

# Ashford Health and Wellbeing Board

Minutes of a Meeting of the Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board held on the **18<sup>th</sup> January 2017.**

## Present:

Dr Navin Kumta – (Chairman);

Councillor Brad Bradford, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Wellbeing and Safety, ABC (Vice Chairman);

Sheila Davison – Head of Health, Parking and Community Safety, ABC;

Neil Fisher – Head of Strategy and Planning, CCG;

Jo Pannell – Healthwatch Representative;

Chris Morley – Patient and Public Engagement (PPE) – Ashford Clinical Commissioning Group;

Deborah Smith – KCC Public Health;

Mark Lemon – Policy and Strategic Partnerships, KCC;

Carolyn McKenzie – Head of Sustainable Business and Community – KCC;

Trevor Ford – Environment, Protection and Licensing Team Leader – ABC;

Belinda King- Management Assistant, ABC;

Keith Fearon – Member Services Manager, ABC.

## Apologies:

Tracey Kerly – Chief Executive, ABC, Peter Oakford – Cabinet Member, KCC, Philip Segurola, KCC Social Services, Faiza Khan – Public Health, KCC, Simon Perks – Accountable Officer, CCG, John Bridle – Healthwatch Representative, Charlie Fox – Voluntary Sector Representative, Helen Anderson, Chair – Local Children's Partnership Group, Christina Fuller – Head of Culture, ABC,

## 1 Declarations of Interest

- 1.1 Dr Navin Kumta made a "Voluntary Announcement" as a local GP and Chairman of the CCG.

## 2 Notes of the Meeting of the Board held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016

The Board agreed that the notes were a correct record.

## 3 Live Well Update

- 3.1 This item was deferred to the next meeting in April.

## **4 Updates on Ashford Health and Wellbeing Board Priorities**

### **(a) Reduced Smoking Prevalence Update Report**

The report provided an update on work and progress to date in terms of the Ashford Smoking Task and Finish Group in its aims to reduce smoking prevalence in Ashford. Deborah Smith advised that there had been progress on a number of initiatives and drew particular attention to the organisation of an illicit tobacco roadshow which had been organised in the town centre for five days from the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2017. The aim of the roadshow was to raise awareness of the negative impact illicit tobacco had on the local community, undermining efforts of smoking cessation and the links associated with illicit tobacco and organised crime. Sniffer dogs would also be present at the Roadshow which normally generated a great deal of interest from the general public and would help raise awareness of the initiative.

Deborah Smith also explained that resource packs were being distributed to local organisations and to the private sector to help those who wished to cease smoking. In terms of the “Vape” event held in November 2016 Deborah Smith said this had been very successful and since then the Stop Smoking Services team had trained Vape retailers and youth workers were being trained as quit coaches. In partnership with other organisations a One You health shop was to be established in the town centre which would be used to provide information on stopping smoking and healthy weight and other initiatives.

#### **The Board agreed:**

- (i) the progress and outcomes of the activities to date be acknowledged.**
- (ii) support be given to the One You shop for Ashford.**
- (iii) any relevant further support to increase the impact on a reduction in smoking prevalence be agreed.**

### **(b) Healthy Weight Update Report**

The report provided an update on work and progress to date. Deborah Smith drew particular attention to the proposed establishment of a One You shop in the town centre which would promote the healthy lifestyle brand of One You and would also offer advice as a drop in facility. Work was also under way to audit and map areas of Ashford with particular hotspots. The main focus would be to encourage exercise and give motivation for persons to lose weight.

#### **The Board agreed:**

- (i) the approach proposed by the Task and Finish Group.**
- (ii) the six work streams which would form the basis of the work.**

- (iii) further progress update reports be submitted to future meetings.

## 5 Kent Health and Wellbeing Board Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016

- 5.1 The agenda contained links to the full agenda papers for the above meeting. The Chairman gave a brief summary of the issues discussed at the meeting but drew particular attention to the discussion on the Sustainability Transformation Plan and also work on dementia and looking at producing an action plan in conjunction with nursing homes to ensure that those residents with dementia had that information recorded with their relevant General Practitioner.

## 6 Sustainability and Transformation Plan

- 6.1 Included within the agenda papers was a report which gave an update on the current status of the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) and the CCG Operational Plan for 2017-2019.
- 6.2 Neil Fisher explained the CCG's current position with regard to the STP and Operational Plan for 2017-19 both of which set out the intentions for the coming year and general strategic direction. The principal aim was to move care closer to where patients lived and away from acute care delivery, which in Ashford's case was provided by the William Harvey Hospital. This was based on the establishment of community networks. He said that there was a need to review how the networks operated and that he had met with the Chairs of the various networks recently to discuss this matter. He drew attention to a listening event to be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 1.00 pm at the Julie Rose Stadium where residents could attend and ask questions and following on from this in June it was anticipated that there would be a period of wider public consultation. The proposals would then be submitted to the CCG governing bodies by December 2017.
- 6.3 Chris Morley said that the event on the 17<sup>th</sup> February was an opportunity for a focussed discussion and for residents to be made aware of what the plan was hoping to achieve. He further explained that Ashford had three community networks and he hoped to encourage the voluntary sector to become involved with their work and he was also particularly keen to encourage elected members to join the communities and be able to represent their residents' views. Neil Fisher explained that the three networks for Ashford were based on the demography of the population and were comprised of Ashford Rural, Ashford South and Ashford North. In terms of the role of elected members, Sheila Davison advised that she was to submit a report to the 9<sup>th</sup> February Cabinet meeting on the STP and indicated that she could certainly add a comment and recommendation about encouraging members to become involved in the community networks.

- 6.4 Mark Lemon asked whether there was confidence that the STP would deliver the changes required to sustain the health service especially during the current periods of maximum service demand. Neil Fisher said that to date none of the East Kent hospitals had declared major incidents this winter which was good news but he considered that this was part of the reason why services needed to transform and why it was necessary to examine the way in which services were delivered out of working hours in order to help reduce flows at A&E and how the service could be reconfigured to encourage self-care. He referred to the two new apps which were available, "WaitLess" and "Healthy Now", the latter of which would give guidance on self-help and allow residents to make informed decisions about managing their own care. The "WaitLess" app provided real time information of actual waiting times at A&E and minor injury units and took into account travelling time. This app could be helpful if one site was particularly busy but by using the app it was possible to identify another site which might have a reduced waiting time.
- 6.5 In terms of the two apps mentioned by Neil Fisher, Deborah Smith advised that they could be promoted in the One You shop referred to earlier at the meeting. Neil Fisher considered that the One You shop could be very helpful in explaining that residents' perceptions about health provision were often not accurate and were based for the most part on reporting of the national picture which was often not evident in the local area.
- 6.6 In response to a question, Neil Fisher accepted that social care was a very important issue and he explained that one aspect of the STP was to encourage all partners to work better together. Arising from this he considered that more effective solutions would flow.
- 6.7 Chris Morley said that he believed that the Board had a role in publicising which initiatives were working well. The Chairman said that all initiatives including self-help and partners working better together would all help towards the aim of engaging people and helping them become healthier.

**The Board agreed that the report be received and noted.**

## **7 Environmental Protection**

- 7.1 A report "Kent Environment Strategy and Ashford's Air Quality" was included within agenda papers for the meeting. The report aimed to highlight the links between the Kent Environment Strategy, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the work of the Clinical Commissioning Groups, particularly associated with risks and opportunities.

### **(a) Kent Environment Strategy**

Carolyn McKenzie gave a presentation on the Kent Environment Strategy. The presentation had been published on the Council's website under <https://secure.ashford.gov.uk/committeesystem/ViewAgenda.aspx?MeetingId=3083>

Carolyn McKenzie explained that she was the Head of Sustainable Business and Community for Kent County Council and said that following a presentation to the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board she had been asked to attend local Health Boards in Kent.

In response to a question following the presentation, Carolyn McKenzie said that there was a need to drill down through the information presented within the report to assess how the information applied to Kent. This work would be done in conjunction with Public Health.

**(b) Air Quality**

Trevor Ford, the Environment, Protection and Licensing Team Leader, ABC gave a presentation on Ashford Air Quality. The presentation had been published on the Council's website under <https://secure.ashford.gov.uk/committeesystem/ViewAgenda.aspx?MeetingId=3083>

In response to a question, Carolyn McKenzie drew attention to the recommendations set out within the report and said that the key next step was to agree priorities to take forward.

In terms of air quality, Councillor Bradford explained that he was aware that Stagecoach were rolling out a new fleet of minibuses based on a greater frequency of service which would help reduce the level of pollution in the environment. Furthermore he said that one of the aims of the Local Plan was to encourage more cycling throughout the Borough.

With reference to access to green spaces, Carolyn McKenzie said that there was evidence of a perception of fear for some residents in terms of accessing green spaces. Chris Morley also said that it was important to prevent the loss of sites of informal green space, which were currently available in the urban area, from development.

With reference to the Local Plan, Councillor Bradford explained that the issue of public realm was very important to the Borough Council and he drew particular attention to the new developments planned for Victoria Way and the project plan for the revamp of Victoria Park. Both of these schemes had a significant emphasis on the provision of public realm. He also referred to the work of Aspire who were helping to make the town's green spaces look better.

In response to a question as to whether there were specific locations in Ashford where air pollution was more significant, Trevor Ford advised that this would probably be next to the major arterial routes. Air quality was, however, only a contributory factor with ill health and this was often linked with other underlying health problems. Trevor Ford also said that it should be possible to map the highly specific areas but suggested that there could be initiatives such as looking at traffic light sequencing which would help improve the air quality in those areas.

**The Board agreed that:**

- (i) a report on the possible next steps be produced and considered at a further Lead Officers' Group meeting with a view to an update being presented to the Board in April.
- (ii) the development of an Ashford Air Quality Strategy be supported
- (iii) training of staff relevant to the field of air quality be facilitated so that they were aware of how their work could contribute towards improving air quality and reducing exposure.
- (iv) (a) Key personnel be identified to work with the KES team to take these initiatives forward.  
  
(b) Areas where more support is needed by health partners from the KES team be identified.

## 8 Partner Updates

8.1 Included with the agenda were A4 templates submitted by all Partners except Kent County Council (Social Services) and the Voluntary Sector.

**(a) Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)**

Update noted.

**(b) Kent County Council (Adult Social Services)**

Not provided.

**(c) Kent County Council (Public Health)**

Update noted.

**(d) Ashford Borough Council**

Sheila Davison confirmed that the Section 106 Agreement for Chilmington Green had been signed and also said that the Ashford Voice could be used to publicise the work of community networks.

In response to a question regarding whether there had been any concerns regarding rough sleepers over the winter period in Ashford, Sheila Davison said that no particular incidents had been brought to her attention but she was aware that Ashford Churches Together was providing a winter night shelter and that this would be available for a longer period compared to last year and therefore it was hoped that this would prevent some of the problems faced previously.

**(e) Voluntary Sector**

Not provided.

**(f) Healthwatch**

Update noted.

**(g) Ashford Local Children's Partnership Group**

In accordance with Procedure Rule 9, Helen Brown, Group Worker from Home-Start Ashford and District said she wished to ask the Board how it was engaging with families. She said that many families Home-Start worked with had anxiety issues and found it hard to attend such places as Children Centres.

Deborah Smith said Public Health had strong links with the schools and she referred to initiatives such as the Smoke Free School Gates and Healthy Weight schemes which families were able to benefit from. Furthermore she said that the One You shop would also allow advice to be given to parents when they were visiting the town.

Sheila Davison explained that Helen Anderson had originally been intending to provide a full response to the question, however, she said that this would now be provided outside of the meeting.

Helen Brown gave a brief overview of the work of Home-Start and said that principally they trained volunteers who would then work with families who wished to be helped. They also ran a group for fathers with children under 8 years of age and offered health checks and organised social events.

The Chairman asked that a copy of the response provided by Helen Anderson be circulated to Board members and he also advised that it was proposed that the focus of the July Board meeting would be the local Children's Partnership Group yearly update.

## **9 Forward Plan**

- 9.1 It was noted that the Live Well item would now be included on the Forward Plan for April, together with an update on air quality. Sheila Davison explained that the Falls Strategy was currently shown on the agenda for the April meeting.

## **10 Dates of Future Meetings**

- 10.1 The next meeting would be held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017.
- 10.2 The following dates were also agreed for subsequent meetings:-

19<sup>th</sup> July 2017  
18<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2018

AHWB  
180117

(KRF/AEH)  
MINS: Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board - 18.01.17.docx

---

Queries concerning these minutes? Please contact Keith Fearon:  
Telephone: 01233 330564 Email: [keith.fearon@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:keith.fearon@ashford.gov.uk)  
Agendas, Reports and Minutes are available on: [www.ashford.gov.uk/committee](http://www.ashford.gov.uk/committee)