

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2020

Present:

Councillor Farrell – in the Chair
Councillors Clay, Holt, Newman, O’Neil, Riasat and Wills

Apologies: Councillor N. Ali and Mary Monaghan

Also present:

Councillor Craig, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Katy Calvin-Thomas, Deputy Chief Executive, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Laura Foster, Director of Finance, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Claire Yarwood, Chief Finance Officer, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Laurence Webb, Assistant Director, Inclusion, LGBT Foundation

HSC/20/01 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2019 as a correct record.

HSC/20/02 Updated Financial Strategy and Budget Reports 2020/21

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which provided an update on the Council’s overall financial position and set out the next steps in the budget process. In doing so, the report outlined Officer proposals for how the Council could deliver a balanced budget for 2020/21.

In conjunction to the above, the Committee also received and considered the draft Council Business Plan for 2020/21 and the Adult Social Care and Population Health Budget 2020/21.

Officers highlighted that the 2020/21 budget would be a one year roll over budget. It would reflect the fact the Council had declared a climate emergency and would also continue to reflect the priorities identified in the previous three-year budget strategy.

Taken together, the reports illustrated how the directorate would work to deliver the Our Corporate Plan and progress towards the vision set out in the Our Manchester Strategy.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee’s discussions were: -

- A fair financial settlement for Manchester and a commitment for appropriate future levels of funding to deliver social care was required from central government;
- Future reports should include how success was measured to demonstrate how pooled budget arrangements and the integration of health and social care was improving the health outcomes for residents;
- Clarification was sought on how the Transformation Fund awarded to Greater Manchester had been allocated across the authorities;
- Had Learning Disabled citizens, their families and carers been consulted with and involved in the development of the reported Learning Disability Services;
- Further information was sought on the approach to the care market and the reported potential need for capital investment to allow market intervention; and
- Concern was expressed regarding the move towards technology enabled care, commenting that this should never replace human interactions and emphasised the importance of ensuring that people's data was protected.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing commented that despite the failure by central government to adequately fund social care and the pressures experienced in this area as a result of increased demand, Manchester had responded by pioneering the integration of health and social care to protect the most vulnerable people in the city. She stated that the reliance on increased Council Tax to support social care was a political decision imposed by central government and was not fair or sustainable in the long term and she called upon the government to provide a fair, long term financial settlement to deliver social care.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing responded to the comments regarding technology enabled care by stating that this would be used where appropriate and never be used to replace human interaction. She commented that in an age where technology and apps were more accessible and widely used, citing for example the prevalence of smart watches that already monitored a variety of activities, future generations would be increasingly familiar with this technology and it could be used to monitor people's health where appropriate. She stated that reports on this approach could be provided to the Committee.

In response to the question regarding the capital investment into the care market, the Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing stated that the care market was a vital component of the Adult Social Care system supporting Manchester to meet statutory responsibilities and supporting Mancunians to live as independently as possible. She informed the Committee that the options for capital investment were currently in the early stages of development and the Health Scrutiny Committee would be informed of this and views sought as this work progressed.

In response to the Members question, the Executive Director of Adult Social Care confirmed that Learning Disabled citizens, their families and carers would be fully involved with and central to the co-design of the Learning Disability Plan.

The Chief Finance Officer, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning informed the Committee that the £450m Transformation Fund, allocated to Greater Manchester over a five-year period from 2016 to 2021 had been allocated to each authority based on their local population size. She stated that an evaluation of this scheme would be undertaken and this would inform lobbying for future funding. In response to a

question regarding Mental Health Services, Members were advised that this activity was provided by specific NHS funding and therefore did not form part of these budget reports.

The Director of Policy, Performance and Reform commented that measures of success would be provided in the budget reports submitted to the February 2020 meeting.

In response to a question raised by a Member in relation to dialysis services in South Manchester, the Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning stated that he would follow this up following the meeting.

Decisions

The Committee recommend that their comments be submitted for consideration by the Executive at their meeting of 15 January 2020.

HSC/20/03 Discussion item: Health improvement interventions for LGBT communities in Manchester

The Committee welcomed Laurence Webb, Assistant Director, Inclusion, LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans) Foundation who had been invited to discuss with Members specific health improvement interventions for LGBT communities in Manchester.

Mr Webb delivered a presentation to the Committee that provided an overview of the range of initiatives and projects designed to ensure the needs and experiences of the diverse LGBT community were included within the development of wide ranging services in public health and wider society. This included;

- Provided an overview and brief history of the LGBT Foundation;
- Bring Dementia Out, focusing on the needs of LGBT people affected by dementia;
- Macmillan LGBT Cancer Programme, noting that LGBT people had higher risk factors for cancer, were more likely to receive late diagnoses, and were less likely to engage with screening programmes;
- Making Smoking History LGBT Programme, noting that LGBT people were significantly more likely to smoke than the general population. Prides and LGBT spaces and events had been targeted by the tobacco industry, and smoking cessation services were underutilised by LGBT people;
- Pride in Practice, a quality assurance and social prescribing service that strengthened and developed primary care services relationships with their LGBT patients within the local community;
- Trans Programme, noting that Our Trans Programme was the first in the UK and supports upwards of 1,500 trans and non-binary people every year; and
- Demographic and equalities monitoring to be achieved by working with local organisations to ensure their data collection aligned with best practice within LGBT communities.

A Member commented that he welcomed the 'Bring Dementia Out' initiative, noting that whilst an individual's experience of dementia was different, and could affect different age groups it was important to recognise and respond to the needs of older LGBT people. Mr Webb acknowledged this comment and stated that often the perception of the LGBT community was that of young people, however it was important to recognise the needs and offer appropriate support to older people.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the current challenges to the LGBT Foundation, Mr Webb stated that they were increasingly experiencing people approaching them for assistance and advice who had complex needs, including issues around homelessness; substance misuse; domestic violence and mental health. He said that the LGBT Foundation were responding to this by working with a range of partners, including the local Mental Health Trust to provide Improving Access to Psychological Therapies.

Mr Webb further commented that it was important to recognise that despite an increased awareness of, and increased visibility of the LGBT community, it was important to acknowledge that homophobia and transphobia still existed in society and this needed to be challenged. He further commented that the trans and non-binary community experienced difficulties in accessing advice, support and health services. He advised that work was currently ongoing to address this, however due to the current commissioning process he was limited to as to the information he could currently share with the Members.

Mr Webb replied to a question from a Member regarding support for BAME, disabled and learning disabled LGBT people by commenting that it was recognised that the LGBT community is a multifaceted community and the Foundation offered a range of services and programmes to recognise and support the many different groups within the LGBT community. He further commented that work was ongoing to address racism within the LGBT community.

Members heard that Pride in Practice was a support package that enabled health professionals to effectively and confidently meet the needs of LGBT patients. In response to a question from the Chair regarding turnover of staff in GP Practices, Mr Webb confirmed that they would refresh the training as and when required and they remained a point of contact for support and advice for Practice Managers. He stated that the accreditation status was awarded for one year and Practices were then reassessed. He stated that posters were displayed in Practices to promote the LGBT Foundation telephone number to encourage people to access and contact the service.

In reply to a specific question from the Chair who asked what the Council could do to support the work of the LGBT Foundation, Mr Webb responded by stating that the Council and all of its partners should ensure that their data collection aligned with best practice within LGBT communities.

Decision

To note the presentation and thank Mr Webb for attending the meeting.

HSC/20/04

Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

Decision

To note the report and approve the work programme.