

# HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE Tuesday 20 April 2021 at 10.30am

## **COUNCILLORS**

Keith Girling (Chairman)
Martin Wright (Vice-Chairman)

Richard Butler
John Doddy
Stuart Wallace

Kevin Greaves
Muriel Weisz

A David Martin
Liz Plant

Kevin Rostance

Muriel Weisz

Yvonne Woodhead

### SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillor Kate Foale substituted for Councillor Kevin Greaves.

#### **Officers**

Martin Gately Nottinghamshire County Council Noel McMenamin Nottinghamshire County Council

### Also in attendance

Kerrie Adams - Nottinghamshire County Council
 Ajanta Biswas - Healthwatch Nottingham and Nottinghamshire
 Vanessa Briscoe ) Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation
 Sherrel Dudley ) Trust

# 1. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 09 MARCH 2021

The minutes of the meetings held on 09 March 2021, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were signed by the Chair.

# 2. APOLOGIES

Councillor Kevin Greaves – personal reasons.

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

## 4. SCHOOL NURSES AND FAMILIES TEAMS

Kerrie Adams, Senior Public Health and Commissioning Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council, Sherrel Dudley, General Manager, Healthy Families Programme at Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NHFT) and Vanessa Briscoe, Head of Service for the Programme at NHFT introduced the report and briefing note.

The briefing, published with the agenda, covered statutory responsibilities and commissioning arrangements, the role of the Healthy Families Programme, tiers of provision provided, arrangements for provision during the pandemic, contract management arrangements, and performance, both in respect of development reviews for children in their first 2 years, and wider interventions for children and young people.

The Committee was advised that overall performance of the Programme was very strong, and that the service had been recommissioned until 2024.

During discussion, a number of issues were raised and points made:

- It was explained that there were 20 local Healthy Families Teams in place, providing a schedule of support. There were 5 mandatory interventions in a baby's first 2 to 2.5 years, where physical, social and emotional development was assessed and reviewed. Initial assessments were carried out by health practitioners in a face-to-face setting, and targeted intervention was also sanctioned by health professionals;
- Outcomes were recorded on individuals' health records and on the System One platform, which was accessible by wider safeguarding agencies;
- Assessments normally took place in a home/family setting, which provided the opportunity to meet both parents and gain additional understanding of the family circumstances;
- The Committee welcomed the retention of the Family Nurse Partnership which, it was explained, had been decommissioned in most local authority areas. The Partnership was skilled and experienced in early intervention and, while expensive to maintain, provided invaluable targeted support for children and young people;
- It was explained that the named health practitioner for each school was a
  qualified nurse. It was acknowledged that the service had experienced logistical
  difficulties in delivering sessions at certain schools, with issues around
  dedicated room space on occasions. NCC and NHFT colleagues undertook to
  address a Committee member's concerns about provision at 2 particular
  schools outside the meeting;
- It was confirmed that digital outreach initiatives were being explored, including an emotional health and wellbeing questionnaire for Year 9 pupils which was currently been piloted;

• It was explained that it was not feasible to carry out testing for diabetes under the National Childhood Measurement Programme as there was no resource available under the Programme to conduct urine tests in a clinical environment.

The Chair thanked NCC and NHFT representatives for their attendance during consideration of this item and requested a further update in March 2022.

It was specifically requested that the update included a review of the Programme's offer in schools, covering logistics issues and consistency of presence in schools.

# 5. WORK PROGRAMME

Subject to capturing the update at minute 4 above, the work programme was approved without substantive discussion.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank Committee members Councillors Plant and Weisz, who were not seeking re-election in May 2021, for their engagement with and contributions to the work of the Committee over the course of the administration, and wished them both well for the future.

The meeting closed at 12:25pm.

### **CHAIRMAN**