

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Friday, 19 September 2025

Minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held at Committee Rooms - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 19 September 2025 at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Sarah Gillinson (Deputy Chair)
Dr Stephanie Coughlin (External Member)
Dawn Frampton
Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Judith Finlay
Gavin Stedman

In Attendance

Andrew Horobin, ELFT

Officers:

Chris Lovitt	- Deputy Director of Public Health (City and Hackney)
Ian Hughes	- City Operations Director
Rachel Cleave	- Healthwatch
Emmanuel Ross	- City and Hackney
Claire Giraud	- City and Hackney
Jayne Taylor	- City and Hackney
Donna Doherty-Kelly	- City and Hackney
Ellie Ward	- Community and Children's Services
Anastasia Vinnikova	- Environment
Rhys Campbell	- Town Clerk's

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the Chair, Deputy Helen Fentimen, Dr Sandra Husbands, Gail Beer and Jed Francique. Apologies for lateness were also received from Amy Wilkinson.

The Town Clerk also noted that there was an incorrection on the front sheet of the agenda since Dawn Frampton was a Member of the Board and was present in room.

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

Deputy Marianne Fredericks declared that she was a Bridge Watch Volunteer.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes and non-public summary of the previous meeting held on 11 July 2025 were agreed to be a correct record.

Matters Arising

- Officers provided the Board with an update in relation to First Aid Interventions and discussions with Healthwatch had been scheduled for October 2025 regarding increasing access and uptake of first aid interventions in the City.

4. BETTER CARE FUND 2024/25 END OF YEAR RETURN AND 2025/26 Q1 PROGRESS REPORT

The report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services in respect of the Better Care Fund 2024/25 end of year return and 2025/26 Q1 progress report.

RESOLVED, that – the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- Approve the Better Care Fund end of year 2024/25 return and Quarter 1 2025/26 progress report.

5. PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2025-2028 FINAL REPORT

The Board received a report of the Director of Public Health in respect of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025-2028.

Officers advised the Board that the City was well served by community pharmaceutical provision in the City was sufficient and these pharmacies provided a range of NHS services which were accessible for both residents and workers.

A Member asked whether vaping would be considered to be de-normalised alongside smoking and officers agreed to review and respond outside of the meeting and highlighted that vaping was only recommended in terms of a smoking cessation too, and not in terms of casual usage, since vapes were provided as part of the NHS Stop Smoking Service provision. The Tobacco Needs Assessment would be able to clarify whether vaping would be de-normalised.

The Chair noted the data collected from the 69 people stated in the Equality Impact Assessment were of a majority white ethnicity and what clarity that officer's had confidence in the robustness of this assessment. Officers advised that although this was a small sample size for the City of London it was sufficient for this style of survey, and that this was the demographic which tended to respond to surveys. It was also mentioned that officers did not find any differences looking at the various characteristics between the population groups.

A Member noted the loss of pharmacies within the City due to redevelopment and that there were fewer pharmacies in the west of the City. The Member asked if there were further risks to future City pharmacies and if there were any plans to encourage new pharmacy provisions. Officers advised that even if there were to be a reduction in number of community pharmacies that the City would still be very well served and the pharmacies listed in the west were from a different Integrated Care Board (ICB) area.

RESOLVED, that – the Health and Wellbeing Board approve the draft of the City of London Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025-2028 for publication.

6. UPDATE ON CITY AND HACKNEY HEALTHY WEIGHT ACTION PLAN

The Board received a report of the Director of Public Health in respect of an update on the City and Hackney Healthy Weight Action Plan.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

1. It was clarified that both workstreams were across City and Hackney and officers had begun engaging with the City of London within the first workstream at Aldgate School and the high calories foods consumed for breakfast, and work with City Of London Libraries had been undertaken to explore parent workshops.
2. A Member asked if there was work being undertaken in relation to weight gain in women particularly those undergoing menopause and officers acknowledged that this had not been considered but would consider this further.
3. Officers advised that awareness and education was included in the plan and acknowledged that it was difficult to eat a healthy diet within London given that there were many unhealthy options within London. Work was being undertaken to identify ways both children and parents could be educated to understand healthy foods, and help to support schools in providing their pupils with healthy meals. Environmental changes were needed including early year intervention and other factors at a population level which would have a massive impact on obesity.
4. With limited resources Public Health relied upon its system partners however much work had been completed regardless of this, and officers maintained their confidence that they could drive this plan forward.
5. Officers asked for a set of commitments from Board Members to include in the plan and suggestions of areas where the Board could provide support for this plan would be brought to a subsequent meeting.
6. Following a question regarding the implications of weight gain on other ailments the Chair advised Members to read the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and raise any questions at a subsequent meeting.

RESOLVED, that – the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- note the progress on the City and Hackney healthy weight ‘whole system’ plan to date;
- comment on the proposed opportunities to progress healthy weight work in the City of London;
- advise how the Board, and its constituent Member organisations, can support the implementation of these opportunities.

7. HEALTHWATCH CITY OF LONDON PROGRESS REPORT

The Board received a report of Healthwatch, City of London in respect of the Healthwatch City of London Progress report.

In terms of City resident engagement Members were advised that Healthwatch communicated to residents through various formats such as Barbican Talk, Golden Lane Estate website, City resident emails and leaflets were also distributed when possible. A Member asked whether Healthwatch could be invited to City Question Time to engage with residents further and officers agreed to liaise with colleagues to ensure that Healthwatch was invited to the next City Question Time.

RESOLVED, that – the report was received and its contents noted.

8. SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE CITY OF LONDON ANNUAL UPDATE

The Board received a report of the Director of Public Health in respect of the annual update regarding suicide prevention in the City of London.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

1. An internal suicide prevention charter for the City Corporation and related bodies had been developed, and this included a review of all 70 Human Resource policies to tighten mental health and suicide prevention, and to provide further support to staff.
2. Work had been undertaken to coordinate suicide prevention engagement with businesses within the City, including SMEs, through collaboration with the Small Business and Research Enterprise Centre to provide education to staff regarding available support.
3. Regarding the built environment, a publicly accessible planning advice note was available at the time of this meeting to provide good practice guidelines on how tall structures could be made safe. Further work with building accreditors was expected to be undertaken to identify way of retrofitting buildings in line with these guidelines and that architects would be aware of the importance of these guidelines when designing future

buildings. A Member asked that this be considered to be a work stream and advice considered at the pre-application stage to prevent incurred costs caused by expensive retrofitting. The Port Health & Public Protection Director advised that discussion had been held with the Director of Planning training had been undertaken with Planning Officers to ensure advice was being provided as early as possible within the planning process.

Further information concerning the Planning Advice Note can be found here:<https://democracy.cityoflondon.gov.uk/documents/s168370/Preventing>

4. Regarding menopause mental health and suicide awareness event taking place the following month a Member suggested that it'd be worthwhile for officers to attend to which officers agreed and would use any relevant information to reflect the City Corporation's internal policies.
5. A Member praised the work of Bridge Watch volunteers and asked if further support could be provided from the City Corporation and the City Bridge Foundation. The Board was informed that a cross-committee group had been set up who were in a better position to investigate this further.

RESOLVED, that – the report was received, and its contents noted.

9. *AIR QUALITY ANNUAL STATUS REPORT FOR 2024

The Board received a report of the Executive Director, Environment in respect of the Air Quality Annual Status Report for 2024.

RESOLVED, that – the report was received, and its contents were noted.

10. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There were no questions.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

The Chair reminded the Board of the joint meeting of the City Corporation Health & Wellbeing Board, City & Hackney Health & Care Board and Hackney Health & Wellbeing Board taking place on Thursday, 23 October 2025.

12. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

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

13. NON PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED, that –the non-public minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 July 2025 were agreed to be a correct record.

14. *** SECURE CITY PROGRAMME (SCP) ISSUES REPORT SEP25**

The Board received a joint report of the Executive Director of the Environment Department and Commissioner of City of London Police in respect of the Secure City Programme Issues report.

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

There were no non-public questions.

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

There were no non-public urgent items of business.

The meeting ended at 12:47pm.

Chairman

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