

Health and Wellbeing Board

MINUTES of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on Thursday 18 March 2021 at 3.00 pm. This was a virtual meeting. A meeting link was circulated in advance.

PRESENT: Councillor Kieron Williams (Chair)
Dr Nancy Kuchemann (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Cassie Buchanan
Councillor Helen Dennis
Shamsur Choudhury
Sam Hepplewhite
Jin Lim
Councillor David Noakes
David Quirke-Thornton

**OTHERS
PRESENT:** Joseph Brown, Caroline Bruce, Nina Dohel, Keira Chapman, Farah Hart, James Hatts, Bridie Hindle, Patricia Kanneh-Fitzgerald, Nicola Kingston, Steve Lancashire, Louise Neilan, Yetunde Pamole-Ogunseye, Irene Payne, Leidon Shapo, Nigel Smith, Roxanne Smith, Chris Williamson, and Natalie Woods

**OFFICER
SUPPORT:** Poonam Patel (Constitutional Officer, secondment)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jasmine Ali, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education; Sarah Austin, Director of Integrated Care for Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust; David Bradley, Chief Executive of Southwark London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust; Clive Kay, Chief Executive of King's College Hospital NHS; Eleanor Kelly, Chief Executive Officer of Southwark Council and Chris Mikata-Pralat, Chief Executive of Community Southwark.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

Those listed as present were confirmed as the voting members of the meeting.

3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2021, be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

6. COVID-19 UPDATE

Jin Lim, Director of Public Health (Acting), introduced the report and drew the Board's attention to the addendum report and the refreshed outbreak prevention and control plan in Supplemental Agenda No.1, pages 1 – 52.

The following points were noted for the three strands of the plan:

- i. **Prevent** – There had been comms. engagement around the vaccination programme and work continues with regulatory and enforcement services.
- ii. **Identify** – Rapid testing was now possible at a new test site in London Bridge station.
- iii. **Control** – Continue to provide an acute response service.

Chris Williamson, Head of Public Health Intelligence delivered a presentation to report the latest COVID-19 statistics from a tabled presentation. The tabled presentation would be available in Supplemental Agenda No. 2 after the meeting.

The presentation covered the following areas:

- i. Key Messages
- ii. Cases
- iii. Case Distribution
- iv. Contact Tracing

- v. Secondary Care
- vi. Horizon Scanning

In response to a question and answer session, the Board noted the following points:

- The Board expressed their regrets for the number of people who had died from COVID-19 in the borough.
- Further research was still needed to know more about the South African and Brazilian variant of the virus which was the same position concerning the variant from Kent.

The Chair thanked Jin and Chris for their presentations and introduced Anthony Lobo, Public Health Programme Officer to deliver a presentation on the Council's Community Ambassadors Programme.

Anthony presented a tabled presentation, Supplemental Agenda No. 2, Appendix 3, pages 9 - 18. The tabled presentation covered the following areas:

- i. Introduction to Southwark's Community Health Ambassadors Network;
- ii. Role of Ambassadors
- iii. Ambassador Criteria and Expectations
- iv. Support for Ambassadors
- v. Number of Ambassadors signed up
- vi. Feedback received from Ambassadors
- vii. BBC Segment on the Ambassador Programme
- viii. Growing the Ambassador Network
- ix. Longer terms plans for the Ambassador Network

Anthony went on to introduce two community ambassadors that were in attendance and to participate in the question and answer session.

The Chair thanked Anthony for his presentation and welcomed Patricia Kanneh-Fitzgerald and Yetunde Pamole-Ogunseye to the discussion. Patricia and Yetunde explained to the Board why they chose to be a community ambassador and what their community activities involved.

In response to a question and answer session, the following points were noted:

- Addressing misinformation about COVID-19 had been the most challenging aspect as a community ambassador.
- Uncovering a level of inequalities in the community was not originally envisaged and working towards addressing them was the aim.
- The Council's outbreak prevention and control plan will need to advocate BAME workforce in mental health services to better support those that need them and be representative of the community.

- Ambassadors established a voice to better connect with others and in the community.
- A learning curve remained for those that were still hesitant about taking the vaccine and were still being led by fake news. Especially amongst the males aged between 25 and 45.
- Needed to empower people to understand and work towards the same aim in getting the vaccination and move forward.
- Keeping safe, addressing fears and breaking down barriers was the focus. For example three “F”s were at the centre:
 - i. **Fake** – addressing fake news
 - ii. **Fear** – eliminating fear
 - iii. **Fact** – have a fact dealing group
- The ambassadors believe PCNs deserve a pay rise as they were saving lives by risking their own from being front line workers.
- The ambassador programme enabled positive reach with the community with the use of social media platforms to support the Council’s aim.
- Important to inform the community that the virus was “real” and not fake. People should get their vaccine. Make it fashionable like giving a wearable incentive to make it popular.
- Being factual and being real was working towards spreading the word. Need to target people of the relevant age group like those between 25 to 45 and using social media to reach them and in faith settings.
- Leading by example goes along way and sharing videos of people taking the vaccination can help raise awareness and increase uptake.
- The Council had over 70 community ambassadors in the programme and the figure was still rising.
- If anyone wanted to know more about the programme they were encouraged to visit the following website:
<https://www.communitysouthwark.org/community-health-ambassadors-network>

The Chair thanked Patricia and Yetunde for their time and contributions to the discussion and agreed with Councillor Akoto’s view that the community ambassador programme should be strengthened to help address other community engagement priorities.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Health and Wellbeing Board received and noted the refreshed Outbreak Prevention and Control Plan (OPCP) as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. That the Health and Wellbeing Board noted that the OPCP was very much a 'live' document and would evolve and change with ongoing new guidance, challenges and pandemic developments. Comments and feedback were welcomed by emailing publichealth@southwark.gov.uk.
3. That the Health and Wellbeing Board welcomed and thanked the Community Health Ambassadors for their support and work with local communities.
4. That the Health and Wellbeing Board endorsed the further development and strengthening of communications and engagement in order to increase vaccination uptake and tackle hesitancy and misinformation (Appendix 2).

7. COVID-19 VACCINATION

Sam Hepplewhite, Place Based Director (Southwark) SEL CCG tabled a presentation, Supplemental Agenda No. 2, pages 19 – 32, which covered the following areas:

- i. Progression to date
- ii. Cohorts being vaccinated now
- iii. Accessing a vaccination in Southwark
- iv. South East London progress and cohort coverage by borough
- v. Vaccination statistics by ethnicity
- vi. Population, uptake % and remaining by PCN ethnic group, and cohort
- vii. Vaccination statistics by ward
- viii. Ward level COVID-19 Vaccination Uptake
- ix. Borough Plan Design principles
- x. Borough Plan
- xi. Tackling vaccines hesitancy – what we need to do
- xii. Tackling vaccine hesitancy – what we are doing

The Chair thanked Sam for her presentation and introduced Nigel Smith, South Southwark, Primary Care Network and Managing Director of Improving Health Limited, a GP federation. Nigel explained his role and the approach taken to deliver the vaccinations in the south of the borough.

The Chair thanked Nigel for his introduction and announced to everyone from a live news bulletin that the European Medicines Agency had declared Oxford/Astra Zeneca to be safe as it was not found to be associated with a higher risk of clots. In response, Councillor Akoto, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Community Safety thanked the Chair for the live announcement.

- **18 March 2021 – European Medicines Agency News Release:**
<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca-benefits-still-outweigh-risks-despite-possible-link-rare-blood-clots>

In response to a question and answer session the following points were noted by the Board:

- Vaccinations would continue to be distributed across the borough according to need within the defined cohorts.
- SEL CCG held a comprehensive vaccination plan and there was an opportunity to report back on this plan at the new Sub-Group of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- There was a robust communication cycle in place for the PCNs. For instance, a text message would be sent and if no response were received, efforts would be made to reach the resident via a landline and a letter. No one would be left out.
- The PCNs rely on reaching unregistered residents that have English as their second or third language by liaising with active residents like the community ambassadors and using other council initiatives and services.
- There should not be any barriers in place to vaccinate undocumented residents and it was important to communicate this message to reach and help address hesitancy in all settings i.e. faith and community sites.

RESOLVED:

1. That the work of the Community Ambassador Programme be linked to support the PCNs in reaching unregistered residents and those that may be experiencing language barriers.
2. That representatives from Guy's and St Thomas' and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trusts share their recent findings to reach residents and increase vaccine uptake with the Health and Wellbeing Board.
3. SEL CCG to share what was in place to enable undocumented residents to be vaccinated with Southwark's Public Health team and the team leading the Community Ambassador Programme to identify potential areas of improvement to reach the undocumented residents.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question 1 - Mr Steve Lancashire

“Covid 19: What is the Board and the Council doing to promote better resourcing of the borough’s public health and GP services to develop find, test, track and trace strategies to control the number of Covid 19 cases in Southwark? Would you think it important to take this matter forward on a London wide basis?”

In response, the Chair assured Mr Lancashire that all that can be done to secure much needed resources was being explored.

Public Question 2 - Ms Irene Payne

“AT Medics: What is the Board’s view about the transfer of 37 GP practices, including 4 from Southwark, from AT Medics, a London based GP company, to Operose Health, a subsidiary of a large US Health Insurance Company, Centene? Was the potential transfer discussed with councillors and will you raise this matter with SEL CCG?”

In response, Sam Hepplewhite briefly explained a summary of the different GP contracts and that a Primary Care Commissioning Committee briefing paper was available online. The Chair confirmed that a coordinated response was being organised. Councillor Noakes confirmed that Southwark’s Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission were due to discuss the changes to GP practice ownership on 23 March 2021.

- **20 December 2020 - SEL CCG briefing paper – from page 61**
<https://selondonccg.nhs.uk/events/reduced-agenda-internal-december-2020-pccc-meeting/>
- **23 March 2021 Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission – Agenda**
<http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=519&MId=6746&Ver=4>

9. UPDATE ON THE PANDEMIC AND SCHOOLS

Nina Dohel, Director of Education tabled a presentation, Supplemental Agenda No. 2, pages 33 – 45, which covered the following areas:

- i. Young people across Southwark
- ii. Context
- iii. Primary Schools - common themes
- iv. Secondary Schools – common themes
- v. Example from 1 x secondary school
- vi. Impact on children: What Primary schools are telling us

- vii. Impact on children
- viii. SEND
- ix. What partners are telling us
- x. Feedback from 2 service providers
- xi. Continue

The Chair thanked Nina for delivering the presentation and advised that due to time the question and answer session would be taken at the next meeting, 28 April 2021 at 3pm.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Health and Wellbeing Board conclude Item 9 at the next meeting with a question and answer session.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were none.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chair concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their contributions and participation.

It was noted that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 28 April 2021, 3pm – 5pm.

Meeting ended at 5.14pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: