possible. The Committee were reminded that the Joint Committee with Lancashire and Blackpool and South Cumbria had

been proposed to look in detail with the reconfiguration of services and discussions were ongoing to progress this. The Committee would be kept informed of progress as it happened.

RESOLVED- That a meeting be arranged as soon as possible with the Chief Executive of the ICS to look at the proposed developments to services and reconfigurations proposed and how these will affect the Borough and its residents.

signed.....
Chair at the meeting where the minutes were

Date.....