

# REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH & ADULT SOCIAL CARE COUNCILLOR BRIAN TAYLOR

PORTFOLIO CO-ORDINATING DIRECTORS:  
DOMINIC HARRISON (HEALTH)  
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## HEALTH

### ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACES)

The Council is committed to preventing and addressing the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on our population. Recent highlights of the work taking place in Blackburn with Darwen and across Pennine Lancashire include:

**North West Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma Conference:** In January over 200 delegates attended a conference hosted by Public Health England North West, which brought together policymakers and practitioners from councils, health bodies, police, schools and voluntary, community and faith organisations to learn about good practice and innovative approaches for preventing and addressing ACEs and trauma. The Blackburn with Darwen and Pennine Lancashire ACE programme was featured and Cllr Brian Taylor hosted the expert panel session.

**Resilience film screenings:** To raise awareness of ACEs the Council has hosted ten community screenings of the ACE film 'Resilience' in locations such as schools, church halls, community centres and cafés. Over 500 people, representing both the community and wider workforce have attended the screenings together with a facilitated Q&A session. Due to popular demand more are planned for 2019/20.

**ACE e-Learning:** The Council has developed a new e-learning course to help build awareness and understanding of ACEs and what can be done prevent and address them. The course is relevant to community members and all staff working in public services, free to access, with no previous knowledge of ACEs required and aims to:

- Introduce the concept of ACEs and build awareness of ACE science
- Promote the benefits and importance of being ACE aware and relevance to the learners own life or role
- Empower the learner to start to take action to prevent and address ACEs
- Provide an introduction to practical tools and techniques for preventing and addressing ACEs
- Signpost to sources of further information, resources and support.

Over 352 people undertook the course during the first month, including 165 Council staff.

**The Blackburn with Darwen ACEs Hub:** A growing number of people are connected both virtually and face to face by our ACEs Hub. The Hub is in its very early stages and its success depends on as many of us as possible actively learning, sharing and supporting one another on our ACEs journey [@AceHubBwD](#) and [#ACEawareBwD](#).

### CHILD OBESITY TRAILBLAZER

Child obesity is a local public health priority because of the potential long-term impact on physical and mental wellbeing. Innovation has included support for the development of training and resources for front line staff, based on needs identified by one of our local GPs. From this strong base, Blackburn with Darwen Council led a Pennine Lancashire bid that has been selected to receive funding as part of the national Childhood Obesity Trailblazer Programme, which is intended to test the limits of existing powers and develop solutions to local obstacles aiming to enable ambitious local action and to achieve change at scale.

Blackburn with Darwen is one of thirteen councils selected to receive funding to develop a detailed proposal for the full three-year programme, which will be based on four key areas of engagement: community, business, system leadership and Regulation & Policy. The three year trailblazer programme is anticipated to commence in late May 2019, with up to five sites selected to lead projects to implement their plans.

## **PASSIVE SENSORS**

With the Health and Social Care Secretary calling for new service models that focus on prevention and keeping people well, living in the community, and out of hospital for longer, the Connected Healthy Communities ground-breaking research, is testing new 'passive sensor' technology in 100 homes of vulnerable older adults living in Higher Croft and Edgworth. The sensors track changes in heat, humidity and movement, to predict risk, and trigger responses, to help them stay safe.

Care Network, Blackburn with Darwen Age UK, Healthy Living, Blackburn with Darwen Carers Service and Community Business Partners are helping to identify people aged over 50 and living alone to take part in the study and help test the sensors in their homes. East Lancashire Deaf Society has been supporting sensor installation, with all those that taking part also benefiting from a free handyperson service undertaking small jobs around the home, such as fixing a door knob or changing a bulb. The project is supported by the Lancashire Digital Health Board with further development support from Lancaster University.

## **ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

### **LEARNING DISABILITIES BOARD**

Care Network has been contracted to facilitate the Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Boards from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 for three years which ensures the Board's current successful profile continues. A user led Learning Disability and Autism Strategy will be produced in line with the NHS long term plan.

The Blackburn with Darwen Boards provide a platform for people to identify their local needs and contribute to service planning. Five service users, supported by the Learning Disability Board attended the Regional Learning Disability conference in Blackpool where they were able to proudly contribute their thoughts and opinions on what is working well and what they would all like to develop further.

### **CHANGES TO SAFEGUARDING ADULTS ARRANGEMENTS**

The Safeguarding Adults Team has been a stand-alone specialist team since 2008 and during this time the main responsibility for safeguarding vulnerable adults across the department has been with this team. In line with the move to integration with partners and neighbourhoods, a new model has been established where the Safeguarding Team is incorporated into the wider teams within Adult Social Care.

The move will support and upskill the wider workforce on safeguarding and support and upskill the safeguarding social workers in care management.

The change in arrangements will commence from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 and a staged approach will be taken to ensure that all aspects of safeguarding adults continues to be addressed. Initially the safeguarding social workers will act as safeguarding champions in their respective teams and will take a lead on safeguarding enquiries whilst working alongside their colleagues. Longer term the aim is to embed safeguarding practice throughout each of

the wider teams which enables the safeguarding social workers to not only undertake care management work, but also to lead on more complex safeguarding issues across the teams.

Four of the social workers in the safeguarding team will integrate into the three neighbourhood teams of North and East, West and Darwen plus the Hospital/Home First team. The remaining social worker will maintain a central role and be responsible for leading on domestic abuse, attending Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and linking in with the Complex Case Hub alongside providing the link to the other specialist teams (Learning Disability and Mental Health).

## **INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE**

The Occupational Therapy and Moving and Handling Service has been working with community equipment provider NRS Healthcare in order to strengthen the agreement to ensure a fast reliable service and delivery of equipment, including emergency replacements of equipment over weekends.

The current contract includes a dedicated NRS Occupational Therapist, which allows for open communication between therapists and assessors working out in the community direct to the loan stores; matching and making best use of recycled equipment and making savings rather than purchasing new stock.

The service has encouraged a therapeutic approach to support strength based assessment across the department which includes the Sensory Impairment Service providing rehabilitation and mobility and orientation training for the visually impaired within the borough who are adapting to the new improved layout of the town centre and amenities.

The Independent Living Service has been involved with an independent Disabled Facilities Grant review on how the grant is managed and implemented and scored highly in all areas. Waiting times for Occupational Therapy have reduced to 8 weeks which is significantly lower than other authorities across Lancashire.