

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Monday 5th June 2023

PRESENT – Councillor Jacquie Slater (in the Chair) Councillors Shaw, Hardman, Whittingham, Humphrys and Smith D.

ALSO PRESENT – Executive Members – Mustafa Desai and Damian Talbot, Officers- Abdul Razaq, Mark Warren, Cath Taylor, Richard Brown and Phil Llewellyn.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Councillors Harling, Irfan and Patel.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2023

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2023 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. Declarations of interest

No Declarations of interest were made by members of the Committee.

4. Report back from the Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention and Wellbeing in response to the recommendations of the re:fresh Task Group

Councillor Damian Talbot, and Richard Brown, Head of Neighbourhoods, Wellbeing and Prevention, gave their response to the recommendations of the re:fresh Task Group, via a report and presentation.

The Committee were reminded that at the meeting held on 21st November 2022, the following recommendations were made:

- That the Executive Member be requested to report to a future meeting of the Committee on how the changes in the future funding for re:fresh will be managed, how this will impact on service provision and the impact on Leisure Centres.
- That the Executive Member be requested to look at how accessibility to the Re: fresh programme is managed with particular regard to issues

relating to digital bookings which may exclude some sections of the community.

- That the Executive Member be requested to report back to the Committee on how reductions of funding will impact on the health of the borough and how the work on going in partnerships that could help mitigate this.

The Committee were advised that a new timetable for the re:refresh Leisure programme had been developed for 2023/24 which included an increased number of sessions, including several child and family swimming sessions.

Whilst the previous £1 charge for adult gym and swim re:refresh sessions had been reintroduced, swimming would continue to be free for children aged between 1 – 16 years where they were accompanied by a parent or guardian eligible for re:refresh.

In addition to this, a sustained campaign with membership reductions has been ongoing to encourage more leisure centre members to join on a more long term basis. A year on year comparison of the membership base showed an increase of 30% across the three leisure centre sites at February 2023, in comparison to February 2022, which helped mitigate rising energy costs

In order to promote the new re:refresh programme a six week communications campaign had been developed and an official launch would take place in mid-June. This would enable systems and staff to be ready to accommodate the new programme and become familiar with the changes.

Appropriate assets for promotion of the new programme had been developed including promotion on bus stops and digital display boards. Hard copy leaflets have been produced which would be distributed across the Borough including in community centres and other venues. Communications materials had also been redesigned to encourage attendance by underrepresented groups and include images which are representative of the Borough's diverse communities.

Officers from across Commercial Services, Neighbourhoods, Wellbeing and Prevention and Public Health continue to meet on a regular basis to monitor membership and attendance at both paid and re:refresh programmes. This included information on attendance by age, gender and postcode by deprivation, to ensure that the programme met the needs of local residents.

To date these meetings had prompted the changes to the re:refresh programme for 2023/24 and had also helped to identify further gaps in provision across the Borough, and specific population groups had been targeted, with over 300 hours of sessions delivered. The sessions had been funded through the Public Health grant, which had recently been continued for 2023/24.

Councillor Whittingham outlined her experiences of the re:refresh programme, stating that she was initially impressed with the service she received, but this had not been followed up and felt that perhaps a gym membership would have been more appropriate, but that this handover process had not occurred.

The Committee discussed the importance of clear messaging on access to services, and also on the importance of non digital approaches such as hard copy swimming timetables being available, and on the need for booking of classes to be made fair and accessible, as sometimes these were booked a week ahead and then some users did not turn up, leading to people missing out.

The Committee thanked Councillor Talbot and Richard Brown, who in turn thanked Members for their feedback, which would be taken into account and would help further improve services.

RESOLVED- That the report and presentation be noted.

5. Draft Safeguarding Adult Board Business Plan

Further to discussions at the last meeting of the Committee, Councillor Mustafa Desai, Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Mark Warren, Strategic Director, Adults and Health, submitted the Draft Safeguarding Adult Board Business Plan.

The Plan set out the vision for the Blackburn with Darwen Safeguarding Adult Board, its Statutory Duties, and Principles, as well as six Strategic Aims for 2023-2026, and six Strategic Priorities for 2023-24. The Plan also outline the Sub-group options.

Subject to any comments from the Committee, the draft Plan would be submitted to the next Board meeting for approval.

The Committee discussed the different processes and methods for reporting issues, with Mark Warren outlining the current methods and processes, whilst acknowledging that improvements could still be made to ensure greater access.

Members also discussed the approach taken by the Police in some areas of the Country, which lessened their approach to support for mental health, although this was not currently the case in Lancashire.

The Committee thanked Cllr Desai and Mark Warren for the amount of work that had taken place since the last meeting in production of the Draft Safeguarding Adults Business Plan.

RESOLVED –That the Draft Safeguarding Adult Board Business Plan be noted.

6. Work Programme 2023/24

The Committee discussed its Work Programme for 2023/24, and agreed the following items be looked at in 2023/24:

- **7th August 2023** – Scrutiny of the arrangements for the Integrated Care Board – how will it work and what will the benefits be for local people?
- **9th October 2023** – CQC Self Assessment – regulation of the Council care commissioning via the CQC, which came into force in 2022, the care market, safeguarding and budgets for the most vulnerable will all be subject to inspection at any time, how prepared is the Council?
- **5th February 2024** – Scrutiny of Care Homes in the Borough – Task and Finish Group to report back and Committee to discuss. Task and Finish Group Membership – Councillors Jacquie Slater, Tony Humphrys and Anthony Shaw.

RESOLVED – That Work Programme for 2023/24 be agreed.

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting Meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday 7th August 2023 at 6pm.

Signed:

Date:

Chair of the meeting
at which the minutes were confirmed