

Healthwatch Sunderland (HWS) Executive Board
Minutes of the virtual meeting held via Zoom Monday, 8 March 2021

Attendance - Executive Board Members

John Dean	JD	Chair
Paul Weddle	PW	Vice Chair
Gavin Barr	GB	
Amanda Brown	AB	
Mick Butler	MB	
Chris Colley	CC	
Liz Highmore	LH	

Attendance - Healthwatch Staff

Anna Gillingham	AG	Acting Project Lead
Wendy Hadlington	WH	Engagement Officer
Clare Render	CR	Administrator (Minute Taker)

Attendance - Other

Andy Fox	AF	Supporting Gavin Barr
Debbie Burnicle	DB	Attending as a member of the public

		Action
1	Apologies & introductions Apologies were received from Mick Butler and Andrew Carton.	
2	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.	
3	Minutes of previous meeting The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record. 3.1 Healthy Economy Working Group - Liz reported that the feedback from the previous meeting will be combined with the next meeting and forward to the HWS office for circulation. 3.2 Young Carers - Wendy reported that she has spoken to Amanda and sessions and she is still waiting to hear from Chris from Amanda's team on next steps of how HWS could be involved in the Young Carers Action Day to take place in March 2021.	LH WH

	Action
<p>3.4 Care Homes - John reported that one idea that care homes could use is the self-care apps. This could potentially be used to monitor residents' health in conjunction with the surgery nursing staff.</p> <p>It was suggested that it might be an idea to share this with the Care Homes Group, through the All Together Better organisation. John will raise this at the next Digital Accelerator Board</p> <p>3.5 Time to change, mental health campaign - Liz reported that her MP has now received a response from Nadine Dorries, the Minister of State for Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Patient Safety. Her reply stated that the Government have put lots of money into mental health but will not be putting any further funding into this campaign. Therefore, the time to change mental health campaign will close at the end of this month.</p>	JD
<p>4 Safeguarding</p> <p>Anna reported that no safeguarding issues were raised in the last two months.</p>	
<p>5 External board meetings attended</p> <p>Primary Care Commissioning Committee - John reported that due to technical difficulties he was unable to attend the last meeting. The minutes will be circulated once he has received them.</p> <p>Outbreak Control Board - John briefed the group on the last Outbreak Control Board meeting he attended. Discussed were the latest COVID-19 outbreak figures and the vaccine roll-out.</p>	JD
<p>6 Team Update</p> <p>A copy of the team update paper was sent to the group. Anna asked if any board members had any questions on any of the items.</p> <p>6.1 Clinical Commissioning Group survey - Liz asked how many responses have been received. Anna reported that over 1000 were received. The report is currently being put together.</p> <p>6.2 Health and social care campaigns - Chris asked about the health and social care campaigns. Wendy reported that we have a regular campaign group comprising of some of our volunteers. This group meets on a regular basis to look at national and local campaigns throughout the year. The volunteers choose what campaigns we are going to be looking at and the next campaign they have chosen is Brain Awareness Week due to take place from 16-22 March 2021.</p>	

	Action
<p>With their help a series of events and social media campaigns have been put together to highlight how people can keep their brain healthy and active. There will be an event on 18th March, where a guest speaker from Headway Wearside will give a talk about the impact of brain injury and a lady from the Essence Service will give a talk on how to keep your brain healthy and will also give a relaxation session.</p> <p>We have started on our next campaign which will be in May around stroke awareness month.</p> <p>Anyone is welcome to take part in any of our campaign events.</p> <p>6.3 Learn and share meetings - Andy Fox reported that he has received a lot of good feedback from the learn and share meetings held with Wendy and Audrey.</p> <p>He wished to place on record his thanks for all the hard work that is put into these meetings.</p> <p>Wendy reported that one of the biggest outcomes from these meetings has been the introduction of easy read appointment letters for patients who are recalled after their breast screenings. This work is ongoing with Gateshead Queen Elizabeth hospital.</p> <p>6.4 Key engagement statistics - a few the group reported that it was helpful to see these statistics and is a useful way to see them.</p> <p>6.5 COVID Vaccine Programme evaluation - Paul asked if there are any themes emerging from the current survey around people’s experiences of receiving their COVID vaccine.</p> <p>Anna reported that this work is still ongoing but so far predominantly the feedback is positive.</p> <p>A member of the group reported that it would be interesting to see if there is a distinction between the mass vaccination centres and the Primary Care vaccination centres, as they have heard of problems around the online booking system.</p>	

	Action
<p>7 Decision making policy</p> <p>The HWS Decision Making Policy has been updated. Anna briefed the group on the main points. A copy was handed to the group for approval. After a brief discussion, the policy was agreed. This will be put on our website alongside the Easy read version.</p>	CR
<p>8 Work plan ideas 2021-2022</p> <p>A list of possible work plan items that we could consult with the public on was handed to the group. The public would be asked to vote for their top three and the Board and staff need to decide which three items they think we should ask the public to vote on.</p> <p>After a discussion it was decided to re-send the document to all Board members and ask them to select their three items.</p>	AG
<p>9 BAME work - work plan request</p> <p>John reported that feedback we have received from the BAME community has highlighted some communication issues faced by this community whilst patients are in hospital and English is not their first language.</p> <p>These patients normally rely on members of their visiting family to help with translation but due to current COVID restrictions visiting is not allowed and communication is left to the staff.</p> <p>After a discussion it was agreed by the Board that we contact the hospital to highlight the impact of poor communication, how this is affecting the BAME community and ask them to investigate further.</p>	JD
<p>10 Engagement opportunities with All Together Better</p> <p>John briefed the group on the possible opportunities for engagement work with All Together Better.</p> <p>All Together Better has asked if we could help them assess their integrated care services across the city. This would be a long-term engagement opportunity, and they will be offering us a drawn-down budget to help with this work.</p> <p>Anna reported that we have started the conversations on this opportunity, as we need to consider how we can meet their expectations.</p>	
<p>11 Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held:</p> <p>Date: 10th May 2021</p> <p>Time: 2.00:4.00pm</p> <p>Venue: to be confirmed</p>	