

SCRUTINY BOARD (ADULTS, HEALTH & ACTIVE LIFESTYLES)

TUESDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

PRESENT: Councillor H Hayden in the Chair

Councillors C Anderson, J Elliott,
N Harrington, M Iqbal, C Knight, G Latty,
S Lay, D Ragan, A Smart, P Truswell and
A Wenham

Co-optee present - Dr. J Beal

21 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

22 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

23 Late Items

There were no late items.

24 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

25 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

There were no apologies received.

26 Minutes - 14th July 2020

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2020 be approved as a correct record.

27 Impact of Covid-19 on accessing NHS dental services in Leeds

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report that introduced an update from NHS England – Yorkshire and the Humber on the impact that Covid-19 has had with regard to accessing local NHS dental services and how they are supporting dentistry to resume NHS dental services safely and effectively and in accordance with advice set out by the Chief Dental Officer.

The following were in attendance:

- Councillor Rebecca Charlwood, Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adults
- Emma Wilson, Head of Co-Commissioning (Yorkshire & Humber), NHS England
- Jane Moore, Dental Network Chair
- Sam Prince, Executive Director of Operations, Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust

The Head of Co-Commissioning (Yorkshire & Humber), NHS England, introduced the report, setting out the timeline of events since March 2020, when practices were advised to close, to the staged resumption of dentistry services from June 2020. Members were advised that a number of challenges remain in regards to access to services as practices are currently only able to provide services at 50-60% capacity, due to periods of fallow time between appointments and use of PPE.

Members discussed a number of matters, including:

- *Private dental practices.* Members were advised that private practices were involved in the urgent response during 'lockdown', however access and treatment data is not collected as services are not commissioned by NHS England. Members advised of reports of private dental practices charging patients for use of PPE, however it was confirmed by representatives present that this is not the case within NHS practices.
- *Enhanced PPE.* In response to a query, it was confirmed that NHS England have maintained sufficient levels of enhanced PPE to supply to dental practices across the city.
- *Out of hours services.* In response to a query, Members were advised that residents are able access emergency dental services through the 111 NHS helpline and appointments at the 10 Urgent Treatment Centres in Leeds.
- *Minimising the gap to access to dental treatment.* Members sought assurance that residents in the most deprived areas of the city are able to access free dental care in emergency situations and in the longer term. Members were assured that all patients are triaged upon emergency calls to ensure that priority cases are dealt with accordingly. In regards to preventative work and longer term support, Members were advised that work is ongoing to reinvest funds in supporting most vulnerable groups in settings such as care homes and individuals with no fixed abode.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices, along with Members comments, be noted.

Councillor A Smart arrived at 2 p.m. during discussion of this item.

28 Leeds Health and Care Winter Planning 2020/21 and Business Continuity Planning in Adults and Health

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report that presented information linked to the Leeds Health and Care Winter Planning 2020/21 and business continuity planning within the Adults and Health directorate.

The following documents were appended to the report:

- Leeds Health & Care Winter Planning 2020/21, Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Briefing Paper - Business Continuity Planning in Adults and Health During COVID 19

The following were in attendance:

- Councillor Rebecca Charlwood, Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adults
- Victoria Eaton, Director of Public Health
- Shona McFarlane, Deputy Director, Social Work and Social Care, Adults & Health
- Sam Prince, Executive Director of Operations, Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust
- Helen Lewis, Interim Director of Commissioning, Acute, Mental Health and Learning Disability Services, NHS Leeds CCG
- Sajid Azeb, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
- Gaynor Connor, GP Confederation
- Alison Kenyon, Associate Director, Leeds & York Partnership Foundation Trust

The Interim Director of Commissioning, Acute, Mental Health and Learning Disability Services (NHS Leeds CCG) introduced the report, providing some of the context to the expectations and challenges around resilience planning in the coming months, including the impact of the backlog of appointments and treatment, along with the reduced capacity due to the additional time restraints as a result of restrictions around space, use of PPE and COVID-19 testing.

Members discussed a number of matters, including:

- *Patient experience and support continuity.* Members expressed concerns around the use of telephone and video call appointments and the impact of such interactions on vulnerable groups. Members were advised that the standard operating procedure requires 100% telephone triage, then video consultation and if not resolved, face to face appointments can be facilitated. However, work is ongoing to ensure that communities, particularly those who are not comfortable or confident with technology, are not disadvantaged by remote triage and patient needs are considered on an individual basis.
- *NHS Track and Trace and Pillar 2 Testing.* Members were advised that there are capacity issues with testing nationally, despite 1000+ tests per day in Leeds, and that teams are responding locally by supporting

local people to navigate the national process, as well as working with hospital colleagues to free-up laboratory space. Conversations with Public Health England to implement localised and flexible testing and tracing programmes are ongoing.

- *Care home preventative support.* In response to a query, Members were advised that, due to the reduction of care home placements in the city, social care teams are working closely with 10 care homes who are experiencing some challenges, many of whom have reduced their capacity and workforce. Members were advised that care homes are now more resilient in terms of PPE than earlier in the pandemic, with local authority able to supply additional equipment in emergencies. However, care homes are reporting challenges with access to and timeliness of testing.
- *Active lifestyles.* Members sought assurance that supporting people to maintain healthy and active lifestyles remains a priority despite the changes to access to activities, and were advised that a new referral pathway has been introduced enabling NHS partners to refer to the Council's Active Leeds service. The Chair suggested that the Board considers in more detail the active lifestyles element at a future meeting.

The Deputy Director for Social Work and Social Care introduced the business continuity plan briefing, highlighting the importance of such plans in emergencies to support the teams to know how to respond to crisis. However, it was noted that COVID-19 required a continuous change in procedure over an extended period of time which has moved beyond the original business continuity response.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices, along with Members comments, be noted.

29 Work Schedule

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report which invited Members to consider the Board's work schedule for the 2020/21 municipal year.

The Principal Scrutiny Adviser highlighted that arrangements had been made for the Board to hold a remote working group meeting on 5th October 2020 linked to the development of budget saving proposals. The Board also agreed to hold a further remote working group meeting in October to complete its outstanding piece of work from last year with regard to the Aireborough Leisure Centre renovation project. The Principal Scrutiny Adviser explained that a date for this working group meeting would be confirmed in due course.

RESOLVED – That the report and outline work schedule presented be agreed.

30 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 20th October 2020 at 1.30 pm (pre-meeting for all Board Members
at 1.00 pm)