

Overview & Scrutiny Board

Tuesday 25th October 2022

CLlr David Coupe

The Broader Context:

- An increasingly challenging local environment for staff within these service areas – increasingly complex “chaotic” users of services; the impact of the increasing cost of living; the on-going impact of COVID-19.
- The increasing challenge of managing the above in the context of current financial restrictions for our Council and for partner organisations.
- Uncertainty around the impact and resourcing of central government’s reforms of Adult Social Care (charging reforms and changes to the ways in which care providers are funded – will they go ahead and how will they be funded?)
- Plans for the commencement of CQC Inspection of Adult Social Care from 2023.
- Connection into the emerging Integrated Care Board work programme to support delivery of shared aspirations to reduce health inequalities and improve population health
- Delivery of the national drugs strategy “From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives”

On-going work/Key current issues:

Undertaking the following roles:

- Co-Chairing South Tees Health and Wellbeing Board – this has recently initiated work on co-ordinating partner agencies in prepping for cost of living impacts as we go into Winter.
- Participating as a statutory member of the Tees Safeguarding Adults Board.
- Participating in the NE Lead Members network which is part of the NE Association of Directors of Adult Social Services framework.
- Appointed Hospital Governor on behalf of Middlesbrough Council
- Member of the Integrated Care Partnership

Supporting Adult Social Care, Public Protection & Public Health with key work:

- Preparations for the commencement of CQC inspections of Adult Social Care (beginning in April 23)

On-going work/Key current issues:

Supporting Adult Social Care, Public Protection & Public Health with key work (Cont):

- Preparations for the implementation of government's social care reforms – work on charging (Care Cap) and provider funding going on across finance and ASC directorates.
- Development of workforce plans to address national recruitment challenge across Social Workers/Environmental Health Officers etc (use of recruitment incentives; regional recruitment programmes; relationship building with Universities etc).
- Development and Implementation of a new Social Work practice audit tool (going live in Nov 22).
- Further development of independent living support services within the Staying Put agency and Staying Included – which provide a broad range of independent living supports; aids and adaptations; groups to support social inclusion and digital inclusion (the Rekindle Project)

On-going work/Key current issues:

Supporting Adult Social Care, Public Protection & Public Health with key work (Cont):

- Participation by officers in Council-wide work to address the cost of living increases - identification of those particularly at risk and planning around co-ordination of multi-agency resources, development of warm spaces and the development of the Cold Weather Plan.
- On-going work to develop the integration of homelessness; domestic abuse and substance misuse services and to develop the services in support of service users (e.g. through the development of the DA Safe Accommodation Strategy)
- Securing additional resources through the Changing Futures programme (South Tees) and Project ADDER to support the development of enhanced substance misuse service and connections to the criminal justice system
- Development of the Lived Experience Board to ground the development of the Changing Futures work programme in the experiences of people experiencing multiple disadvantage

On-going work/Key current issues:

Supporting Adult Social Care, Public Protection & Public Health with key work (Cont):

- Tees Valley Public Health leadership to the Cleveland Unit for the Reduction of Violence and the Combatting Drugs Partnership with Cleveland Police and other partners
- Expansion of Social Work Access Team to respond to increasingly complexity and increasing numbers of referrals.
- Securing NIHR funding to develop our Health Determinants Research Collaborative to build working relationships with Teesside University and develop our evidence-based policy making
- Establishment of a “mission-led” approach to the development of our Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the underpinning intelligence through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Planning work on the review of key policies such as the Statement of Licensing.

On-going work/Key current issues:

Supporting Adult Social Care, Public Protection & Public Health with key work (Cont):

- Continuation of Food Hygiene Inspections (with addn comms to highlight positive outcomes)
- Development of the new sexual health Prevention Services, including c-card, training and outreach which will support in reducing late diagnosis of HIV
- Implementation of the local vaccine programme for Monkey Pox
- On-going proactive programmes of work by Public Protection staff around housing inspections (with an increased focus on identifying cost of living increase pressures) and Trading Standards inspections (recent seizure of a large volume of illicit vaping products).
- Developing the expansion of our covid champions role to a broader health champions role, in partnership with Gateshead expanding out with an initial focus on improving awareness and understanding of cancer symptoms

On-going work/Key current issues:

Supporting Adult Social Care, Public Protection & Public Health with key work (Cont):

- Focus on increasing 0-5 and adolescent vaccinations uptake, including targeted work with deep end GP practices targeting those who have not attended, behavioural insight work to increase HPV vaccine uptake and working with the vaccination team and schools to increase school ages immunisation uptake;
- Working with Middlesbrough Primary Care Networks to “poverty proof” mental health pathways and “health proof” welfare rights in partnership with the Council’s Resident Support Team
- Launched the new Specialist Physical Activity (SPA) team which provides programmes to support long term condition management, including Re:Start, our Long Covid service
- Mobilisation of Serious Mental Illness smoking pilot in partnership with Middlesbrough PCNs
- Launched the South Tees Wellbeing Network