

## WESTMORLAND AND FURNESS COUNCIL HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Health and Wellbeing Board** held on Thursday, 8 February 2024 at 10.00 am at Council Chamber, Kendal Town Hall

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### **PRESENT:**

Cllr P Bell	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health & Care
Mr D Blacklock	Chief Executive Officer Healthwatch Westmorland and Furness
Cllr J Brook (Chair)	Leader of Westmorland and Furness Council
Mr M Cullinan	Non Executive Director, North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust
Mr P Farrimond	Non Executive Director at Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust
Mr D Muir	Nursing & Chief Operating Officer, Cumbria Northumberland Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Mr G O'Neill	Associate Director for Population Health, NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB
Ms S Plum	Chief Executive, Westmorland and Furness Council
Mr C Ranshaw (Vice-Chair)	Third Sector Network Representative
Ms K Stephens	Director of Public Health, Westmorland and Furness Council
Mr E Tallis	Integrated Care Board Director of Place - North Cumbria
Cllr V Taylor	Cabinet Member for Sustainable Communities and Localities
Ms C Whalley	Director of Adult Social Care, Westmorland and Furness Council

### **Officers in attendance:**

Ms I Booler	Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion
Mr A Farrar	Democratic Services Officer
Ms V Hepworth-Putt	Consultant in Public Health
Mr D Houston	Senior Manager - Health and Care Integration
Ms L Jones	Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer
Mr C Phipps	Service Manager – Adult Social Care Transformation and Commissioning

## **PART I ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

### **35. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr D Levy, Ms S Rees, Ms J Scattergood with Mr G O'Neill substituting, Mr D Fillingham with Mr P Farrimond substituting, Mr M Vasic with Ms I Booler substituting and Mr S Morgan with Mr M Cullinan substituting.

### **36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **37. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED**, that the press and public not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda.

### **38. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that, the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

### **39. ARMED FORCES COVENANT**

Members received a report on the Armed Forces Covenant. The Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer and Lead Officer for the Armed Forces for Westmorland and Furness Council presented this second report following the approval by the Board of the development of the Armed Forces and Veterans Health and Well Being Action Plan. This was to ensure that we were delivering against our legal duties and commitments given by our organisations in signing the armed forces covenant. Westmorland and Furness Council had held 2 Armed Forces Board meetings with Veterans and key partners. The Council has also attended the Cumbria wide Armed Forces Partnership. It has been agreed that the Cumbria wide Armed Forces Partnership meeting will be Co – Chaired by Westmorland and Furness and Cumberland Council. This report provided feedback to the Health and Well Being Board on matters being raised by veterans attending the Westmorland and Furness Armed Forces Board meeting relating to Health and Wellbeing. We had received a response from the NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB ( as Dental Services Commissioners) that the NHS were not required to provide priority treatment for veterans. A link had been provided to send to our veterans LSC Integrated Care Board : Dentistry ([icb.nhs.uk](http://icb.nhs.uk)). The Veterans we had engaged with had requested more information regarding Veteran friendly GP practices across Westmorland and Furness. The Royal College of GP's had an accreditation scheme and information about the Westmorland and Furness position would be appreciated. The question being asked was how do we make veterans aware of the veteran friendly GP practices and how do we ensure that more GP practices sign up.

Mr Tallis commented on how many GP practices were veteran friendly and there is a national problem for dentistry in the general population.

The Director of Adult Social Care supported the paper and offered support in the future.

The Director of Public Health noted that it was important that the data was recorded correctly.

Mr Muir remarked about the recent introduction of the National Veterans ID Card which would assist in the recording of data.

**RESOLVED**, that the Health and Wellbeing Board

- (1) noted for information the update on the agreed Armed Forces and Veterans Health and Well Being Action Plan and specific questions highlighted in.
- (2) agreed that a paper on access by the Armed Forces to dentistry across Westmorland and Furness is brought back to the next meeting.
- (3) agreed that a future paper is brought to the Board Access to Veteran Friendly GP Practices across Westmorland and Furness.
- (4) agreed to develop 3 areas of work relating to Commissioning and Armed Forces Families, Veterans and Social Prescribing and Veterans within the Hospital setting.
- (5) noted that the Westmorland and Furness Armed Forces Board veterans have been requested to provide feedback on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- (6) agreed that the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer works with partners to develop a training package for all staff.
- (7) agreed that the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer works with partners to assess how we are ensuring compliance with the Armed Forces Act 2021 duties relating to healthcare as outlined in the table and reports back to a future meeting.
- (8) agreed that the Westmorland and Furness Health and Well Being Action Plan is presented to the South Cumbria and North Cumbria Place Based Partnerships to consider how Armed Forces Families are being considered in the emerging Governance and work programmes.

#### **40. SEND IMPROVEMENT UPDATE**

Members received a report on the Progress on implementing the SEND Continuous Improvement Plan and Accelerated Progress Plan. The Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion presented the report The continuing improvement of SEND services and provision across the local area remained a priority for all partners and providers. The focus for improvement, since the SEND Ofsted inspection revisit in 2022, is set out in a Continuous Improvement Plan. This also included the response

to the feedback from the inspection in a Department for Education (DfE) and National Health Service England (NHSE) monitored Accelerated Progress Plan.

The Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Care remarked that it would be helpful to understand why an item had been delayed, as it may be possible for problems to be unblocked and would representation from Adult Social Care be considered.

The Director of Adult Social Care would recommend representation from Adult Social Care.

The Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion would recommend this to the SEND Partnership Board.

Mr Blacklock commented that children should be involved in the process.

A discussion took place on developing a more social approach rather than diagnosis. It was commented that it was important to move away from an adversarial approach and to meet need earlier. Cumberland Council are proposing to develop this model and it was hoped that alignment could take place. Mr Farrimond noted that referrals had escalated post Covid.

The Cabinet Member for Sustainable Communities and Localities commented on what advantage was there to the family if offered a social approach and who decides what the process was to approve a social approach.

The Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion remarked that it needed to be discerned if there was a shared ambition and will to move to a social approach. The SEND Partnership Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board would need to approve the social approach and discussions would need to take place sooner rather than later and Westmorland and Furness Council would need to face the fact that it received the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest amount in the country and were running a deficit on the High Needs Block, this equated to £744 per pupil.

**RESOLVED**, that the Health and Wellbeing Board

- (1) noted the progress made in implementing the actions set out in the SEND Partnership Continuous Improvement Plan and the Accelerated Progress Plan required following the SEND Revisit Inspection
- (2) noted the next review of progress in February/March 2024 of the Accelerated Progress Plan actions by the DfE and NHSE as a pan Cumbria partnership.
- (3) noted the arrangements for reviewing and revising the Continuous Improvement Plan following the cessation of the pan Cumbria SEND Partnership arrangements in December 2023.

#### **41. CUMBRIA CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023**

Members received a report from the Director of Public Health which provided a summary of the Cumbria Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Annual Report for 2022/23. It included a summary of key findings from child death data, progress made on last years recommendations (21/22) and recommendations for 22/23. CDOP reported to each statutory partner individually (at appropriate intervals and by exception) and to statutory strategic partnerships including the Cumbria Safeguarding Children Board and Westmorland and Furness and Cumberland Health and Wellbeing Boards.

**RESOLVED**, that the Health and Wellbeing Board

- (1) noted the content of this report.
- (2) noted the recommendations and the role of the Child Death Overview Panel and other relevant partnerships in taking action to respond to the recommendations.

#### **42. VACCINATION UPDATE**

The Director of Public Health gave a verbal update on vaccinations. There had been a resurgence of measles in England especially since October 2023 and the vast majority of cases were unvaccinated people. The isolation period for measles was 21 days and it is a very transmissible disease. The national MMR vaccination rates are at their lowest for 10 years 89.4% 2 year olds were vaccinated and 82.5% 5 year olds vaccinated. The aspiration is for 95% to be vaccinated. Cumbria has a high rate of vaccination with 95.6% 2 year olds vaccinated and 95% 5 year olds vaccinated. The key message was that Cumbria was in a good position.

Mr Tallis reassured the Health & Wellbeing Board that everyone was aware and that GP practices were reaching out to unvaccinated people.

Mr Ranshaw commented that accessibility was an issue and was clinics out of normal working hours considered.

The Director of Public Health noted that access pressure on working families was a concern however we do not seem to be following national trends.

The Chair commented that as uptake was high could those lessons be applied elsewhere.

The Director of Public Health remarked that the uptake was with a stable, ageing demographic in the county.

Mr Tallis noted that the joined up nature as to how organisations and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector worked had contributed to uptake in vaccinations.

#### **43. BETTER CARE FUND 2024 ONWARDS**

The Service Manager – Adult Social Care Transformation and Commissioning presented the report which provided an update on the priorities for the 2024-25 Westmorland and Furness Better Care Fund.

Mr Blacklock commented that it would be helpful for the experiences of those who benefit from the Better Care Fund to be heard in future reports.

The Service Manager – Adult Social Care Transformation and Commissioning noted that it would be helpful in future reports.

**RESOLVED**, that the Health and Wellbeing Board

(1) noted the contents of the report.

#### **44. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next meeting was Monday 22 April 2024 at 10:00am.

The meeting ended at 11.15 am