

## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**Friday, 18 September 2020**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held at Virtual meeting - MS Teams on Friday, 18 September 2020 at 12.00pm**

### **Present**

#### **Members:**

Marianne Fredericks (Chairman)  
Randall Anderson, Chairman of Community and Children's Services Committee  
Jon Averbs, Director of Markets and Consumer Protection  
Matthew Bell, Policy and Resources Committee  
Gail Beer, HealthWatch City of London  
Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services  
Mary Durcan, Court of Common Council  
Sandra Husbands, Director of Public Health  
Jeremy Simons, representative for Port Health and Environmental Services Committee

#### **In Attendance**

Superintendent Helen Issacs - City of London Police  
Liz Woodside King - Square Mile Food Bank  
Mark Rickets - NHS City and Hackney CCG  
Paul Coles - HealthWatch City of London

#### **Officers:**

Simon Cribbens	- Community and Children's Services
Xenia Koumi	- Community and Children's Services
Ellie Ward	- Community and Children's Services
Tim Fletcher	- Town Clerk's Department
Leanne Murphy	- Town Clerk's Department
Jordan Birch	- Partnership and Engagement Assistant
Chris Lovitt	- Deputy Director of Public Health
Alexandra Vastano	- Community & Children's Services

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Deputy Joyce Nash, David Maher, Natasha Brady and Dr Gary Marlowe.

#### **2. DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

#### **3. ORDER OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL**

Members received the Order of the Court of Common Council dated 16 July 2020 appointing the Committee and approving its Terms of Reference.

4. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

In accordance with Standing Order No.29, the Board proceeded to elect a Chairman for the ensuing year. Being the only Member expressing her willingness to serve, Marianne Fredericks was duly elected as Chairman.

5. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

The Committee proceeded to elect a Deputy Chairman in accordance with Standing Order No. 30. Being the only Member expressing her willingness to serve, Mary Durcan was duly elected as Deputy Chairman.

6. **MINUTES**

The public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 12 June 2020 were approved.

Matters arising

The Town Clerk agreed to follow up with the Tackling Racism Taskforce concerning the Board's resolution sent following the last meeting concerning addressing health inequalities in City workers.

7. **FUTURE OF HEALTH AND CARE FOR THE PEOPLE OF NORTH EAST LONDON**

Members received a presentation concerning the future of health and care for the people of north east London. The following points were made:

- Members were advised that the plan was to create an Integrated Care System (ICS) and one Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for North East London (NEL) by April 2021.
- By strengthening the already established local partnerships, streamlining the CCG administrative and other functions into one joined up organisation, along with bringing together all Partners as an integrated care system for NEL, it was hoped this would build the infrastructure needed to provide the best health and care for the local populations.
- The timeline for engagement would be achieved in three stages: 1) engagement with members and wider stakeholders (August to October 2020); 2) internal communications with CCG staff about what this change will mean for them (August 2020 to March 2021); and 3) following the October vote, ongoing engagement with stakeholders to develop the plan for NEL and wider ICS development (October 2020 to April 2021).
- An overview of the proposed Integrated Care Model for the City and Hackney was provided. This would be a locally led system approach with each ICP developing local priorities based on the needs of their populations, developed collaboratively across organisations and through working together with local communities.
- Decisions about health and care will be made using the three questions test and 80:20 principle.

- The key goal of the partnership was to provide better services and easier access to health care.
- In response to a query concerning public engagement and consultation, Members were advised that the public were at the heart of everything and their voice was crucial to decision-making. The only part that did not include public consultation was the votes itself which would be a simple yes or no.
- A Member queried if the new NEL partnership would include Tower as this area often overlapped with the City and Hackney. It was confirmed that all areas of need would be addressed across all boroughs. This would be easier with the new cohesive mechanism.
- It was agreed that further Board meetings be arranged to avoid NHS City & Hackney CCG meetings.

#### 8. **SQUARE MILE FOOD BANK**

Members received a presentation concerning the Square Mile Food Bank and the following points were made:

- The Square Mile Food Bank was established at the end of March, after local residents responded to a request from Age UK and the City of London. This began with an Age UK grant of £500 and is based outside Lauderdale Tower and the Lilac Room and at the Golden Lane Community Centre on Fann Street.
- The first collection was on 28 March and the first deliveries began on 1 April.
- Whilst amounting to a handful in the first week, deliveries have increased significantly since then. The Food Bank now works with 175 people in 75 households across the City – these are mostly based on the bigger estates. Delivery is relatively easy as volunteers have local knowledge of their own estates, so distribution is somewhat easier than in some other parts of London.
- The Food Bank's ethos is to provide healthy nutritious balance foods, with tins of baked beans, rice, pasta, fresh fruit and vegetables the most common items.
- The Foodbank has developed relationships with numerous charities including City Harvest, Fair Share and the Felix Project; local businesses such as Tesco Cheapside, M&S and Jones Brothers; and local charities including Food for All and the Quakers (who provide Food Bank deliveries to Mansell St). They also work closely with Crisis, the YHA

and City Corporation Common Councillors (including the Chairman) to provide food to the homeless.

- It was also emphasised that the Food Bank focussed on a) non-food items such as nappies, shampoo and cleaning products - the crisis was a public health issue so maintaining hygiene was vital, and b) recycling packaging.
- In recent weeks, the Food Bank has worked with a designer and chef to come up with recipe cards to aid people on how to use the products and meal planning. It was evident that basic Home Economic skills were sparse amongst some of the beneficiaries. Whilst Members welcomed the City initiative to improve these skills, there was concern this would not reach the people that need it most as their digital access was either limited or non-existent.
- The prohibitive costs of purchasing food in local supermarkets was highlighted as a major issue and the cost difference between online shopping for goods compared to in-store was significant. For example, Tesco Express/Sainsburys Local were a third to 50% more in price, similar in cost to the prices in M&S or Waitrose. Some local residents simply could not afford these prices and had limited or no access to online services.
- The benefits the service had for people's mental health were emphasised. The visibility of the delivery volunteers dispelled residents' early fears of being forgotten, as well as the primary objective of providing food, the service could be a low-key welfare check for hard-to-reach groups. The longer-term benefits were also evident. For beneficiaries who have become volunteers, in a number of cases the Food Bank had provided references that would assist them in future career opportunities and, for the close links forged between different estates, which had the potential to leave a really meaningful legacy.
- Whilst food poverty was the main focus, this was a symptom not a cause and the service dealt with individuals with complex needs and problems ranging from housing issues such as damp to access to universal credit. Whilst the Food Bank was not in a position to get as involved as others, it did try to signpost people to the right service to offer help; this was not an easy endeavour and one of the lessons for the future was to make signposting more transparent and practical.
- The City Corporation was thanked for its support and all Members and other stakeholders were invited to visit the service.

Members thanked and commended the service for their extraordinary work. The Chair added that the Food Bank was a truly holistic initiative – tackling food

poverty, mental health, social isolation in a time of huge challenge for the City. Members raised some questions:

In response to a query on whether the Food Bank had forged links with St Luke's Community Centre in Islington (which covers Golden Lane), it was confirmed there was very good relationship, e.g. the Food Bank has swapped food with St Luke's when it had a surplus of a specific item and vice-versa. St Luke's was commended, and it was suggested that its model was something the City could try to emulate in the longer term.

In response to queries around what the plans were for the future of the Food Bank and how the City Corporation could do to support it more, Members were informed that there was concern about the impact of a second lock down, particularly if it coincided with the unwinding of furlough. This had the potential to push up demand significantly and there was no guarantee that the number of volunteers would remain optimal to service all the demand and the supply of food needed at a sustainable level, given the likelihood of demand on national supply lines. Whilst there was no doubt of the Food Bank's commitment and ability to adapt to a changing situation, with increases in demand and a decrease in supply it would be in a very difficult position.

A Member commented that the issue of cost and supply in local stores was a longer-term issue, and prices in the City are invariably higher and more limited than elsewhere. This was exacerbated by a number of food shops closing during lockdown. It was increasingly hard for the average resident to eat at a modest cost and eat healthily and the infrastructure was inadequate. Members agreed this needed to be addressed as a longer-term focus.

In response to a query, it was confirmed that the Golden Lane community centre was offered to the Food Bank early on in the crisis and if local residents needed the centre back an alternative location would be required.

With regards to future plans, the Food Bank would continue to offer services at least until the crisis abated. However, Age UK was working with St Luke's to help vulnerable people (particularly elderly residents) as a longer-term permanent option. Officers confirmed they were involved in these discussions. It was acknowledged that a longer-term service for Portsoken residents still needed to be considered.

## **9. POPULATION HEALTH FRAMEWORK AND JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services proposing a population health framework to support coordinated local action to tackle health inequalities and to guide the development of a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the City of London (JHWP Strategy).

Members were reminded that they had previously approved the process, and this was a further update on the new strategic approach. It was hoped the completed framework would be published in spring 2021. Members endorsed

the next steps and agreed to the Chairman's recommendation for an informal meeting of the Board to discuss how this would be implemented.

**RESOLVED – That Members:-**

- endorse the use of a population health framework to refocus the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board and develop a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the City of London
- endorse the next step recommended actions to progress this work:
  - The Board to provide strategic oversight of actions to tackle health inequalities in the City of London, ensuring coordinated activity across all four 'pillars' of the local population health system (i.e. the wider/socio-economic determinants of health, health behaviours, places and communities, and an integrated health and care system).
  - Re-engagement with and reinforcement of the 'health in all policies' approach, to refocus the Board's agenda on addressing the wider determinants of health and underlying causes of health inequalities, so that it complements (rather than duplicates) the work of the Integrated Commissioning Board.
  - Use a population health framework to co-produce a new Health and Wellbeing Strategy, building on existing assets and resident engagement/involvement mechanisms.
  - The Board to support the 'health in all policies' approach, by requiring all strategies and policies to contribute toward the JHWB Strategy outcomes, as the 'lead' strategy.

#### 10. **COVID-19 UPDATE**

The Board received an oral update from Officers relating to issues and matters concerning the Covid-19 pandemic.

Members were informed that there had been 28 confirmed cases of Covid-19 amongst City residents and these were sporadic not cluster outbreaks. With regards to possible exposure, 13 episodes had been reported and investigated by PHE.

There was a general rise in cases trend across London and the UK. The main outbreak to date has taken place of relevant for the City and Hackney was in North Hackney amongst the Orthodox Jewish community. Officers continue to engage with the community to control this outbreak. It was acknowledged that as testing was not readily available as the core testing capacity had been relocated to North East England, this had an impact on the numbers which were not clear. A London Taskforce was looking strategically at the issues and working sub regionally in collaboration with PHE looking at incident rates and measures.

A Member queried if a location for a track and trace centre within the City had yet been identified. Members were advised that a location was still being identified as the provider required a number of specific and challenging requests. A meeting was arranged to finalise the location next week and this would hopefully be erected by the beginning of October.

In response to a query concerning the local and London incidence rate, Officers confirmed the R rate was 1.1-1.3 for London, Hackney was 29.7 and the City was 11.5 as of 14 September. It was highlighted that the City was a very small denominator and therefore looked worse than it was in the larger picture.

The Chair enquired how the City of London Police were managing the rule of six compliance. Officers confirmed that the Police were bound by national guidelines and were using the four R's approach. With regards to the Night Time Economy, Officers were visiting open premises and offering advice to Landlords. A scheme had also been launched in Cheapside which awarded a logo to premises for them to display for being compliant.

**11. CITY OF LONDON HEALTH PROFILE 2019**

The Board received a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and Director of Public Health concerning the City of London Health Profile 2019 which was published in March 2020.

Members were advised that there had been a delay in publishing the health profile this year due to the significant impact of Covid on PHE.

RESOLVED – That Members note the City of London Health Profile 2019 and consider how they might use it to shape their forward-planning process.

**12. HEALTHWATCH CITY OF LONDON PROGRESS REPORT AND ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20**

Members received a report by Healthwatch City of London providing an update on the progress made since HealthWatch City of London (HWCoL) was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in September 2019.

The Chair of Healthwatch City of London thanked the Board and Community & Children's Services Committee for their ongoing support. Members were assured that HWCoL had made progress in establishing the organisation, embedded where they needed to, developed a physical and digital presence, and completed the proposed activities during Quarter Two of 2020/21.

Members congratulated HWCoL on an extremely successful year amid significant challenges and the importance of engaging with all residents across the City was highlighted. A Member found the weekly HWCoL emails very helpful as a City resident.

A Member queried where the main focus was now building on the success of the past year into a time of recovery for the City. Members were advised that widening engagement was key and plans were in development to target younger and diverse groups. HWCoL was conscious of the rapid changes in service and saw its role as helping people understand this and make it simple. Getting the public to tell HWCoL what was important to their health was another important role.

RECEIVED.

**13. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

Defibrillators

The Chairman advised that a query was raised in advance of the meeting concerning defibrillators in the City. It was agreed that the Chairman would write to all hotels encouraging them to have defibrillators and make them available to the public. The Director of Markets and Consumer Protection also agreed to include a question regarding defibrillators in the Safety Thirst Questionnaire.

**14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no items.

**15. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 (Schedule 12A) of the Local Government Act.

**16. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2020 were approved.

**17. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were no questions.

**18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items.

**The meeting ended at 1.30 pm.**

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Chairman

**Contact Officer: Leanne Murphy**