

Board Minutes- Approved at June Full Board Meeting

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on the 9th March 2021

Board members present:

Dr LN Murthy, Mr C Cunningham-Shore, Mr B Jackson, Mrs M Mitchell, Mr J Welch, Mrs J Evans, Mrs Z Forster

Apologies:

Mr D Scott

In attendance:

David Logan, Project Lead
Denise Alexander, Signposting and Engagement Lead
Denise Rudkin, Research and Information Officer
Georgina Cowey, Administration Officer (Minute Taker)

Guests Present:

Nicola Bailey, Chief Officer for NHS County Durham Clinical Commissioning Group
Carol Gaskarth, Chief Executive of Pioneering Care Partnership

Item 1/21: Admin Matters (Year End)

The Chair asked the Board what their initial thoughts were on the Mental Health proposal presented by PCP.

The Board raised reservations around:

- Using the underspend of Healthwatch to fund the new service, rather than being commissioned to do the piece of work
- How much this piece of work would benefit Healthwatch and the community
- Who would be responsible for the outcome of the service?
- Being involved with Mental Health service user groups directly
- A possible conflict of interest

DL explained that the staff team have a number of apprehensions and issues around the proposed piece of work including unrealistic targets- quantity over quality, and a full time post being proposed within a 4 day working period (EH hours).

Item 2/21: Presentation by Nicola Bailey, Chief Officer for NHS County Durham Clinical Commissioning Group

Nicola Bailey presented a presentation to the Board about the integration if the ICS.

It was questioned why the ICS is being formed now during the COVID crisis. Nicola explained that planning for this has been on the agenda for some time, and COVID has highlighted how well services work together.

Item 3/21: Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Dom Scott

Item 4/21: Declaration of interest

No changes to declaration of interest

Item 5/21: Minutes from Board meeting on 15/12/20

Notes agreed as an accurate record by the Board

Item 6/21: Papers received by the Board:

- Signposting Log January 2021
- Signposting Log for February 2021
- Webinar: King Fund –Health and Social Care in 2021
- Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting feedback and reports pack
- Meeting Feedback from PCCC
- HWCD response to CCG -re Commissioning and Investment Strategy 20-21
- Response to Integration and Innovation White Paper
- Kings Fund Trust and Transparency Final Notes

It was asked if the number of signposting enquiries received is constant. It was explained that there are slight fluctuations with number of calls but overall it is constant. The most significant drop in the number of calls received occurred during the first lockdown but have now picked back up.

Item 7/21: AOB & Feedback

CCS asked DR to contact HWE to see whether there are any training tools or materials on how to liaise with local MPs. This could lead to a possible development day for the team and board, and a designated member of the team could be decided as a point of contact moving forward. The Board emphasised the importance of HWCD remaining independent and politically neutral.

The board agreed the bid Claire had proposed for the Health and Safety training for volunteers

Item 8/21: Update from Carol Gaskarth on Mental Health Proposal

Carol Gaskarth shares report with the Board:



COVID-19 Resilience Team (County Durham) Feb 202147932.pdf

It was asked if the initial results of the surveys and consultations would be expected to be completed by the end of the year. CG explained that the plan is for the service to last for five years, but only a one-year proposal has been drafted for now to show what the service will initially look like, as this is expected to change over time.

The Chair is going to draft a collective response on behalf of the board, including concerns and questions, and send this back to Carol

Item 9/21: Confidential Items

The Board agree the confidential notes from the last board meeting as an accurate record.

**Healthwatch County Durham
March 2021**