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SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL  
HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2022

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Present: Councillors Professor Margetts (Chair), Bunday, Guest, Houghton, Noon, W Payne and White

8. **DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Councillor Bunday declared that he was a qualified and registered Social Worker and had worked in various roles in local authority social care and health services; he had worked as a specialist advisor with the Care Quality Commission and had worked as a consultant in an independent private mental health hospital.

Councillor Margetts declared that he was a governor of Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Noon declared that he worked in Adult Social Care.

The Panel noted the declarations of interest and considered that it did not present a conflict of interest with regards to the items on the agenda.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Bunday, Councillor Margetts and Councillor Noon would be involved in the discussion of the items on the agenda.

9. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair noted that in light of the current Covid Omicron variant surge the meeting would be held as a hybrid meeting. To be lawfully constituted it was held in the Civic Centre and open to the public but only elected members, along with key supporting officers, were in the room in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. Other officers and the public had been encouraged to join the meeting via Microsoft Teams and contribute that way.

10. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) that the minutes for the Panel meeting on 30 June 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.
- (ii) that the Panel elected Councillor White as Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year.

11. **HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT COMMUNITY AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REVIEW**

The Panel considered the report of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board which provided an overview of the developing review of community and mental health services.

Ron Shields, Chief Executive, Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust; Andrew Strevens, Chief Executive, Solent NHS Trust; Derek Sandeman – Chief Medical Officer, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (Virtual); Isobel Wroe, Transformation Director, Integrated Care Board; James House, Managing Director - Southampton Place, Integrated Care Board; Dr Debbie Chase, Director of Public Health, Southampton City Council; and Councillor Fielker – Cabinet Member for Health, Adults and Leisure (Virtual) were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

In discussion the Panel noted the following:

- Local Mental Health services had been struggling with capacity prior to covid and since then demand had grown much more than for any other service and that had impacted on patient experience and equity of access to services.
- The review had identified some problems with the way that services were organised, and proposals had been developed to harmonise and streamline services.
- The employment support work for people with mental health issues and the partnership work of integrated teams in both children and adults in Southampton had been recognised as examples of best practice.
- Data and intelligence information had been gathered from health services, which had been collated and used to inform the shape of the services in the proposed strategy.
- The review considered ten different options which were all appraised by the review board and integration to one organisation was chosen as the best option with many advantages for patients and partners.
- Examples were provided of how the integrated organisational structure of services could be improved locally, including:
  - The potential reduction of the problems experienced by some patients as they transition from Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) provided by Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust to Adult Mental Health Services provided by Solent NHS Trust.
  - Across the Hampshire area there are five different providers of CAMHS, so for people requiring specialist care, it should be simpler to navigate than the current challenging provider landscape.
  - The internal processes would be streamlined.
  - Alignment of community resources would improve focus for specialist services and improve the distribution, use and function of community beds.
- The redistribution of resources would be required to ensure that local needs could be met and to help improve equity of access to the provision.
- The plan did not include any proposals to change the level and number of staff and there would have to be consultation with staff on changes to the organisational structures.
- Any costs will be a clear investment in improving the services and outcomes for people in Southampton and would have to be met from existing budgets.
- The final proposals would need to be formally agreed by each of the boards and by NHS England. It is hoped that the new entity would be in place by 2024.
- It was expected that it would take up to four years for clinical pathways of the Trust's to be aligned and the one organisation to be fully embedded.

- Further and broader engagement with stakeholders, including local residents, the voluntary sector and the Joint Commissioning Board / Place Based Governance Board would be undertaken to shape the final proposals.
- Good community services helped to prevent escalation to acute services. Being able to access services within their local area was valued by residents as important.
- Support from friends and family and community and voluntary groups played an important role in helping community and mental health services to function and it is important to involve them in the development of the strategy for integrating services.
- The Council and the Integrated Care Service for Southampton should work together as equal partners to ensure that best use is made of the limited resources available.

**RESOLVED** that the timetable outlining the key milestones for the review of community and mental health services would be circulated to the Panel to enable the identification of appropriate meetings at which the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel could be updated on developments.

## 12. **IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON SOUTHAMPTON'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

The Panel received and noted the report of the Director of Public Health which provided the Panel with an updated assessment of the impact of Covid-19 on health and wellbeing in the city.

Dr Debbie Chase, Director of Public Health; Vicky Toomey, Principal Analyst – Public Health; and Councillor Fielker – Cabinet Member for Health, Adults and Leisure (Virtual) were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel acknowledged the dedication of health and care staff who had worked tirelessly to support the City through the challenging period of the pandemic.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- The significant impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the health of Southampton residents.
- There have been some negative impacts such as an increase in mental health issues but also some positive impacts such as reduction in smoking, increased value of air quality and clean air, and an increase in physical activity.
- Many indirect impacts of the pandemic are yet to be fully realised
- The Health and Wellbeing Board had agreed to prioritise mental health and giving children the best start in life.
- This winter would have an impact on health and wellbeing inequalities in the community given the challenges of heating costs and the impact of the cost-of-living increase.
- Regular assessment of the impact of Covid-19 would be included in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- The Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health and Care Partnership Board had prioritised action on the basis of Covid impact and the available resource provision.

- Officers and elected members should think about health and health impact in everything they do, for example when looking at making a decision on transport policies there would be an impact on health that should be taken into consideration. This is referred to as a 'health in all policies' approach.

13. **SOUTHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21**

The Panel received and noted the report of the Independent Chair of the Southampton Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) which outlined the SSAB Annual Report 2020/21 and key developments since the report was published.

Deborah Stuart-Angus, Independent Chair of the SSAB (Virtual); and Vernon Nosal, Director of Operations for Adult Social Care (Virtual), were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel noted the learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews and the recommendations for improving practice made by the SSAB.

The Independent Chair agreed to circulate the 2021/22 SSAB Annual Report to the Panel when it had been approved by the Board.