

**MINUTES OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 31 MARCH
2021**

Present:

Councillor Graham Cain (in the Chair)

Councillor Jo Farrell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health
Councillor Mrs Michelle Scott, Opposition Representative

Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health, Blackpool Council
Jeanette Richards, Interim Director of Children's Services, Blackpool Council

Roy Fisher, Chairman, Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group

Stephen Fogg, Chairman, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust
Nicki Latham, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust

Tracy Hopkins, Blackpool Citizens Advice Bureau, Voluntary Sector Representative

Beth Martin, Blackpool Healthwatch Representative

In Attendance:

Mark Golden, Senior Accountant, Blackpool Council
Judith Mills, Consultant in Public Health, Blackpool Council

Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, Blackpool Council

1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed Board members to the meeting and lead introductions. The Board noted Councillor Jo Farrell, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health had joined the Board. The Board also noted the appointment of new representatives of Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust- Stephen Fogg and Kevin McGee.

The Board received apologies from Dr Amanda Doyle, Neil Hartley-Smith and Dr Leanne Rudnick, Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group and from Kevin McGee of Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust noting that on this occasion Nicki Latham, Deputy Chief Executive Officer would deputise.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

MINUTES OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 31 MARCH 2021

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 29 JANUARY 2020

The Health and Wellbeing Board considered the minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2020.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 29 January 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

BETTER CARE FUND UPDATE

The Board received an update on the Better Care Fund financial monitoring from Mark Golden, Senior Accountant, Blackpool Council. Mr Golden outlined that although financial monitoring had taken place through the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group's respective financial reporting structures, the delayed publication of statutory guidance meant that the year-end arrangements for the Better Care Fund for 2020/2021 could only now be started. Mr Golden provided assurances to Board Members that the fund had continued to be managed well through financial year 2020/2021 with a small underspend which had been considered prudent given the Covid recovery situation. It was therefore proposed to bring a report to the first Health and Wellbeing Board of the new financial year. Depending on the timescales, information would also be circulated to the Chairman and Board members in advance of that meeting to give additional reassurance as to the implementation of the approved plans and pooled agreements for funding.

Resolved:

To note the report and verbal update.

5 DRUG HARM REDUCTION STRATEGY 2020-22

The Health and Wellbeing Board considered the Drug Harm Reduction Strategy 2020-22 and its associated implementation plan.

Judith Mills, Consultant in Public Health, presented the strategy and implementation plan to the Board. She started by providing context around the scale of the issue with the harms caused by drug misuse being far-reaching and affecting too many people at all levels of society. The overall objective of the strategy had been defined as to make sure people received a more integrated response to prevention and treatment particularly in cases where drugs impacted negatively on a family's ability to help their children grow up safely. Drug misuse and dependency continued to present a particular challenge within the most deprived communities which included Blackpool and the links to Adverse Childhood Experiences were emphasised.

Ms Mills explained that the COVID pandemic had caused a delay in seeking formal sign off of the strategy by the Board but that the key actions were already being addressed.

MINUTES OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 31 MARCH 2021

Dr Rajpura emphasised to Board members the impact that drug misuse had on life expectancy as those with such chaotic lifestyles could also neglect other elements of their physical and mental health.

In response to questions Ms Mills stated that the role of the voluntary sector remained key in delivering a number of the actions particularly in the access to housing and meaningful employment. Ms Mills also explained that there would further updates to the Board. She further explained that some key actions had benefitted from steps taken during the lockdown for Covid particularly in addressing homelessness and engagement such as the "Everybody in" initiative which assisted in the building of links with hard to reach groups.

Resolved:

1. To approve the revised Blackpool Drug Harm Reduction Strategy, as attached at Appendix 5a to the agenda, for the period until 31 December 2022.
2. To approve the associated Drug Harm Reduction Action Plan, as attached at Appendix 5b to the agenda, for the period until 31 December 2022.

6 FORWARD PLAN

The Board considered future items for consideration.

It agreed that the following items should be discussed as a matter of priority:

An update on restoration of services post-COVID pandemic.

An update on the work of the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership.

An update on the Local Healthwatch.

7 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved:

To note the provisional dates of future meetings, subject to approval at Annual Council.

Wednesday 16 June 2021

Wednesday 6 October 2021

Wednesday 1 December 2021

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 10.55am)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
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