

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

A meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board was held on 14 November 2019.

PRESENT: Councillors J Thompson (Chair); Councillors; Coupe, Hellaoui, Higgins, McIntyre, Platt and Saunders.

OFFICERS: S Bonner

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Councillors; Cooke, Garvey, Mawston, McTigue, Storey and Uddin.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations were made at this point in the meeting.

1 MINUTES - OSB - 3 OCTOBER 2019

The Chair read the following statement to the meeting regarding Purdah:

As you will be aware, we are now in Purdah due to the election being called. Whilst it is important that Council business continues, colleagues should be mindful about making overtly political statements that could be prejudicial for or against any candidate. Colleagues are advised to keep comments factual in nature.

Guidance regarding Purdah can be found on the Council's website should you require further information.

The Minutes for OSB held on 3 October 2019 were submitted and accepted as a true record.

2 MINUTES - OSB CALL IN - 16 SEP 2019

The Minutes for the OSB Call In meeting held on 16 September 2019 were submitted and accepted as a true record.

3 CALL IN REFERRAL - EXECUTIVE RESPONSE

The Board was informed that a report, outlining the Executive's discussions and decisions on OSB's referral, was required under the Council's Call In procedure.

The report described that the Executive, after discussing the referral, had decided to proceed with their original decision, made on 27 August 2019, without any amendment.

ORDERED: - That the contents of the report be noted.

**** SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 5 - ORDER OF BUSINESS**

ORDERED: that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 5, the Committee agreed to vary the order of business to consider agenda item 7 as the next item of business.

4 CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE

The Chair advised OSB that due to Purdah, and the political sensitivities surrounding Children's Services presentation, it was decided to defer the item for a future meeting of OSB.

The Board also discussed the arrangements for the next meeting of OSB and agreed the next scheduled meeting of OSB on 12 December 2019 should be cancelled owing to its conflict with the Parliamentary election.

The Board agreed not to rearrange that meeting and meet, instead, at its next scheduled date, 9 January 2020.

ORDERED:-

1. **That the agenda item be deferred to a future meeting of OSB.**
2. **That the 12 December 2019 meeting be cancelled and the next meeting of OSB be held, as scheduled, on 9 January 2020.**

5 **FINAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL - VULNERABLE AND FRAGILE SERVICES**

The Vice Chair of the Middlesbrough Health Scrutiny Panel presented the Panel's Final Report in relation to its review of Vulnerable and Fragile Services in the Health Service. He drew the Board's attention to the conclusions and recommendations contained within the report.

As part of the presentation the Vice Chair of the Panel made the following points:

The aim of the investigation was to ensure the lines of communication in respect of vulnerable health services locally remain open. This issue had been raised by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Some of the conclusions reached by the Panel included:

- More detailed overview of pressures in the acute sector had been provided to the panel but further detail was required for community services.
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valley (TEWV) NHS had been delegated commissioning responsibilities for mental health and learning disability services in South Tees. More detail was required about what this will mean for future service provision.
- There was a need for greater political involvement at the system level of decision making.
- The lack of clarity around funding for Social Care was having an impact on planning and integration.
- There remained a need for effective working relationships in order to realise shared goals.
- With regard to public health, initiatives focussed on prevention being preferable to cure needed to be matched with action.

A Member commented that while all the recommendations contained in the report were important, those recommendations citing a need to work in partnership and understand other areas of best practice were especially important.

The Middlesbrough Health Scrutiny Panel recommended to the Executive:

1. That the five-year system plan covering the period 2019/20 to 2023/24 due to be submitted by NENC ICS to the Department of Health by November 2019 be shared with the local authority's HWBB, health scrutiny panel, the VCS and Healthwatch South Tees in advance of formal submission. The panel was keen to ensure that a genuine place based plan with shared system wide objectives was developed. The building of trust and relationships during the development of the plan was as equally important as the document submitted.
2. That demand reduction across the system be prioritised and a deal with South Tees residents formulated. Changing behaviours and empowering residents to reverse the decline in life expectancy, reduce the increasing gap in 'healthy years lived' between the most deprived and most affluent wards of the town was paramount. The Extra Life initiative should be given much greater prominence and / or built upon with a new offer that involved and appealed to all South Tees residents.

3. That moves towards the development of an integrated commissioning plan between health, social care (including both adults and children) as well as public health be accelerated, with a fresh commitment to increasing significantly the local authority and CCG's pooled budgets arrangements.
4. That a shared understanding between the local authority and local NHS partners in respect of the governance arrangements around the NENC ICS, the Southern ICP and newly established PCN's within South Tees needed to be further developed. The formal decision-making processes and how any key decisions taken by these new bodies were reported to Council, the HWBB and Scrutiny needed to be clarified.
5. That greater emphasis be given to the integration of mental health services and joint working between Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS FT and the local authority. There was significant overlap between mental and physical health and a need to improve the joint working undertaken with local mental health service providers.
6. That given the workforce pressures on the whole system there remained a real risk that individual services may well be moved to other hospitals without formal consultation. That where there was any indication that this may happen in respect of services currently delivered at JCUH the local authority be notified immediately. Regular updates on any services that ST CCG determined will be decommissioned also need to be provided.
7. That prescribing costs for ST CCG continued to be monitored and the impact of the introduction of the new PCN's and appointment of Social Prescribers within individual practices across GP practices be reported to scrutiny in 2020/21.
8. That consideration be given to revising the current health scrutiny arrangements at local, sub-regional and regional level in response to the development of the NENC ICS, ICP's and PCN's.

ORDERED: - That the findings and recommendations of the Middlesbrough health Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive.

6 EXECUTIVE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Chief Executive submitted a report which identified the forthcoming issues to be considered by the Executive as outlined in Appendix A to the report.

The report provided the Overview and Scrutiny Board with the opportunity to consider whether any item contained within the Executive Forward Work Programme should be considered by the Board or referred to a Scrutiny Panel.

The Democratic Services Officer advised the Board of the nature of the Forward Work Programme and that it was a standing item on OSB's agenda.

ORDERED: That the information provided be noted.

7 SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT

The Chair of the Board reminded Panel Chairs that as part of their role Panel progress reports were required for all OSB meetings. The updates provided an important means of communicating Scrutiny activity and provided the Board an opportunity to ask questions about topics being undertaken. The Chair also reminded Panel Chairs that, in the event they were unable to attend OSB, their respective Vice Chair should provide the update.

The Chair of OSB commented that progress reports should, where possible, be prepared by the responsible Member rather than relying on Officers.

The former Vice Chair of the Children and Young People's Social Care and Services scrutiny Panel advised the Board that, due to its last meeting being cancelled, there was no further update in addition to that was provided at the 3 October meeting of OSB.

The Vice Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel advised the Board that matters considered by the Panel included mental health issues and breast radiology. The Vice Chair also commented that he was disappointed at the lack of attendance by the Panel's membership at some meetings.

The Chair of the Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel advised the Board that the Panel's current topic, looking at poverty and how that related to children and young people's mental health, was ongoing and would likely take some time to complete.

The Chair of the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel advised the Board the Panel was looking at physical activity for over 65s. At its last meeting the Panel heard from the Council's Head of Strategic Procurement and Commissioning about work they were undertaking in this regard. The Panel also heard from the Chief Executive of Age UK Teesside.

The Chair of the Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel advised the Board that the Panel last met on 6 November and continued with its topic into Infrastructure Delivery. The Panel received information relating to Broadband provision in Middlesbrough and it agreed that it had received sufficient information so a final report would be drafted for its next meeting. For the Panel's next topic, recycling and waste management, the Director for Environment and Commercial Services as well as the Operations Manager, Recycling and Education attended the Panel and provided an overview of these services. The Panel was keen to examine how recycling rates in Middlesbrough could be improved. The Panel had agreed to next meet on 8 January 2020.

The Chair of the Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel advised the Board the Panel had undertaken a review of Food Bank provision and the final report was expected by the time of the Panel's next meeting. The Panel's next topic would focus social inclusion, with specific reference to the homeless.

A member queried if the Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel had made arrangements to visit schools as part of their review into poverty and mental health. It was confirmed that this would be discussed at the Panel's next meeting.

A discussion took place, in relation to recycling, about areas of best practice. Sweden was cited as an example of best practice and had recycling rates of 99%. It was also commented that Sweden was requesting recyclable materials from other countries due to the efficiency of its practices. Further information on this initiative was available via the BBC. The Chair of the Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel also advised that at the Panel's last meeting it was confirmed that recyclable waste was recycled in the UK. It was also commented that Redcar and Cleveland Council were removing Garden Waste collection and were substituting this with compost bins.