

HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE

29th July 2021

Present: Councillor Louise Griffiths in the Chair

Councillors Denham (Vice-Chair), Ditta, Mrs L. Hodgson, S. Hodgson, Johnson, Lawrance, Mackay, Norfolk, Riaz and Udall

Officers: Lloyd Griffiths, Corporate Director – Operations, Homes and Communities

8 Appointment of Substitutes

None.

9 Declarations of Interest

None.

10 Public Participation

None.

11 Minutes

As question was raised about the discussion which took place at the last meeting regarding access to sport and physical activity. A request was made for a report on the Council's current role in this respect, and how this Committee might influence what is available. In response, the Corporate Director – Operations, Homes and Communities advised that this area of activity currently falls within the remit of Communities Committee, and the position cannot be changed unless agreed by Council.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

12 Joint Working Opportunities with Worcester City Primary Care Network

The Committee received a report from the Corporate Director – Operations, Homes and Communities on new relationships which are being developed with agencies and organisations around the health & well-being agenda, in particular with the Worcester City Primary Care Network (PCN). The report highlighted opportunities to collaborate on existing and new projects including support for rough sleepers during the COVID-19 pandemic through the 'Everyone In' initiative, participation by the PCN in the Worcester City COVID-19 Incident Management Team meetings and their pivotal role in the delivery of 3 targeted pop-up vaccination centres locally, the PCN's commissioning of Onside to provide Social Prescribers and Lifestyle Advisors to support their patients, and the proposal to recruit an Occupation Therapist role by the PCN.

In the ensuing discussion, the following main points were raised:

- Reference was made to the opportunities for running mobile clinics and a suggestion was raised, could a stroke awareness session be run?
- Several Members spoke on the benefits of social prescribing. The Corporate Director agreed to speak to colleagues from the PCN to discuss what the Council can do to support and assist, for example through establishing walking groups. A request was made for Onside to attend a future meeting to make a presentation on the role of their Lifestyle Advisers.
- Reference was made to Dementia Support Grants and the Corporate Director stated that he would find out if these are still available and inform Committee Members in writing.
- Members asked whether a progress report on the Occupation Therapist role could be scheduled for a future meeting.
- Members noted the report with thanks and commented that it would be beneficial to establish how this Committee can support the PCN. Members asked if Nicole Burger and Claire Gould from the PCN could be invited to attend a future meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Committee note the contents of this report, and in particular the increased level of joint working with Worcester City Primary Care Network.

13 COVID-19 Pop Up Vaccination Sites - Update Report

The Committee received a report from the Corporate Director – Operations, Homes and Communities on the delivery of the nationwide vaccination programme locally, and in particular the provision of three Pop-Up Vaccination Clinics that have been held across the City to date and the key roles this Council had played, working in partnership with colleagues at the Clinical Commissioning Group, Worcester City Primary Care Network and Worcestershire County Council Public Health. The report highlighted a number of key learning points and it was noted that further pop-up clinics are likely to be operated during August and September 2021 in order to provide second vaccinations.

In the ensuing discussion, reference was made to St. John’s Medical Centre as it was understood it had been taken off the list of second vaccination venues. The Corporate Director stated that he would investigate and provide a written response.

Members noted the significant amount of work which had gone into this initiative, including the extraordinary community engagement campaign, and asked for thanks from all Members to be passed onto all those involved in delivering the pop-up sites.

RESOLVED: That the Committee note the contents of the report and in particular the contribution this Council has played in the vaccination roll out programme across Worcester City.

14 Any Other Business

With the consent of the Chair, Councillor Johnson circulated a report on the work of the Corporate Parenting Board for 2020/21, in his capacity as the City Council’s representative. The report identified the number and characteristics of children in care locally, together with an overview of the County as a whole.

He stated that he would welcome the Chairs of the Council's various Committees to consider active measures to help children as they leave care, in particular in employment prospects, apprenticeships and assistance with housing.

Other issues raised by Members in addition to the above were:

- Any specific provision for children age 10 and under;
- Linking with the Council's Employment Strategy;
- Support for kinship carers.

Members thanked Councillor Johnson for his presentation and the Chair asked for a report back at a future meeting.

Duration of the meeting: 7.00p.m. – 8.35p.m.

Chair at the meeting on
15th November 2021