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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board**
held on Tuesday, 7th September, 2021 at The Ballroom, Sandbach Town
Hall, High Street, Sandbach, CW11 1AX

PRESENT

Voting Members

Councillor S Corcoran (Chair), Cheshire East Council
Councillor Carol Bulman, Cheshire East Council
Councillor Jill Rhodes, Cheshire East Council
Dr Andrew Wilson (Vice-Chair), NHS Cheshire CCG
Jill Broomhall, Cheshire East Council
Louise Barry, Healthwatch Cheshire
Steven Michael, Cheshire East Health and Care Partnership
John Wilbraham, Cheshire East Integrated Care Partnership
Dr Matt Tyrer, Director of Public Health

Non-Voting Members

Lorraine O'Donnell, Cheshire East Council

Associate Non-Voting Members

Councillor Janet Clowes, Cheshire East Council
Superintendent Peter Crowcroft, Cheshire Constabulary

Cheshire East Officers and Others

Guy Kilminster, Corporate Manager Health Improvement
Deborah Nickson, Senior Lawyer
Karen Shuker, Democratic Services Officer

14 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Sam Corcoran be appointed the Chairman.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Sam Corcoran be appointed as Chairman.

15 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

It was moved and seconded that Dr Andrew Wilson be appointed as the Vice Chairman.

RESOLVED:

That Dr Andrew Wilson be appointed as Vice Chairman.

16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Chris Hart (Cheshire East Social Action Partnership), Dr Patrick Kearns (Cheshire East Integrated Care Partnership), Ged Rowney (Cheshire East Council), Clare Watson (NHS Cheshire CCG), Caroline Whitney (CVS Cheshire East).

17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2021 be approved as a correct record.

That the minutes from the informal virtual meeting held on 26 July 2021 be noted.

19 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no public speakers.

20 APPOINTMENT OF NON-VOTING ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

RESOLVED

- (1) That the current appointments for Non-Voting Associate Members be agreed for a further year, with the exception of Frank Jordan who left the local authority.
- (2) That the newly appointed Executive Director of Place for Cheshire East Council be appointed as a Non-Voting Associate Member.

21 LONG COVID UPDATE

Dr Andrew Wilson gave an update on the development of Long Covid Services which detailed the wide-ranging variety of symptoms associated with long covid and the difficulty in dealing with these. Following the guidance published by NHSE/I in April 2021, national funding had helped support a proposal for a new pathway consisting of four tiers covering self-care, primary care, community, and specialist management services.

Comments and questions were made in respect of

- Any indication of the impact on the primary, secondary and tertiary care services of those within Cheshire who have long covid;

- The numbers who have had COVID who go on to develop long covid;
- Why there were so few referrals to Cheshire and Merseyside ICS post covid assessment service;
- Would tier 3 services be managed through Care Communities?

RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

22 WINTER PRESSURES UPDATE

John Wilbraham (Cheshire East Integrated Care Partnership) and Councillor Carol Bulman joined the meeting during this item.

Dr Andrew Wilson and Jill Broomhall provided a verbal update on the expected winter pressures. These included an increase in flu levels, Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV) in younger children, running alongside the current covid pressures.

The A&E Delivery Board had addressed a number of risks across the system which included

- The insufficient community health and social care capacity to support discharges;
- High numbers of those waiting in A&E;
- Failure to meet ambulance handover timescales;
- Staffing shortages across the whole system;
- Increase in pressures on mental health services;
- Increase in admissions due to RSV in those younger children.

Following identification of these risks the A&E Delivery Board had developed a number of actions which would be agreed at the A&E delivery board meeting on the 15th September. These would then be reported back to the next Health & Wellbeing Board.

The A&E Delivery Board identified that local system awareness, development of hot hubs and media communication would be key to supporting the increase in winter pressures.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the update be noted;
- (2) That the actions agreed at the A&E Delivery Board be reported back to the next Health and Wellbeing Board.

23 TEST, TRACE, CONTAIN, ENABLE' UPDATE

Matt Tyrer gave an update on the Test, Track, Contain and Enable system in Cheshire East.

There had been a slight increase in numbers within Cheshire which was now up to 344, per 100,000. There had been a general increase in numbers across the North West and North East. The South West had recently seen a spike in numbers associated with younger people mixing at a surfing event although these had now reduced significantly. There were concerns that there could be an increase in rates following the return of schools, but with the proactive approach to testing and high uptake of vaccinations it was hoped that any increase would be small in comparison to the increase that had been seen in Scotland.

The highest rate of numbers was in the 10-19 age year group but there had been an increase in numbers in the over 60s which was associated with greater mobility and testing over summer, alongside caring responsibilities for grandchildren.

There had been a good uptake in the vaccination programme which had seen Cheshire East identified as the highest performing of the nine authorities across Cheshire East and Merseyside. The uptake rate for those over 60s getting their second vaccination was over 95% and there had been a generally been a good uptake in the younger generation.

There had been a slight increase in hospital occupancy, but the number of deaths remained low.

Information on the development of the national strategy for the Test and Trace system is still awaited. In the meantime, lots of innovative work had been undertaken by the team to help support this and examples of good practice had been fed back to the Department of Health.

The Swab Squad had been proactive throughout the pandemic and recognition of their work had resulted in the team recently being shortlisted for an Association of Public Sector Excellence award.

RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

24 CHESHIRE EAST PLACE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

This item and the Cheshire East Integrated Care Partnership update were considered together.

Steven Michael provided a verbal update on the Cheshire East Place Partnership and the Cheshire East Integrated Care Partnership.

A series of lock in sessions had been held with key accountable officers supported by him as the Independent Chair. The purpose of the sessions was to discuss the following:

- 1) To seek agreement around the strategic vision for health and social care in Cheshire East;
- 2) To identify the skills and capacity required to deliver the vision;
- 3) To create the delivery plan for the coming years;
- 4) To review the options in relation to the governance for it to work and agree a way forward.

There was a genuine shared ambition for service improvement and development within Cheshire East Place which was acknowledged as a significant step in the process.

The strategic vision for the population-based model for health delivery and service change, which had previously been presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) was agreed by all present.

Dr Lorraine O'Donnell explained that the work conducted in the lock-ins was focussed on those changes that would have the biggest impact on outcomes for its residents. This focus on ambition for change and shared understanding of the way forward was creating considerable momentum for change. She noted that each officer had taken away specific actions from the lock in sessions to help drive the agenda forward. As an example, on behalf of the Council she was leading the work to:

- Complete a review of the governance arrangements that would be required, including consideration of the role of the ICP Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board in the future model.
- Establish an Integrated Care Board.
- Progress the appointment of a Place Lead.

The data requirements of a 'population-health' led approach were referenced and Dr Tyrer advised that Dr Susie Roberts had been appointed as a new Public Health Consultant with the lead for Health Intelligence. The Chair welcomed Dr Susie Roberts to the board and invited Dr Roberts to introduce herself to board members.

The Chair thanked the Board members for their comments. The Board endorsed the strategic vision and suggested that it would be helpful to have further discussion around the structure and governance at a subsequent Health and Wellbeing Board. He stressed the need for primacy of place within its ICS developments.

Dr Andrew Wilson gave an update on the work that would be required before and after April 2022 in relation to the disestablishment of Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group. A Bill going through parliament was expected to dissolve CCGs on the 1 April 2022 and the Integrated Care Board would take on the CCG responsibilities. Cheshire CCG covered Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester and as a **temporary** measure pre-April 2022, the governing body would be considering the proposal to have two 'Borough Place based' committees at its October meeting. These would include additional local authority representatives.

Discussions were ongoing to finalise these arrangements. It was noted that these would not be the place-based committee post April 2022. Dr Wilson echoed the summary of the lock-in work given by Dr Michael and Dr O'Donnell and felt that more had been achieved in recent months than over recent years.

RESOLVED That:-

- 1) To note the progress of the Executive Group of the Cheshire East Place Board in developing the vision for health and social care in Cheshire East.
- 2) To receive a further update on governance implications for place at a forthcoming Health and Wellbeing Board.

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm and concluded at 3.10pm

Councillor S Corcoran (Chair)