

HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE

21st June 2021

Present: Councillor Louise Griffiths in the Chair

Councillors B. Amos, Bayliss, Denham (Vice-Chairman), Ditta, Johnson, Lamb, Lawrance, Riaz, Roberts and Udall

Officers: Lloyd Griffiths, Corporate Director – Homes and Communities
Nina Warrington, Head of Strategic Housing

1 Appointment of Substitutes

Councillor Bill Amos for Councillor Mackay; Councillor Bayliss for Councillor Stephen Hodgson; Councillor Lamb for Councillor Norfolk; Councillor Roberts for Councillor Mrs Lucy Hodgson.

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillors Denham and Roberts asked for it to be noted in respect of items 4, 5 and 6 that they are members of Worcestershire County Council's Health and Wellbeing Board.

3 Public Participation

None.

4 Worcester City Joint Strategic Needs Update

The Committee received a presentation from Matt Fung, Consultant in Public Health, Worcestershire County Council. His presentation covered a range of issues, including the effect of COVID-19 on population health and provision of healthcare services, including the direct healthcare impact, the emerging impact of 'long COVID', the impact of COVID pressures on the diagnosis and treatment of other conditions, and the ill health that will result from the economic recession brought on by COVID reduction measures.

The presentation also highlighted some positive effects of COVID, the impact of COVID on health inequalities, health and wellbeing Indicators including the impact on economy and employment, pay and benefits, and Worcester City Health and wellbeing indicators and how they compare with the average for England, and key public health indicators.

Matt Fung answered questions from Committee Members on a wide range of issues. Committee Members commented on health and wellbeing issues which had come to their attention through the current pandemic.

Arising from the discussion, the Committee discussed what its role should be over and above scrutiny of the health and wellbeing agenda. Access to sport and physical activity was raised as one example of an area where the Council can widen its offer to help to address health inequalities.

The dividing line between the remit of this Committee and other committees was raised. The conclusion was that there should be a discussion between the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the respective committees (in this case Communities Committee) to establish a way forward.

5 Update on the Integrated Care Strategy

The Committee received a presentation from Sue Harris, Director of Strategy & Business Development, Worcestershire Health & Care Trust.

The presentation summarised the main aspects of the White Paper on ICS Development, including the duty to collaborate across health and local government and the opportunities for joint committees and joined up governance. The ICS Operating Model locally was explained including the role that district councils can play. Mental Health services post-COVID and access to early support was highlighted as a key aspect of the new long-term plan for the ICS Health and Care Partnership.

Reference was made to the relationship with district councils. Sue Harris emphasised the role of the district in terms of establishing a joined-up approach, learning about localised issues to maximise the benefits of early intervention and fostering relationships to help local decision makers to promote wellbeing initiatives. She would welcome feedback during shaping process and would welcome to opportunity to present updates at future meetings.

6 Healthy Worcester Plan 2019 - 2021 Update Report

The Committee received a presentation from Nina Warrington on the role of district councils in relation to public health and the formal duty to co-operate. The presentation made reference to the Worcestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which will be renewed in 2021, the Healthy Worcester Group, progress in implementing the current Healthy Worcester Plan and the intention consider a new action plan for the city based on new priority themes.

It was explained that a further report will be provided to this Committee during 2022 proposing a new Healthy Worcester Plan, to be based around the priorities identified within the revised Worcestershire Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

Arising from the discussion, a question was raised about Dementia Meeting Centres and the affordability of the £25 per day charge. It was acknowledged that a charge has to be made to make the financial model viable. The Corporate Director acknowledged the discussion and agreed to discuss it with Age UK and Worcester Community Trust.

RESOLVED: That the Committee agree to:

- 1. note the contents of this report and in particular the progress made against the current Healthy Worcester Plan 2019 – 2021; and**
- 2. note that a further report will be provided to this Committee during 2022 proposing a new Healthy Worcester Plan, that will be based around the priorities identified within the revised Worcestershire Health & Wellbeing Strategy.**

7 Any Other Business

None.

Duration of the meeting: 7.00p.m. – 8.54p.m.

Chairman at the meeting on
29th July 2021

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