



REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

CHAIR'S REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. An update by Councillor Tony Harper on local and national issues for consideration by Health & Wellbeing Board members to determine implications for Board matters.

Information

[Flu vaccination campaign 2020](#)

2. The 2020 NHS flu vaccination campaign is now underway. According to Professor Chris Whitty, the chief medical adviser *"This winter more than ever, with COVID-19 still circulating, we need to help reduce all avoidable risks. Vaccinating more people will help reduce flu transmission and stop people becoming ill."*
3. It will also help to protect the NHS and care services while the country may be vulnerable to a second wave of COVID-19. More information about the NHS flu programme, including the extended eligibility groups for 2020-21, is available [online](#).

[New package to support and enforce self-isolation](#)

4. On 20 September, the Government announced a package to support and enforce self-isolation. From 28 September, people will be required by law to self-isolate when instructed by NHS Test & Trace. Those on lower incomes who cannot work from home and have lost income as a result will be supported by a payment of £500.
5. New fines for breaching self-isolation rules will start at £1,000 (in line with the penalty for breaking quarantine after international travel) but could increase to up to £10,000 for repeat offences and the most egregious breaches.

[Adult Social Care: Coronavirus Winter Plan 2020-21](#)

6. On 18 September, the Government published the Adult Social Care Coronavirus Winter Plan. This outlines the Government's ambitions for the sector and the challenges facing adult social care this winter. The plan includes key actions for national bodies (e.g. the Department of

Health & Social Care), local systems (e.g. local authorities, NHS England) and adult social care providers.

7. The plan covers four themes, including preventing and controlling the spread of infection in care settings; collaboration across health and care services; supporting people who receive social care, the workforce, and carers; and supporting the system.
8. To outline the expectations of local authorities in relation to the plan, the Minister for Care wrote to local authorities on 18 September. Key announcements within this [letter](#) include:
 - A £546m Infection Control Fund, to help with the extra costs of infection prevention and control measures, including the payment of care workers who are self-isolating in line with government guidelines.
 - Free Personal Protective Equipment for all adult social care providers and care workers until March 2021.
 - Care providers must stop all but essential movement of staff between care homes.
 - Further steps to reduce the risks of visiting in care homes (although visits are important for wellbeing, extra precautions will be needed including supervision of visitors to ensure social distancing and infection prevention and control measures are adhered to).
 - Designated 'areas of intervention' must not allow visiting except in exceptional circumstances such as end-of-life care.
 - Appointment of a Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care to provide leadership to the social care nursing workforce.
 - A new dashboard to monitor care home infections.

[Social Care Sector COVID-19 Support Taskforce report](#)

9. In response to COVID-19, a taskforce for the social care sector was commissioned, beginning its work on 15 June and completing its work at the end of August.
10. On 18 September, the Government published the final report of the taskforce. The report summarises the progress and learning from the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. It also includes recommendations to Government and the social care sector on the following themes:
 - Personal Protective Equipment
 - Testing
 - Flu vaccination
 - Workforce and family carers
 - Funding
 - Evidence and guidance
 - Communications
 - Clinical support
 - Movement of people between care and health settings
 - Inspection and regulation
 - Capacity, expertise and information
 - Use of data and digital
 - National, regional and local structures
 - Care home support plan
 - Adult social care action plan
 - Managing community outbreaks and the response of social care
 - Key themes emerging from the Taskforce advisory groups
 - Planning for the next phase of the pandemic.
11. A number of recommendations from specific advisory groups have also been considered. These include Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities; carers; guidance, good

practice and innovation; mental health & wellbeing; old people and people affected by dementia; people with learning disabilities and autistic people; self-directed support; and the social care workforce.

First contact practitioners: physiotherapists supporting patients in primary care

12. A team of physiotherapists have been employed to work in Primary Care Networks. With one in four GP appointments used for issues relating to musculo-skeletal problems such as back pain, GP reception staff will now be able to direct patients to a physiotherapist with additional training to assess common presentations in the same way a GP might.
13. The introduction of new roles to support general practice in managing demands on workload and tackling the rising complexity and diversity of issues is part of a national drive. Other roles already in place include clinical pharmacists and social prescribing link workers.

Acute home visiting service wins national award

14. The acute home visiting service in Mid Nottinghamshire has won a Health Service Journal Award for its excellent service. The service provides early home visits to people who are housebound or too sick to travel to an appointment. Getting to patients earlier in the day means diagnosis and treatment can be started earlier, reducing the risk of deterioration. It also allows system partners to respond to requests such as equipment or home monitoring, which contributes to reduced hospital admissions. The service won the award as it showed benefits to patients, reduced pressure on GP practices for early home visits and hospital avoidance savings.

[Get Active Bassetlaw](#)

15. The Get Active Bassetlaw webpage includes a wallchart of activities for people with disabilities and long-term conditions, case studies from local people about how their physical and mental health has improved, and a range of sources to support.

Improving the early years food environment as part of the childhood obesity trailblazer programme

16. In 2019, Public Health England, the Local Government Association, and the Department of Health & Social Care invited local authorities in England to apply to become 'trailblazers', to lead innovative local actions and test existing powers to improve one or more risk factors for childhood obesity. The programme aims to share learning and best practice through a national network.
17. Nottinghamshire County Council are one of the five local authorities nationally to be selected as part of the programme. The approach in Nottinghamshire focuses on the food environment in the early years sector for children under the age of five, with an emphasis on areas with higher levels of obesity (this will initially include parts of Bassetlaw and Mansfield, but subsequently Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood).
18. The focus of the work is on making access to affordable healthy food easier, improving the quality of food provision through early years settings, and enabling parent / carers to develop good eating habits with their children.

19. As a consequence of COVID-19, the national programme and local project were paused for three months. Various workstreams have been affected, meaning the project is effectively six to eight months behind its planned progress.
20. The project has adapted to the pandemic in terms of its operational approach and in ensuring that the objectives support what communities require. Work is taking place with the Local Government Association to ensure these changes are fed into the national programme.
21. Progress has been made in a number of areas, including:
- Nutritional guidance for early years settings has been incorporated into menus and recipes from Nottinghamshire County Council's school meals service and development of a recipe bag concept is underway. The school meals supply chain will be utilised so that families can enjoy school meals at home using the same ingredients and recipes that are simple to follow.
 - 262 Early Years providers (e.g. nurseries & pre-schools) have been engaged in assessing what support they would like to improve their food offer for children. This engagement with the sector will continue through the development of a Community of Practice to help work across settings with a focus on healthy eating and food provision.
 - Two working groups have been established in the Children's Centres where initial work is focussed (i.e. Ravensdale in Mansfield, and Harworth in Bassetlaw). Engagement is taking place with local stakeholders and the community to refine and prototype food-based interventions in a co-productive way.
 - Work is underway to raise awareness of the national Healthy Start scheme which enables pregnant women and families on certain benefits to obtain vouchers for healthy foods and vitamins. A baseline for Healthy Start has been established in each district. Awareness raising of the scheme has taken place across all district / borough councils, primarily through establishing links with district / borough council health & wellbeing officers / partnerships.
22. Increased partnership working is taking place across a range of departments within Nottinghamshire County Council who form part of the project team. Next steps include:
- Further development of a 'FOOD Club' model with Family Action. The clubs utilise FareShare to redistribute excess food from wholesalers which would otherwise go to landfill. This enables families to access healthier food through existing community assets (e.g. Children's Centres in Mansfield and Harworth).
 - Working with the Soil Association to offer a Food for Life award with six early years providers so that settings have access to specialist nutritional support to raise standards of food provision and practitioner knowledge.
 - Implementing a Healthy Start promotional campaign, reflecting changes to the scheme at a national level. This will continue to increase awareness of Healthy Start and embed it within key services (e.g. maternity services, healthy family teams, children's centre services, early years settings such as nurseries and childminders).
 - Testing the school meals supply chain with three different early years settings and the recipe bag concept.
 - Deploying specialist early years nutrition e-learning to frontline practitioners across the early years sector to provide families with consistent healthy eating messages.

[World Alzheimer's Day \(21 September 2020\)](#)

23. World Alzheimer's Day is an international campaign to raise awareness and highlight issues faced by people affected by dementia. It provides an opportunity for people and organisations to demonstrate measures to help people live well with dementia. This year, the focus is on talking about dementia and encouraging people to become Dementia Friends.

[Coronavirus and renting: guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities](#)

24. On 21 September, the Government updated the non-statutory guidance for landlords, tenants and councils in the private and social rented sectors in the context of COVID-19. The guidance for landlords and tenants, and technical guidance on eviction notices, have been updated to reflect new regulations for the possession action process.

[Local action on health inequalities: evidence reviews and briefing papers](#)

25. Public Health England have published papers to show evidence for interventions on social issues that lead to poor health, including ways to deal with health inequalities. They include examples from local areas showing interventions that have been used to improve health and wellbeing. The series includes eight evidence reviews and 14 briefing papers:

- Good quality parenting programmes and the home to school transition
- Building children and young people's resilience in schools
- Reducing the number of young people not in employment, education or training
- Adult learning services
- Increasing employment opportunities and improving workplace health
- Health inequalities and the living wage
- Fuel poverty and cold home-related health problems
- Improving access to green spaces
- Understanding the economics of investments in the social determinants of health
- Lessons from experience.

26. The National Conversation on Health Inequalities explains how local authorities can raise awareness about the need for health equity within their communities. Further information is available [online](#).

[Social care and obesity \(Local Government Association\)](#)

27. An area that places high demands on social care and exerts significant pressures on costs and resources is obesity, yet it can be overlooked. Focus to date has centred on obesity-related costs and pressures on the NHS, rather than on social care. This report is a follow up to 'Social care and obesity: a discussion paper' produced by the Local Government Association in 2013.

28. The report captures discussions held with social care and health professionals from various local authorities. It argues that by supporting healthy weight management through prevention, early intervention, and provision of appropriate social care, it is possible to improve people's health and wellbeing, pre-empt future health and social care issues, promote independence, and reduce the pressures on social care and the NHS.

[The whole society approach: making a giant leap on childhood health \(Institute for Public Policy Research\)](#)

29. This report considers the Government's obesity strategy announcement in July 2020 and how it could be used to address growing levels of health risk faced by children. The report outlines a 'whole society' approach to expand ambition from obesity to all health issues; tackle the link between childhood health and issues such as marginalisation, poverty and deprivation.

[Our place: Local authorities and the public's mental health \(Centre for Mental Health\)](#)

30. This report argues that people's mental wellbeing will play a crucial role in every aspect of recovery (including schools reopening, workers returning from furlough, and people who have been shielding) and planning for possible further spikes in infections.

[A research paper: Suicide prevention in Gypsy and Traveller communities in England \(Friends Families and Travellers\)](#)

31. This report outlines the findings of research on suicide inequalities within Gypsy and Traveller communities. The paper finds that only 5 out of 79 local suicide prevention plans in England mention Gypsy & Traveller communities, despite the fact that members of Gypsy and Traveller communities are six to seven times more likely than the general population to die by suicide.

[Hear us: the experiences of refugee and asylum-seeking women during the pandemic \(Sisters not Strangers\)](#)

32. A coalition of eight organisations surveyed more than 100 asylum-seeking women from England and Wales to hear their reflections of the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey was completed by women seeking and refused asylum, and those with leave to remain. These responses were supplemented by a survey of staff and volunteers who have been supporting asylum-seeking women since the pandemic.

Papers to other local committees

33. [Nottinghamshire Special Education Needs and Disabilities Policy](#)
Policy Committee
30 September 2020

34. [COVID-19 Situational Update](#)
COVID 19 Resilience, Recovery & Renewal Committee
15 September 2020

35. [Update report on Nottinghamshire County Council's Response to COVID-19](#)
COVID 19 Resilience, Recovery & Renewal Committee
15 September 2020

36. [Update on COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience](#)
COVID 19 Resilience, Recovery & Renewal Committee
15 September 2020

37. [COVID-19 Crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan: 2020-22](#)
COVID 19 Resilience, Recovery & Renewal Committee

15 September 2020

38. [Implementation of the Health Protection \(Coronavirus Restrictions \(England\) \(No 3\) Regulations 2020](#)
Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee
14 September 2020
39. [Local Authority Test & Trace Grant Resource Plan](#)
Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee
14 September 2020
40. [Public Health - Children's Integrated Commissioning Hub Staffing](#)
Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee
14 September 2020
41. [Adult Social Care & Public Health Recovery Plan in Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic](#)
Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee
14 September 2020
42. [COVID-19 Response Briefing](#)
Health Scrutiny Committee
7 July 2020

Integrated Care Systems / Integrated Care Partnerships

43. [Board papers](#)
Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System
17 September 2020

Other Options Considered

44. None

Reasons for Recommendation

45. To identify potential opportunities to improve health and wellbeing in Nottinghamshire.

Statutory and Policy Implications

46. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public-sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

47. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) To consider whether there are any actions required by the Health & Wellbeing Board in relation to the issues raised.

Councillor Tony Harper
Chairman of the Health & Wellbeing Board
Nottinghamshire County Council

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Constitutional Comments (SS 28/09/20)

48. The Health & Wellbeing Board is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolve that actions are required it should ensure that such actions are within its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (DG 28/09/20)

49. There are no direct financial implications within this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All