

## Sandwell Health and Wellbeing Board

Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 5.00pm

This meeting was conducted virtually via MS Teams Meeting

### Present:

Dr Ian Sykes (Chair) Sandwell Health and Wellbeing Board (Vice Chair)

### Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC):

Councillor Farut Shaeen Cabinet Member for Living Healthy Lives;  
Councillor Keith Allcock Cabinet Member for Homes;  
Cllr. Elaine Giles - Chair – Health and Adults Social Care Scrutiny Board;  
Stuart Lackenby Director – Adult Social Care;  
Lisa McNally Director – Public Health;  
Lesley Hagger Executive Director – Children’s Services;

### Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG):

Dr Ayaz Ahmed Clinical Commissioning Group;  
Dr Priyanand Hallan Clinical Commissioning Group;  
Michelle Carolan Managing Director Sandwell – SRO  
Transforming Care Partnership BC & West Birmingham CCG;

### Healthwatch Sandwell:

John Taylor Healthwatch Sandwell;

### Sandwell Voluntary Sector Organisation:

Mark Davis Chief Executive;

### Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust:

Dr David Carruthers Interim Chief Executive;

### Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust:

Marsha Foster Director of Partnerships



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### **In Attendance:**

Chris Guest	Divisional Manager Adults Social Care SMBC;
Clair Norton	Health and Wellbeing Board project manager;
Alexia Farmer	Healthwatch Sandwell;
Lucy Heath	Academy Director - Healthier Futures Black Country and West Birmingham
Karmah Boothe	Head of Strategic Partnerships and Commissioning SMBC.
Nicky Denston	Service Manager – Business Excellence SMBC
Terence Read	Partnership Development Manager – Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG.

### **Apologies for Absence:**

Councillor Joyce Underhill	Cabinet Member for Best Start in Life;
Councillor Maria Crompton	Deputy Leader (Chair);
David Stevens	Chief Executive SMBC;
Alison Knight	Director - Neighbourhoods
Frances Craven	Chief Executive – Sandwell Childrens Trust;
Ian Green	Chief Superintendent;
Toby Lewis	Chief Executive SWBNHS Trust;

### **32/20 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

Matters arising - The Chair advised that the Better Care Fund had been presented and approved at the Sandwell Place Based Board

### **33/20 Covid -19 Sandwell's position**

The Health and Wellbeing Board received a presentation from the Director of Public Health on the position within Sandwell.

The West Midlands region had seen rapidly rising infection rates over the past four to five weeks. Sandwell and other neighbouring Authorities were near the top of the infection rate table.

Testing had increased and in the last week around 8,500 people had been tested and that would partly explain the higher positive results.

There had been a decrease within the last week which could be due to the effect of the latest lockdown and the very successful communications

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campaign. It was recognised that due to the incubation period a decrease in numbers would not be noticed until the lockdown was coming to an end. Feedback in respect of strong messages that had been conveyed had been very positive.

The following points were highlighted: -

- The 65 plus group had seen the most severe illness and fatalities – target work was being undertaken to bring the rates down in this age group and a publication from NHS had been sent to every person over the age of 60.
- Ethnicity – BAME population had the highest case rates, however there had been a surge in White British cases.

Health protection response main issues and measures were as follows:-

- Testing was currently at 470 per 100,000 which was 2<sup>nd</sup> highest UTLA in the West Midlands;
- Contact Tracing was at 88% which was the highest UTLA in the West Midlands;
- Sandwell was first council to provide own in-house contract tracing system and linked to the National system
- Sandwell had been recently visited by representatives from the Cabinet office and Downing Street Task force and it was anticipated that the rest of the country would follow the Sandwell Model.
- The representatives were also interested in Sandwell modelling work to identify the likely hood of the national test and trace successfully reaching certain groups of people.

The Vaccine delivery programme would be led by the Primary Care Networks and the plan was to roll out as fast as possible and to as many as possible.

There were priority groups, NHS workers, Social care workers, care homes residents, and those receiving care and, in the community the over 80's would be the first targeted group.

The Local Authority was supporting the communications and marketing, mobilising the Voluntary Sector to help within the community and helping the NHS in providing appropriate sites for the vaccinations and working with the Voluntary Sector to get vulnerable individuals to vaccination sites.

The Chair was confident that Sandwell Clinical Commissioning Group and Local Authority was well equipped to start the vaccination programme as soon as vaccines were received. This was expected to be around mid-December. Senior Officers from both organisations met on a regular basis and it was encouraging to see the fall off in cases.

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The Chair thanked the Public Health team for the work they had undertaken to help reduce the rates of infection.

### **34/20 Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership update**

At its meeting on 15 March 2019 the Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to establish a Children and Young People's Strategic Commissioning Partnership in response to the Ofsted inspection in 2017 where it was identified that partner working needed to be strengthened.

It was agreed that the new Children and Young People Strategic Commissioning Partnership would be directly accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The report captured the work that had been progressed to date, identify opportunities to advance the progress of the Strategic Commissioning Partnership and provide recommendations on how pace can be accelerated in its impact and achieve sustainability.

The Children and Young People Strategic Commissioning Partnership was an alliance of commissioners and providers and included executive representatives.

The Covid-19 lockdown began the same week that the Head of Strategic Partnerships and Commissioning started in role and the meetings had to be suspended until May 2020.

Priorities for year one were as follows:-

- Early years (best start in life, school readiness).
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health (Thrive)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)
- Children; Social Care.
- Early Help and Targeted Early Help – influence work, partners work together, a cultural shift.
- Engagement of children and young people.
- Workforce development across the system.

The progress up to May 2020 identified the following:-

- a cultural shift had taken place from where they were to where they were now;
- Partners had worked collaboratively during the pandemic;
- the partnership had been strengthened;

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- the strength of the partnership had been based on the ability to ask difficult and challenging questions and working through to ensure the right outcomes were achieved;
- the flexibility in strategic planning and delivery was supportive and the approach to realign workforce had been positive.

Significant partnership engagement activity had taken place at multi-levels. The report captured feedback from Partners. A direct connection has been made to the voice of children and young people. Engagement and communication with partners, children and families, and the wider community of Sandwell was a key component to work completed.

Next Steps included the following:-

- to develop a Children and Young People's commissioning plan to include the following:
  - clear outcomes focus;
  - the ability to measure and understand what difference we are making across the system;
  - able to contribute to and enhance each other's single agency arrangements;
  - enhance ability to use resources to best effect and impact.
- supporting the work of the Statutory Boards;
- enabling inspection readiness across the system.

**Agreed** that the Health and Wellbeing Board noted the next steps to transform service and would continue to receive reports to endorse its ongoing accountability to this Board.

### 35/20 Inclusive Economy update

The Health and Wellbeing Board received a report in respect of community wealth building and asked to consider that the Council's approach fully supported the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The principals of community wealth had been launched in July 2019 and sought views from business, voluntary sector and anchor institutions on how best to take the agenda forward.

The diagnostic report included a series of recommendations and some notable strengths for the council and its strategic partners to work on which included:-

- A healthy voluntary and community sector demonstrating good working relationships.
- A developed understanding of our land and assets.

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- Provision and protection of grant funding for the voluntary and community sector.

Recommendations had been developed into a community wealth and inclusive economy action plan and this would form the work programme for the community wealth building and economic resilience delivery group.

The progress against the actions would be considered by the community wealth and economic resilience board which provided strategic oversight of the agenda and provided the platform for effective collaboration.

This was an exciting opportunity to make a real difference at a local and regional level and included representatives from the voluntary and community sector as well as key anchor organisations such as the NHS, Sandwell College, University of Wolverhampton, West Bromwich Albion Football Club, West Midlands Police, Black Country Chamber of Commerce and the West Midlands Combined Authority.

The board would be chaired by Councillor Rajbir Singh, Cabinet Member for Skills and Employment.

The Community Fund Alliance was calling on government to release the next wave of dormant, or orphaned, assets from stocks, shares, bonds and insurance policies to create a £4bn endowment. This would create the 'Community Wealth Fund'. Communities would then be allocated £2m to spend over a period of 10-15 years which would empower communities to make spending decisions locally, supported by the council.

The potential opportunities available to use the funding included developing more community activities and assets, improving levels of digital access, skills and connectivity and improving local transport. In turn, this would support building community resilience, improving confidence, support improvements in health and wellbeing and increase the capacity of neighbourhoods to turn their areas around.

**Agreed** that the Council's approach to community wealth building in Sandwell fully supported the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

### **36/20 Social Prescribing update**

The Board received an update on Social Prescribing in Sandwell.

Social prescribing was not a new concept, it had been around for years and was a holistic approach focussing on individual need, promoted health and wellbeing and reduced health inequalities in a community setting, using non-clinical methods, addressed barriers to engagement, sense of

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isolation and loneliness and enabled people to play an active part in their care and building resilience for the community, individuals and the system.

The following elements were highlighted:-

- Through partnership working and funding from the Better Care Fund, the Community Offer was launched in April 2020 and over 1,100 people had been supported and had supported the welfare hub.
- Monthly catch-ups between Public Health development officers and Primary Care Network link workers.
- Public Health had developed a stronger Sandwell directory so that link workers were able to sign post people to activities in the borough.
- Healthy Lives workstream developing a health coach role to work in General Practice to provide advice, guidance and support to patients to stay active and healthy.

NHS England had co-designed a national model to help define the key components.

Link workers would be funded through Primary Care Networks DES, the Clinical Commissioning Group was not commissioning Link Workers or social prescribing, they were a conduit for Link worker funding and working with partners to support development of Link workers and all social prescribing schemes.

There were 7.68 WTE Link Workers across 8 Primary Care Networks and the key themes were as follows:

- Provide a strength and assets-based approach to increase people's confidence to take control of their health and wellbeing.
- Work in partnership with people, actively listening to understand what matters to them from a holistic perspective.
- Focus on social and wider determinants of health, co creating personalised support plans and goals to meet their needs.

Next Steps Priorities included the following

- System wide evaluation
- Ensure all Link Workers were linked up to community offer scheme in each town.
- Review MDT functions case management and coverage taking account of neighbourhood and wider determinants of health and wellbeing.
- Continued partnership and joint planning through emerging Sandwell ICP.
- Specific focus on overcoming isolation and recovery from COVID as well as neighbourhood priorities in each town.

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### **37/20 Working Together for a Healthier Post-COVID Future and Health inequalities**

The Board received a presentation on the Wider Determinants of Healthy Life programme from the Academy Director of Healthier Futures, Black Country and West Birmingham.

The purpose of the programme was to help local partner organisations:-

- better understand their local populations in terms of the interactions between the wider context of their lives and their health;
- develop a set of priorities for action;
- engage relevant stakeholders and community groups;
- co-design, and collaboratively implement and evaluate, projects relating to the social, economic and environmental circumstances in which people live to facilitate improved population health.

The Sandwell Health and Wellbeing Board were asked to consider the questions posed in the in the key discussion points below and send any responses to [lucy.heath2@nhs.net](mailto:lucy.heath2@nhs.net): -

1. What priority should be given to each of the target socio-economic outcomes and why?
2. Are there additional intervention mechanisms that should be considered for realising the target outcomes?
3. What specific candidate interventions might be considered?
4. Are there specific population cohorts that whole-system action should focus on?

Engagement on the report would take place between October 2020 and January 2021 and if members had suggestions of other people/groups who should be involved in the consultation please advise Healthier Futures.

The recommendations from the consultation would be shared at the Healthier Futures Partnership Board on 28 January 2021 and the programme would then move to Phase 2 and would involve the design, appraisal, implementation and evaluation of interventions.

### **38/20 Children's Safeguarding Board Annual Report**

The Director of Children's Services presented the Sandwell Children's Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2019/20 to the Board.

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This was the first Annual Report that Sandwell had published since the implementation of the new Working Together 2018 arrangements, which placed the leadership of the safeguarding of children equally with the Clinical Commissioning Group, the Police and Local Authorities.

Significant partnership activity had taken place. Engagement and communication with partners, children and families, and the wider community of Sandwell was a key component of the Sandwell Children's Safeguarding Partnership plan.

**Agreed** that the Health and Wellbeing Board note the priorities for 2020/21 and beyond and continue to provide relevant support for and engagement with Sandwell Childrens Safeguarding Partnership.

### **39/20 NHS111 – changing the way communities in the Black Country and West Birmingham Access to urgent care.**

The Board received a briefing in respect of changes being made to the way communities in the Black Country and West Birmingham access urgent care.

There was a phased national roll-out of a new NHS111 system, and preparation was underway to implement the change.

The aim was for people to call NHS111 before attending the Emergency Department except for life threatening emergencies when 999 must be called. This was to ensure patients get the right urgent care in the most appropriate place – whilst simultaneously reducing the risk of them acquiring COVID-19 or a hospital infection.

The change would enable the NHS to provide emergency care safely to those who needed it – particularly the vulnerable and shielded by ensuring appropriate distancing in waiting rooms.

Discussions with local partners and clinicians about the design and delivery of an approach which would work for the local population were taking place and stakeholders will be continually updated with developments and work with partners to develop a comprehensive communication plan.

Members asked for details of the Healthwatch Meeting on 17 December 2020 be forwarded to The Board.

### **40/20 CCG merger update**

The Chair advised that all four Clinical Commissioning Groups had voted in favour of the merger, (Dudley, Wolverhampton, Walsall and Sandwell and West Birmingham) and confirmation had been received from NHS England that the application for the merger had been agreed.

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Patients should notice very little change, however the result would be a more efficient organisation, freeing up resources that can be re invested where needed. The Black Country and West Birmingham would be established April 2021.

### **41/20 Board Forward Plan**

The Health and Wellbeing Board Project Officer outlined the matters which would be brought to the next meeting of the Board as follows:-

- Sandwell Carers Strategy;
- Suicide Prevention Strategy;
- Improving Palliative and end of life care workstream;
- Health Protection Board update;

If anyone has any items for the forward could these be forwarded to the Boards project officer.

### **42/20 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board would be held at **3.00 pm on 21 January 2021. (Virtual meeting using MS Teams)**

Meeting ended at 5.23pm

[Democratic\\_Services@Sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic_Services@Sandwell.gov.uk)