

Date 29th September 2022

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

The integrated Care System work continues to develop at pace. The Integrated Care Board that replaced the CCG has been in place since the 1st July 2022. The governance structure supporting the Health & Wellbeing Board is nearly fully operationalised and the Outcomes Framework is in its final draft and reflects the full ambition of what the Integrated Care Northamptonshire wants to achieve across the system across health and care, education, safe communities, housing and employment. The outcomes framework is a key part of the Integrated Care Strategy that sets the key strategic priorities of the ICN. The first pioneer Local Area Partnerships LAPs for West Northamptonshire Council will be meeting by mid October.

The telehealth/Assistive technology project supported by Call Care is now in its 3rd month of implementation. We are undertaking an initial analysis of the data but the feedback from the GPs involved is that it is enabling them to intervene earlier because of the instant access to clinical data and has reduced the day to day demands on GP time from care homes.

The preparation for the introduction of CQC regulation for Local Authorities is continuing to progress. From next month we will have in place the Assurance and Performance Board that will oversee quality and assurance across adult social care. We continue to lead on the regional ADASS work for inspection readiness.

In October 2020, Adult services implemented a new Target Operating Model which included a new approach to assessing called the three conversations. As the model has now been in place for over 18 months it was felt that a review should be completed. A six-week programme of engagement sessions and workshops has since taken place to seek the views of staff, to understand what is working and where improvements could be made. The outcomes of the sessions alongside analysis of the demand across the teams is being collated in a final report to enable next steps to be decided.

Adult services continues to work across the ICS Mental Health and Learning Disability and Autism collaborative looking at community services, crisis services to reduce the need for people to access hospital and services and support to discharge people from hospitals as quickly as possible.

The Moving into Adulthood Development Manager is working on a comprehensive moving into adulthood action plan to identify the steps required to ensure Young People are appropriately supported when they require support from Adult Services. This will be linked with actions taking place in the Children's Trust and across Education services.

The Social Care Charging Reform programme is starting to make progress towards understanding what the impacts will be on people, and for us as a Council. We have completed

our analysis of the self-funder market which is helping us to inform the significance of implementation as well as to understand what the changes to self-funding rates will mean to us. We are continuing to work on the Fair Cost of Care and Market Sustainability requirements and our intention is that a full update, including financial analysis, will be brought to Cabinet in November for discussion.

In preparation for reform, we are currently working on 2 key commissioning projects for home care and care homes, with a view that this will enable sufficient contracted care capacity to manage the demands that reform will bring. Further updates and proposals will be brought to cabinet later this year.

Adults Services is also pleased to announce that in 2022 we will be introducing an online financial assessment tool, which will help people to digitally provide us with the information required to ascertain their contribution towards the cost of their care. The tool will also have the ability to calculate a person's entitlement to state benefits, and support them to make an application for these benefits.

The commissioning team is also making great strides in working in partnership with our housing teams, with a view that adult social care needs are identified and address via the WNC Housing Strategy. This would include supported living / accommodation, extra care housing and other supported housing settings.

The Transfer of Care Hub is working well and responding to the many referrals we receive on a daily basis from the acute hospital. The number of people with a no "right to remain" in Northampton General Hospital remains a challenge for us as a system and we are exploring alternative ways of working with NGH and ICS. An integrated review of the Transfer of Care Hub has commenced with both NGH and NHFT.

Pathway 1 (supporting people with short term support at home on discharge from hospital) remodel review has taken place which recommended a structural and operational change to Reablement West. This change has now taken place and RW will commence their new operating model on the 19 September 2022. This provided us the opportunity to increase the number of front-facing staff as well as produce new job descriptions which were evaluated at a higher grade. Recruitment is going well. Reablement West had a CQC inspection visit yesterday, and we will receive feedback on Friday 16th September.

Pathway 2 (supporting people with short term support in a residential placement on discharge from hospital) remodel review is taking place. The outcome of the review will provide us with an opportunity to develop an integrated 51 bedded Recovery & Independence Centre at Turn Furlong. A draft memorandum of understanding is being developed between WNC and NHFT and a draft Standard Operating Procedure is being developed to provide clear guidance and practice to both WNC and NHFT operational staff. Recruitment within WNC and NHFT is going well.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Consultation with staff on disaggregation of public health management, commissioning and wellbeing services has completed for transition to new North and West services by the 1st October.

New projects commissioned include the community cooking and growing programme (provided by Hope and Groundworks). Progress and development of existing projects include: public engagement events as part of our “Well Northants” community development programme and the development of neighbourhood profiles in preparation for community voting days, where the community will decide how funding is allocated, between November and January; continuation of the parent infant relationship programme for families aged 0-2; extension of the breast-feeding peer support project to cover Northampton.

Work to support the Integrated Care System development has included: development of a summary JSNA to inform the ICS Strategy; development of a first iteration of the ICP Outcomes Framework; participation in Action Learning sets as part of the Population Health Management (PHM) Programme – working with primary care to use PHM approaches to identify priorities and develop prevention interventions.

Other strategic work has included: development of a Sexual Health Network and sector-led improvement work in this area; completion and publication of the Suicide Prevention Strategy and development of the Mental Health Prevention Concordat and associated action plan; development of a prioritised Antipoverty Strategy Action Plan and as part of this a proposal for a social welfare alliance; publication of the Health Inequalities Plan. We are also working closely with Children’s services to explore the development of ‘Family Hubs’ in West Northants.

Data and intelligence work has included: the survey of oral health of 5-year-olds and SHEU (schools health education unit) survey in primary and secondary schools; development of an all-age Mental Health JSNA and Mental Health Awareness and Training for community and workforce across the system.

The Household Support Fund2 (HSF2) distribution of funds is continuing to operate until 30th September 2022, and funds can be utilised by recipients before 31st October 2022. The allocation provided to WNC is £2.6m, to be distributed equally between;

1. Families with Children,
2. Pensioners,
3. Households Severely Impacted by rising costs

The HSF operational team, in place within the PH Recovery and Wellbeing Programme, are overseeing and closely monitoring the run rates on a weekly basis to ensure that the DWP guidelines are being complied with and that the allocated funds are being maximised across the 3 segments.

Of the £2.6m allocated to WNC by DWP, over £2.5m has either been spent or committed. Over £1.2m has been issued to support families with children since the start of the scheme and over 10k children have benefited. In addition, WNC HSF2 has issued an additional £20k cash donation to the Food Alliance Network FAAWN to provide additional support to households with families who may suffer food poverty once the scheme has closed.

Pensioners have now redeemed 80% of the post office cash vouchers issued. A £60k cash donation is in the process of being paid to voluntary organisations @ £15k per organisation supporting the pensioner cohort. The organisations to receive the funds are; Age Concern, Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Dementia UK. 1059 disabled pensioners have applied for the additional funds at £100, these are being issued currently.

Northamptonshire Community Foundation (NCF) have practically distributed 100% of their stock to households via local voluntary organisations.

Public Health has also consulted with partners across Northamptonshire to develop the Combating Drugs Partnership with plans submitted to central government in August. The Partnership will be established in Autumn, with Northamptonshire councils working with a range of stakeholders including probation, the police, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the ICB.

Finally, with regards to Health Protection, the Public Health team has refreshed its Local Outbreak Management Plan for Northamptonshire. This includes surge plans and procedures for incident management, vaccination, test and trace and standing up the operation battle rhythm for Covid-19 response and recovery. Between May and June, the Public Health Covid Mobile Vaccination Outreach Programme has operated 36 clinics in West Northants and administered 1,013 vaccinations (including 1st, 2nd and booster doses) visiting neighbourhoods where vaccine take up is low.

Broader work around vaccination, screening and infection prevention and control has focused on reaching those experiencing inequalities including at the Afghan Bridging hotel/Asylum Hotels, with Ukraine support groups, and outreach with homeless communities. With focused work on monkey pox prevention for high risk groups.

Councillor Matt Golby

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health