



City of Westminster

# Committee Agenda

Title:

**Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

Meeting Date:

**Tuesday 18th April, 2023**

Time:

**6.30 pm**

Venue:

**Rooms 18.01 & 18.03, 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP**

Members:

**Councillors:**

Angela Piddock (Chair)  
Iman Less  
Tim Mitchell  
Ellie Ormsby

Karen Scarborough  
Selina Short  
Max Sullivan

**Co-opted Members:**

Alix Ascough  
Marina Coleman  
Mark Hewitt  
Professor Ryan Nichol



**Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussion Part 1 of the Agenda**

**Admission to the public gallery is by ticket, issued from the ground floor reception. If you have a disability and require any special assistance please contact the Committee Officer (details listed below) in advance of the meeting.**

**If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Linda Hunting, Policy and Scrutiny Advisor.**

**Email:** [lhunting@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:lhunting@westminster.gov.uk)  
**Corporate Website:** [www.westminster.gov.uk](http://www.westminster.gov.uk)

**Note for Members:** Members are reminded that Officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting. With regard to item 2, guidance on declarations of interests is included in the Code of Governance; if Members and Officers have any particular questions they should contact the Head of Committee and Governance Services in advance of the meeting please.

## **AGENDA**

### **PART 1 (IN PUBLIC)**

**1. MEMBERSHIP**

To note any changes to the membership.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations by members and officers of the existence and nature of any pecuniary interests or any other significant interest in matters on this agenda.

**(Pages 3 - 4)**

**3. MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the Committee's previous meeting held on the 28 February 2023.

**(Pages 5 - 12)**

**4. PORTFOLIO UPDATE - CABINET MEMBER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LEARNING AND LEISURE**

To receive an update from the Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure, Councillor Tim Roca.

**(Pages 13 - 24)**

**5. PORTFOLIO UPDATE - CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

To receive an update from the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health, and the Voluntary Sector, Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis.

**(Pages 25 - 30)**

**6. THE ADULT PATHWAY INTO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES - REPORT NHS / CNWL**

**(Pages 31 - 38)**

**7. WORK PROGRAMME**

**(Pages 39 - 54)**

**Stuart Love  
Chief Executive  
6 April 2023**

# Agenda Item 2

## Children, Adult Public Health, and Voluntary Sector Policy & Scrutiny Committee 28 February 2023 - Declarations of Interest

**Known interests of Members of the Children, Adult Public Health and Voluntary Sector Policy & Scrutiny Committee which may be relevant to the business of the Committee are listed below.** Please note that if there are any corrections or additions to this list, these must be made by the Member concerned under agenda item 2 – Declarations of Interest.

<b>Councillor/Member of the Children, Adult Public Health and Voluntary Sector P&amp;S Committee</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
Karen Scarborough	St Vincent's School	Governor
	St Mary of the Angels	Governor
	Young Westminster Foundation	Trustee
Angela Piddock	Westminster Academy	Governor
	Queen's Park Federation	Governor
	Paddington Arts	Trustee
	The Floating Classroom	Trustee
	National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT)	Member

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CITY OF WESTMINSTER

## MINUTES

### Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee

#### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee** held on **Tuesday 28th February, 2023**, Rooms 18.01 & 18.03, 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP.

**Members Present:** Councillors Angela Piddock (Chair), Iman Less (virtual), Ellie Ormsby, Karen Scarborough, Selina Short, Max Sullivan and Tim Mitchell.

**Co-opted Members Present:** Alix Ascough (Headteacher, All Souls CE Primary School), Marina Coleman (Headteacher, St. Vincent's Catholic Primary School) and Professor Ryan Nichol (virtual) (Elected Parent Governor - St. Gabriel's CE Primary School)

**Also Present:** Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis (Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector), Councillor Jessica Toale (Deputy Cabinet Member - Culture, Heritage and the Arts), David Bello (Acting Bi-Borough Director of Adult Social Care), Maria Burton (virtual) (Portfolio Advisor for Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis), Bernie Flaherty (virtual) (Bi-Borough Executive Director of Adults), Ritchie Gibson (Head of City Promotions, Events and Filming), Linda Hunting (Policy and Scrutiny Advisor), Sarah Newman (Bi-Borough Executive Director of Children (ELT)), Manisha Patel (Head of Operations, Governance and Service Development / Adult Social Care and Health), Anna Raleigh (Bi-Borough Director of Public Health), Patrick Ryan (Portfolio Advisor for Councillor Tim Roca), Serena Simon (virtual) (Director of Communities), Rachel Soni (Director of Health Partnerships) and Gareth Wall (Bi-Borough Director of Integrated Commissioning (ASC)).

#### 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed the Members of the Council, Cabinet Members, Co-opted Members, and guests to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair advised the Committee of the order of the meeting, to be the presentation from Dr. Paul Wood on the International Baccalaureate and Westminster Academy followed by the Cabinet Member update for Adult Social Care and Public Health, the Cabinet Member update for Young People, Learning and Leisure and the Annual Adult Safeguarding report.

## **2 MEMBERSHIP**

- 2.1 The Committee noted that Councillor Jessica Toale (Deputy Cabinet Member- Culture, Heritage and the Arts) was attending as substitute for Councillor Tim Roca (Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure).
- 2.2 The Committee noted apologies from Mark Hewitt (Headteacher, St James' and St John CE Primary School) a Co-opted Member of the Committee.

## **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 3.1 The Chair referred Members to the standing document of known interests of Members and noted there were no changes.

## **4 MINUTES**

- 4.1 The Committee approved the minutes of its meeting held on 5 December 2022.

### **RESOLVED:**

- 4.2 That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December be signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

## **5 WESTMINSTER ACADEMY & THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE**

- 5.1 The Chair welcomed Dr. Paul Wood (Principal and CEO Westminster Academy) to introduce the paper about the International Baccalaureate programmes. Dr. Wood responded to questions on the following topics:
- The overarching goals of the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme and the global perspective of the qualification.
  - The reasons why the programme has been so successful at Westminster Academy.
  - The difference between single and multiple academy trusts.
  - The involvement and organisations the school currently works with and others it would like to work with in the future in the local community and nationally, to improve opportunities and outcomes for young people.
  - Interventions the school uses to connect students to future employment and training opportunities.
  - The goals and purposes of State Education in the UK and how this aligns with the IB programme.
  - The number of State and Independent Schools where the IB programme is offered fully or in part in the UK.
  - The overarching benefits for students of the IB programme, such as, international recognition of the qualification, taking ownership of their own learning, and preparation for their future outside of secondary education.
  - The approach of the learning process on the programme, both in and outside of the classroom and how the learner profiles are used to benefit students.

- What elements are covered in the IB Diploma programme and the advantages for university entrance.
- The concepts within the vocational programme.
- Potential opportunities for exchange programmes with other schools.
- The relationship with the Department for Education (DfE) and how their recognition of the IB Diploma programme allows for A Level funding.
- The careers related IB programme that is considered a (Business and Technology Education Council) BTEC qualification and how that fits into potential funding strands available from the DfE for T-Levels.
- The approach of Westminster Academy in relation to trauma-informed practices in teaching and the support methods used for students.
- Class sizes on the IB programme and the threat of these increasing in comparison to the independent sector.
- Hybrid models for sixth form.

## **6 PORTFOLIO UPDATE - CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR (CLLR NAFSIKA BUTLER-THALASSIS)**

6.1 The Committee received an update from Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, on priorities and any updates that have arisen. The Cabinet Member responded to questions on the following topics:

- The success of the Winter Grants scheme for residents.
- The Communities Priorities Fund that provides funds for areas of deprivation in the north and south of the borough and the funds available, £600k which is approximately double to the figure available in 2022.
- The Westminster Charitable Trust and the additional category now included to promote inclusion for groups that have difficulty attending mainstream activities and the changes in timescales for funding of up to two years.
- The longer-term plans to support the voluntary sector, including plans for core funding.
- Discussions with the NHS Central North West London (CNWL) around plans for the Gordon Hospital, the shortfalls with services and accommodation for acute mental health patients in the borough, and the urgent need for plans to be made to address these issues.
- The need for further accommodation arrangements for residents with learning difficulties, as it has been recognised that 50% of people with learning difficulties live outside of Westminster.
- The Health Accountability Board, made up of the lead Cabinet Members across 8 boroughs and the joint letter that has been drafted regarding the concerns raised for travel arrangements of people attending the proposed North West London Orthopaedic Centre.
- The review of the Council's performance during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The next municipal year budget plans that are being taken forward for approval, including, the increased pressures and proposed funding for services such as, mental health and learning difficulties, developing local temporary accommodation, people who are discharged from hospital earlier with high needs, support services, and the Community Priorities Programme.

- The plans at Carlton Dene to be completed by 2025, the arrangements regarding the proposed partners, and potential plans for an in-house service offer.
- The complaints made to the Adult Social Care (ASC) service, what the Council is doing about the complaints received, who investigates and adjudicates complaints, a report that is being drafted about the complaints received, the accountability of the Council, and how the committee will review this information and make proposals for the future at a forthcoming meeting to be decided.
- The safeguarding webinars that have been offered and the plans of the Council to offer these types of informative sessions on other topics in the future.
- Covid-19 vaccine data of inclusion groups.

## 6.2 **ACTIONS**

1. That officers provide the report for Members which focusses on the lessons learned and areas for improvement that derive from the complaints received to the ASC/ PH service.
2. That officers provide an update on what types of webinars are being planned for the future.
3. That officers provide a report outlining the most recent Covid-19 vaccine data.
4. That information be provided to Members (as available and appropriate) on the Council's interventions for Learning Disabled people.

## 7 **PORTFOLIO UPDATE - CABINET MEMBER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LEARNING AND LEISURE (CLLR TIM ROCA)**

- 7.1 The Committee received an update from Councillor Jessica Toale, on priorities for the portfolio and any updates that have arisen. The Deputy Cabinet Member responded to questions under Councillor Tim Roca's on the following topics:
  - The waiting time for young people to be able to access the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and the increase in cases for mental health services, including, acute care and the gaps that exist between this and a step-down provision in the community with additional support services.
  - Therapies and support for young people and their families in schools, including support for the schools.
  - Issues around early intervention with young people experiencing mental health issues, including, absence at school due to mental health, and the reasons behind why there has been such a significant increase in reported mental health cases among young people in Westminster.
  - The complexity of social care referrals.
  - The pressures on schools with the limited resources available and ideas about how the Council can support schools.
  - Funding for mental health and young people.



- The 115 total applications for the Culture and Community Grant scheme, the 35 applications that were short listed for funding, the nature of the organisations involved, the criteria for applications, and the 18 projects that have been taken forward.
- The Seymour Leisure Centre, including, the plans for the pool, library, café, planning permission, the closure in February 2024, the completion of works for 2026, and the engagement activities and communication with residents.
- The announcement of the Mayor of London to expand the Free School Meals Programme, how this will be rolled out into further primary schools, as well as nursery and secondary schools, and making those announcements to residents.
- The merger between St Stephen's and St Mary Magdalene's Church of England (CE) Primary Schools in Westbourne in light of falling rolls, the informal consultation process with parents, the headteacher and governing bodies, that a decision on the merger will be made in April for planning the next school year, and what the St. Stephen's site may be used for in the future.
- The Community Music Hubs and concert activities.
- How nursery funding is being phased over the next three years, what support is going to be provided to nursery schools, and the investment in early years provisions.
- The significant increase in obesity in early years children, the health implications, and the healthy eating implications for entering reception.
- Funding differentials between the different cohorts of refugees in Westminster, the offer for children and families, and an update on contingency hotels.
- The increased take-up of the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) and discussions with the Grosvenor School Of Modern Art about continuing the provision for the half term.
- Supporting art and institutions and bringing these into the community, with involvement from a variety of organisations such as The Donmar Warehouse.
- Details of Afghani refugees in Westminster.
- The overspend of £584,000 in relation to short breaks for children with disabilities, when this was recognised, the continued demands, as well as the early intervention commitment by the Council, and how this is being managed alongside ensuring a service is provided to residents.
- The Access to Culture Report and that many of the recommendations from the report have now been incorporated into the Cultural Strategy, with consideration from cultural partners. It was reported that since Covid-19 the Council have increased engagement with cultural institutions and are working at understanding how the Council can support them in delivering cultural activities for residents.
- The charity Intermission Young Theatre that supports young people with mental health issues and those that may be at risk of being involved with gangs or are vulnerable.
- A review of the City Saver card and how this can be used to promote cultural activities better across the Council, as well as capture data about what services are needed for residents.
- Diversity of Governors in schools, as well as the diversity of their skill set.

Universal Free School Meals and what the Council is doing to ensure the rolling out of the programme won't affect school funding in relation to the Pupil Premium, how applicable families are making applications for the available funding, and how this will be monitored and communication with families.

## 7.1 ACTIONS

1. That officers provide the invite information to music hub events and any relevant information.
2. That information be provided to the committee about the funding provided for the Ukrainian refugees in comparison to other refugee groups.
3. That regular updates be provided to the committee about Afghan refugees.
4. That information be provided to Members about how and when information about the library at the Seymour Centre is being circulated to residents.
5. That officers provide information for the next scrutiny committee on mental health and young people and the increases noted in mental health cases among young people.
6. That officers provide information on the culture report recommendations.
7. That officers provide information for the next scrutiny committee on the complexity and amount of social care referrals.

## 8 LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

- 8.1 The Chair welcomed Angela Flahive (Head of Safeguarding Review and Quality Assurance- Director of Safeguarding (Children's)) and Emma Biskupski (Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership (LSCP) Business Development Manager) to introduce the report on the multi-agency work with children in Kensington, Chelsea, and Westminster during 2020-21 and provide an overview. The Director of Safeguarding (Children's) and the LSCP Business Development Manager responded to questions on the following topics:
- The Bi-Borough partnerships and what effect this had, if any, on service delivery.
  - Work carried out with Afghani refugee arrivals and safeguarding, as well as the lessons learned.
  - The Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) who are responsible for co-ordinating the response to concerns that an adult who works with children may have caused them or could cause them harm.
  - The management of allegations in line with the Safer Organisations approach, including, training for safeguarding leads and reflective practice.
  - Supporting and building relationships with schools.
  - Unstated Westminster referrals, capturing the ethnic make-up of a family at the time of referral, how data is captured in Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and the new system being implemented across both Councils.
  - The Everyone's Invited website and how this is used to voice young people's safeguarding concerns.
  - Transitional Safeguarding and the involvement of Adult Social Care (ASC).

- The case reviews noted in the report, how these are initiated, how the partnerships identify settings of concern and then make constructive safeguarding recommendations.

## **9 WORK PROGRAMME**

- 9.1 The Chair invited the Policy and Scrutiny Advisor to update the Committee on items on the Work Programme.
- 9.2 The Committee reviewed the two substantive items on the work programme for the next Committee meeting.
- 9.3 The Committee agreed items on the action tracker and the process for receiving feedback by the Policy and Scrutiny Advisor, and outstanding items from the current municipal year.
- 9.4 The Committee agreed that the draft work programme for the next municipal year would be considered at the next Committee meeting.

## **10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 10.1 The Chair advised Members that a plan regarding pre-meetings for the next municipal year would be forthcoming.
- 10.2 The Committee agreed there were no other business items to be discussed.

The Meeting ended at 8.59 pm.

**CHAIR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Children and Adults, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 18 April 2023

**Portfolio:** Young People, Learning and Leisure

**The Report of:** Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Young People Learning and Leisure

**Report Author and Contact Details:** Patrick Ryan  
pryan@westminster.gov.uk

- 1. Key decisions made in the preceding period since my last Policy & Scrutiny report dated 28 February 2023:**
  - No decisions were made.
- 2. The following report includes my priorities and delivery progress to date of the new administration:**

### 2.1 Children's Services

#### Ofsted Visit

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, Children's Services Senior Leadership team met with Ofsted for our Annual Engagement Meeting, which is part of the framework for the Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services. The meeting included conversations about our education service, particularly the support we provide to children with SEND, and our social care provision.

We were able to evidence positive educational outcomes for most children in Westminster, with 95% of our schools graded good or outstanding. Whilst we have three schools currently graded as requiring improvement, we were able to talk about the positive work we are doing to assist their improvement journey. We also spoke about the wide-ranging local offer for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision.

Much of the conversation focused on social care, and the work we are doing to keep children safe. We were able to evidence the quality and impact of our social work practice, through the performance outcomes and the regular monthly auditing work, that includes getting feedback from young people, their carers and other key safeguarding stakeholders.

Ofsted were particularly interested in the increase of children's cases stepping up from early help to social care, and in child protection and looked after children rates reflecting a greater complexity of need. We spoke about the wide ranging provision for children in care and care leavers and the support provided to unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. We were able to talk about the significant investment in our free school lunch offer and extended Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) offer, our continuing support to Ukrainian families and other refugees and emphasised our focus on equalities and inclusion.

We were told by Ofsted to expect a full Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS) within the next 12 to 18 months.

### Publishing of the Children and Young People's Plan

In January 2023, Westminster City Council and Kensington and Chelsea Council launched their new Bi-Borough Children and Young People's Plan 2023-2026. The plan sets out the vision for Children's Services in both boroughs over the next three years and how both councils will work to achieve better outcomes for children and young people. Underpinning the plan is extensive direct engagement with young people, who shared their views through a series of workshops. Over 130 children and young people were involved and a wider group of residents and partners responded to survey questions. Their input has directly shaped the key priorities for Children's Service over the next three years, which are:

1. All children have the best start in life, needs are identified and supported early, and they are school ready at five.
2. Children and young people have access to high quality education and training opportunities, have good attendance at school and achieve their full potential.
3. Children and young people feel safe, and are protected from serious youth violence, harm, harmful practices, abuse, and neglect at home, online and in the community.
4. All young people, and particularly those who are vulnerable, can realise their ambitions and take advantage of opportunities and life skills which prepare them for adulthood.
5. All our young people feel listened to, empowered, and have opportunities to co-produce/co-design services that affect them.
6. All children and young people are happy and healthy, with access to a diverse range of activities and opportunities to support their physical, mental health and emotional wellbeing
7. Children and young people affected by the Grenfell tragedy continue to be supported.

The plan can be accessed here: [Bi-Borough Children and Young People's Plan \(westminster.gov.uk\)](https://www.westminster.gov.uk/bi-borough-children-and-young-people-plan)

### School Rolls and Amalgamations

Surplus capacity in our primary schools and its associated financial impact on schools is a continuing challenge in Westminster. A recent London Councils report states that the key driver behind the increasing surplus seen in the majority of London boroughs is a 17% decrease in birth rates between 2012- 2021. As calculated by the October 2022 pupil census, Westminster Council currently has a 25.7% surplus capacity across all its primary schools, and this is projected to increase further. Between 2018 and 2022, 7.5 forms of entry have been removed from primary provision. A form of entry is in most cases a class of 30 children and is removed at the reception point of entry. An amalgamation of two Catholic primary schools (Westminster Cathedral and St Vincent de Paul) took effect from September 2022 and removed a form of entry. A proposed amalgamation of two Church of England primary schools (St Stephen's and St Mary Magdalene's) is currently at the consultation stage and if approved would take effect from September 2023 removing a further form of entry.

The Council continues its dialogue with schools, both dioceses and academy trusts to consider partnerships and possible amalgamations to address the current and projected surplus primary capacity.

### Social worker recruitment and retention challenges

There continues to be a national shortage in attracting and recruiting experienced Social Workers. Despite this, we have continued to decrease our reliance on agency staff which is currently at 6% (February 2023), down from 8% in September 2021 and 15% in September 2020. The turnover rate for permanent staff in WCC Family Services from April 2021 to March 2022 was 16.3% compared against a Council wide turnover rate of 27.3%.

In recent years we have rolled out the Social Work Apprenticeship, and the first cohort of Social Work apprentices will be graduating in 2023. We also continue to work with the Frontline Academy, Step Up to Social Work, the West London Teaching Partnership and our local universities to provide high quality student placements and subsequently recruit the best calibre social workers as well. There is also an extensive package of training and professional development available to staff via the West London Alliance, Firstline, The Staff College and the Practice Supervisor Development Programme.

We are in the final stages of development of the Workforce Development Strategy which seeks to ensure we attract, retain and develop high quality social workers to meet the growing demands on Family Services.

#### Free School Meals, Food Poverty and the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme

In the December 2022 school holidays, the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme and Extended Offer supported 1,417 children and young people in Westminster. 44 local organisations were able to provide 4,845 healthy meals for local children and young people, along with enriching activities such as sports camps (football, basketball, boxing), arts and crafts, adventure play, cooking, dance, music and drama and offsite trips. There was tailored provision offered for those with special education needs and/or disabilities, as well as for refugees and asylum seekers. The HAF programme continues to be an integral part of holiday support from the Council, ensuring vulnerable children and young people have access to fun, enriching activities and free healthy meals. In addition to the HAF programme children eligible for Free School Meals also received food vouchers over the Christmas period.

In December 2022 the Council pledged £2.7mil to support universal free school meals in primary schools in Westminster. With the Mayor of London's pledge to fund universal free school meals in primary schools across the city from September 2023, the Council has committed to expand a free meal offer to further our commitment to creating a fairer Westminster. With just over £3M to fund free school meals for 3-14 year olds, the Council will provide funding:

- From September 2023 to nurseries to provide a meal offer for targeted 2-year-olds as well as all 3- and 4-year-olds in maintained and private voluntary or independent (PVI) nursery settings offering the early years entitlements.
- From January 2023 - September 2023 to primary schools to enable them to offer a hot meal to non-FSM pupils at £3 a day per pupil, thereby establishing a universal meal offer until the Mayor's Scheme starts in September 2023.
- From September 2023 to secondary schools to provide a meal offer to pupils aged 11 - 14 who live in Westminster.

#### Ukraine Response update

Friday, 24 February 2023 marked the one-year anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and several events took place to raise awareness of the ongoing war, the consequences for displaced Ukrainians and the support the Council is offering to families who have made Westminster home.

With the war enduring for over a year, displaced Ukrainians continue to arrive in the borough – up to 30 families arrive each month. Since the launch of the Homes for Ukraine scheme one year ago, there have now been over 700 recorded arrivals in the borough.

Many but not all sponsors are able to host families for longer than the initial offer of a 6-month placement and in the last 12-months we have supported 66 individuals / households to make homeless applications, 33 of which from the sponsorship scheme. Although we see around one new

presentation each week on average, we have not yet seen a significant increase in approaches but given the wider pressures on temporary accommodation this is nevertheless an area of focus.

In response, we are looking to increase capacity in the Council's Housing Solutions Service to manage the increased demand and be able to offer enhanced support to Ukrainian households placed out of borough. Affordability will always be a challenge for Ukrainians looking to stay in London and to maximise their income, the Council's HELP (Housing, Employment, Learning and Progression) service has established a dedicated offer for displaced Ukrainian families, which includes two support workers recruited from the Ukrainian community.

**The following information and work programme updates are in response to requests from the Committee.**

#### Overview of Asylum-Seeking Families (as requested by the Committee)

There has been a well-co-ordinated multi-agency integrated offer of support to the 817 residents (of whom 209 are children) in the eight contingency hotels in the borough. A wide range of support is being provided locally through the dedicated Family Navigators, outreach teams and the three Family Hubs, who are linking residents and families into medical services, schools access, health clinics and a variety of sessions for young families such as stay and play sessions, baby massage and nurture groups. Wider engagement with local voluntary and community sector has also secured access to clothing and food banks, cooking facilities, summer holiday and extra-curricular activities, grants for school uniform and school transport, homework groups and English Language classes for adults. Leaflets have also been developed with Active Westminster and Libraries (example attached below) to provide information and contact details for youth clubs, sports and recreation centres.

Colleagues supporting the contingency hotel residents are liaising with the Ukraine response team to share learning and are scoping options focusing on promoting and expanding the range of support available.

#### Support for Afghan Families resettled in Westminster (as requested by the Committee)

Bridging hotels in Westminster closed in spring 2022 and most Afghan evacuees have been accommodated outside the Borough. There are seven Afghan families resettled in Westminster, for each of whom there is an extensive, dedicated support package provided by our commissioned floating support service Single Homeless Project (SHP). Support begins pre-tenancy with essential items purchased prior to the family's arrival, the family are greeted upon arrival with an initial food-shop and basic tenancy overview, and then the SHP worker is on hand five days a week as a single point of contact for whatever the needs of the family are, but generally includes:

- Financial support and benefit sign-up
- Essential item purchase and grant applications for domestic items
- GP and dentist registration
- Support accessing specialist services, e.g., psychological support
- Biometrics
- Tenancy support
- Signposting to ESOL classes and employment services (e.g., Westminster Employment Service)

#### Westminster Libraries & Archives Overview (as requested by the Chair)



The Libraries & Archives Service plays an integral role in delivering cultural learning opportunities for children, young people and families in the borough. Children's programmes run by the Libraries & Archives Service over the past year are as follows;

- Libraries hosted the Holiday Activities and Food programme across Church Street, Paddington, Pimlico, Queen's Park libraries in partnership with Sports Westminster to deliver physical activities and healthy food for children receiving free school meals throughout Easter, Summer, and Christmas holidays.
- In addition to hosting Holiday Activities and Food activities for children in the summer and Christmas holidays, the Library Service ran a Summer Reading Challenge, themed 'Gadgeteers'. This challenge ran from 9<sup>th</sup> July to 12<sup>th</sup> September to engage children and young people with science and curiosity through reading to help maintain literacy through the summer, with 800+ participants across both boroughs.
- To support our Ukrainian refugee families, Ukrainian children's books were purchased and distributed to Brompton, Kensington Central, Paddington, Victoria and Pimlico, to give good geographic coverage and access throughout Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea.
- The '1066' Covid recovery project run by Westminster Archives ran sessions in schools to re-engage children with love of learning through comparing their experiences with life in 1066, both teaching history and reflecting on world events and mental health. Delivered to a total of 2075 children over two years.
- A Bi-Borough exhibition on Windrush was hosted at two libraries and Westminster City Hall, where school groups visited to learn more about the lived experiences of those moving to Britain.
- Westminster Archives hosted 20 Year Six children as part of the annual Takeover Day, where the children took over the jobs of the conservator and education officer for the day.
- In September, six 'Library Labs' workshops focusing on Science Technology Engineering and Maths ('STEM') were held for children to experiment, play, and explore new STEM toys and books.
- Applications for funding have been approved to develop a digital playground in Church Street Library and North Kensington Library, which will be delivered in partnership with Public Health colleagues and funding is being led by London Sport.
- Libraries held a wide range of regular on-site activities for children including: under 5s sessions; chess, Lego and games clubs; art & crafts activities; music sessions; homework, English and Maths clubs; bi-lingual sessions including French, Spanish and Japanese.
- The 'Victorian Era – Play, Learn, Connect' project run by Westminster Archives ran a community engagement project which reached 854 people. In addition to these sessions, free tickets to Kensington Palace were secured with 35 tickets distributed to Children and Young people at Tresham Centre, 12 tickets for disabled students at Westminster College and 30 tickets for year 4 students at St Gabriel's Primary school
- Westminster Music library partnered with Neurodiversity Learning CIC to deliver an art and music workshop for 30 children.
- Libraries facilitated the Spine festival in partnership with Apples and Snakes. Poetry Workshops working towards the Arts Award were held at Paddington and Maida Vale libraries.

To support Afghan families (prior to the closure of the hotels see item 8 above):

- Westminster libraries distributed Bookstart packs to Afghan families. The packs distributed provided resources for children ages 0 and 5 years old.
- Additional books and online resources in Arabic and Farsi were procured and distributed to Brompton, Kensington Central, Church Street and Paddington libraries, with a collection of Arabic and Farsi books gifted to families at the King Solomon Academy welcome events and hotel outreach activities.
- Libraries facilitated a range of games and arts and craft sessions, providing children with craft activities to take away and explore with their families.
- To support Afghan families in accessing key information, libraries hosted outreach activities that supported families in registering for library membership and provided access to vital council and community information and services in community languages.
- Church Street Library facilitated a Community Kitchen which created a sense of belonging and community. The kitchen empowered the community to come together, cook and share meals together with other families.

Information on SENCO (Special Education Needs Co-Ordinator) arrangements across the borough (as requested by the Chair)

Special Education Needs Co-Ordinators (SENCOs) are qualified teachers who oversee the strategic development of SEN policy and provision with their school(s) and ensure implementation of SEN policies on a day-to-day basis. All state-funded schools in England, including academies and maintained nurseries are required to have a SENCO, with some smaller primary schools sharing a SENCO to work across schools. A small group of local SENCOs have worked together to peer review Special Educational Needs (SEN) Information Reports and make recommendations on how they can be improved across the Local Area. Outcomes are then shared on the Local Offer which can be found here: [SEND Local Offer | Westminster FIS](#)

The Early Help Family Hubs are deeply integrated partnership with schools, SENCO, SEND services across 0-25 age range and offer multiple opportunities to identify need and provide an integrated response across that age span.

All schools receive an allocation of support from our Educational Psychologists to develop their SEN practice and are part of a SENCO network, which is convened by the local authority to develop skills and capacity, as well as share good practice across the area.

School Inclusion Strategy - a review of the current inclusion strategies and future plans (as requested by the Chair)

The Bi-borough School Inclusion Strategy was launched in October 2022. Delivery of the strategy ambitions is a partnership endeavour involving schools, our alternative provision provider Ormiston Academies Trust and the wider voluntary sector. Progress is overseen by the Education Partnership Board, chaired by the Executive Director for Children's Services. Some key recent developments include:

- Continued support to schools to develop inclusive practice through the roll out of trauma informed training which embeds whole-school practice that seeks to understand and develop tailored responses to pupils' behaviour. There are 5 schools that have received the Think Trauma accreditation to date.
- Increased range of behaviour outreach interventions available to support young people at risk of exclusion which complements our existing offer via our Early Help service. Ormiston Academy Trust will be rolling out an in-school pilot at Harris Academy St. John's Wood.

Funding have been received from the Violence Reduction Unit to fund mentoring programmes which will work in Beachcroft Alternative Provision Academy and the Westminster Education Centre, which precludes short-term placements.

- Mainstreaming the transitions pilot delivered by Ormiston Academy Trust to target young people at particular risk during transition from primary to secondary school following an evaluation which identified the positive impact the intervention had on the young people participating.
- We are in the process of agreeing a two-year funding package with Ormiston Academy Trust for both alternative provision and behaviour outreach. The funding strategy, agreed by Schools Forum, ensures that costs to the Local Authority, High Needs Block (part of the Dedicated Schools Grant) and schools are managed within the current financial context but also provides Ormiston the security to invest in staffing and curriculum including enrichment, at Beachcroft and the Westminster Education Centre.

#### Overview of Pre- birth to Five Strategy Review (as requested by the Chair)

The overall ambition of the transformation programme was to offer a better experience of pregnancy to five services for parents and improve outcomes children, whilst delivering value for money. To achieve this, the aims were:

- to strengthen targeted work with parents in greater need, ensure there are clearer management arrangements across the partnership, bring together the Best Start in Life, Healthy Child Programme and School Readiness principles;
- To improve school readiness, speech and language development and early identification of need
- to reduce duplication across the services responsible for delivering the pathways and identify efficiency;
- to reshape the Healthy Child Programme and reduce the cost of delivery models for universal families to allow an additional contact at 3-4 months;
- to deliver financial savings.

Among other achievements, the programme has:

- delivered annual savings of £250,000 in WCC in 2021-2022,
- procured a new health visiting contract with significant stakeholder input into the new specification which sits as part of our early help and family hubs services,
- engaged over 300 families and 50+ practitioners throughout the transformation process, including in depth interviews with targeted families,
- developed and implemented an integrated service model bringing health visiting and early help closer in working practices,
- established a Transformation Partnership Board that has been successfully running for several years and
- co-designed a new whole-family intensive offer with health visitors, midwifery, early help and the Voluntary and Community Sector for families with additional vulnerabilities.

#### Increased complexity and demand in Frontline Social Work

A separate briefing which focuses on this topic has been shared with the committee.

## **2.2 Westminster Adult Education Service (WAES)**

WAES Strategic Plan 2023-28

Following extensive consultation with internal and external stakeholders since last year, the WAES Strategic Plan is now almost reaching completion. The draft strategy was presented to WAES Governors at their Board meeting on 7 February 2023 and the Governors have given in principle approval to proceed. The Cabinet Member has agreed that the Strategy should be presented to the Policy and Scrutiny Committee.

The collaborative approach taken has enabled us to align this strategy with the Fairer Westminster Strategy, and other Council Strategies, for example, the Economic Development Strategy, which will support jobs and skills growth for residents and entrepreneurship and business support. Other key links include supporting residents' health and wellbeing, equipping residents with the skills to improve their situation during a cost-of-living crisis, tackling inequalities and enabling inclusion and supporting wider cultural and social engagement.

#### Partnership with Schools

Our work with schools is restarting, with a view to rebuild the family learning programmes that we deliver to support children's attainment, particularly in ESOL, maths and literacy. So far, we will be using our Multiply funding to support additional maths delivery at Christchurch Bentinck and Edward Wilson Primary Schools. Further outreach to schools will be undertaken during the rest of the academic year to expand the programme.

#### Supporting Employers and Employment

Recently, we have been working closely with the Strand Palace Hotel on upskilling 17 of its hospitality staff in response to customer feedback. The programme is designed to support staff that have English as a second language to understand cultural norms that are expected and to help them expand their vocabulary to support them in their work and with future promotion.

We continue to work with our trusted partner Adult, Education, Employment and Training (AEET) and are delivering entry-level construction programmes. They have good progression to work, in addition to bespoke employability programmes in retail and hospitality (SWAPs) at Nine Elms, with good progression to employers like Abercombie and Fitch, Rare Restaurants and Royal Garden Hotel scheduled. These are well attended and have good achievement rates.

In February 2023, we jointly hosted an online event with the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry to engage with employers in its membership to explore how we can support them with extended training for new and existing employees.

#### Progression Week

WAES held the Term 2 Progression Week from 6 March to 10 March 2023, providing a full week of workshops and talks for our learners to help support their learning development, progression options and career aspirations. This term, our Progression Week coincided with National Careers Week and International Women's Day. General themes across the week covered women in work and #EmbraceEquity for gender equality to celebrate International Women's Day. This is of note for WAES, as over 70% of our learners identify as women. We were able to further promote progression to Higher Education, Digital, future careers in Sustainability, delivered some Hairdressing and Makeup tasters and much more. We held 28 workshops across the week, with 694 learners attending.

#### Creative and Cultural Apprenticeships

WAES has recently positioned itself within Westminster as the provider of choice for Creative and Cultural Apprentices. WAES tendered for and secured the contract with National Archives to deliver the Level 7 Archivist and Records Manager offer. The programme is due to start mid to late summer, with an initial 10 apprentices and an additional 20 joining at a later stage. A press release has gone live via WAES communications. We are recruiting appropriately qualified professionals to deliver the programme.

### **2.3 Leisure**

#### Leisure Centre pre-paid membership numbers

January 2023 reported the highest number of pre-paid memberships since March 2020. February 2023 reported a further increase in pre-paid members with a total of 20,636. Further details include:

- Five centres reported increased or sustained total pre-paid members between January and February.
- Little Venice and Porchester reported decreased pre-paid members between January and February.
- Little Venice pre-paid members reported a decrease at (1,001) in February. This is the lowest number of pre-paid members since March 2021 (982)

The overall % change for pre-paid memberships across the leisure contract is at -9% usage from the start of the financial year April – Feb 2023 compared to the same period in 2019/20. Further details include:

- Paddington recreation ground (+8%) and Queen Mother (+2%) all reported a positive % change compared to the same period in 2019/20.
- Little Venice pre-paid members reduced further in February to -33%.
- Moberly is consistent at an average of 97% through the financial year.
- Marshall street continues to average just 56% of pre-paid members from the start of the financial year April – Feb 2023 compared to the same period in 2019/20.

#### Seymour Leisure Centre

Seymour Leisure Centre development is nearing stage 3, where the project will go for planning permission. Stakeholders have expressed a desire to have more wet side space and expressed concern that plans reduce the space impacting on provision. Cabinet Members have decided on a way forward with the refurbishment. This includes leaving the existing main pool as-is in terms of dimensions but undertaking a full renovation and access enhancements. There will be no learner pool with this option, but the wet-side capacity will remain the same.

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## Youth Hubs

Youth Hubs are fun, informal club spaces for young people to connect with their friends, community and trusted youth workers. They deliver a wide range of activities and provide a safe space for members to socialise and learn new skills.

Your local Youth Hubs are:

### Avenues

3-7 Third Avenue, W10 4RS

Phone: 020 8969 9552

Email us: [hello@avenues.org.uk](mailto:hello@avenues.org.uk)

[avenues.org.uk/](http://avenues.org.uk/)



### Amberley

Amberley Youth Hub

Millennium Centre, 11 Clearwell Drive, W9 2JZ

Phone: 020 7286 1014

[workingwithmen.org](http://workingwithmen.org)

## Sports & Leisure Centres

### Active Westminster

Westminster residents and children & young people who live or study in Westminster can get an ActiveWestminster Card which gives discounts and benefits at leisure centres and sports facilities in the borough. You can get the card at any leisure centre. You will need proof of address and may need to prove your circumstances – ask at your Family Hub if you need help with this.

<https://active.westminster.gov.uk/>



### Moberley Sports Centre

25 Chamberlayne Road, NW10 3NB

Telephone: 020 3879 6669

Gym - Group Fitness Studio –

Swimming Pool - Sports Hall

### Little Venice Sports Centre

10 Crompton Street, W2 1ND

Telephone: 0207 725 9230

Gym - Sports Hall

### Paddington Recreation Ground

Randolph Avenue, W9 1PD

Telephone: 020 7644 6880

Gym - Group Fitness Studio –

Tennis Courts - Football Pitch –

Cricket Nets

### Porchester Centre

Queensway, Bayswater, W2 5HS

Telephone: 020 7221 6118

Gym - Group Fitness Studio - Swimming

Pool - Squash Courts

# Support for Asylum Seeking Families

## North West Westminster



City of Westminster



# Where can you get help and support?

## Queen's Park Family Hub

- Drop-in stay and play
- Breastfeeding support sessions
- Midwife / Maternity Support
- Parenting groups
- Baby Massage
- Health Visitors
- Child Health Clinic
- ESOL
- Citizens Advice
- Employment Support



Opening times: 9am to 5pm

88 Bravington Road, London, W9 3AL

Telephone: 020 7641 5838

Email: [rhemanda@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:rhemanda@westminster.gov.uk)

[View on a map](#)

Buses: 18, 28, 36, 187, 228, 316, 328, 414.

Tube: Queen's Park Station (Bakerloo Line)

## Education

All children who have turned 5 can start school in England. A lot of children start the September after they turn 4. The school year runs from September to July.

In-year school applications can be made through the Council's Admissions team.

They can advise on school place availability and how to apply.

You can speak to the team directly on 020 7745 6432 or 030 7745 6433, or email: [School.admissions@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:School.admissions@rbkc.gov.uk) or ask someone at your Family Hub to help.

Children who are aged 3 and 4 are able to attend nursery part-time. Your Family Hub can help you apply.

## Health

All families and individuals arriving in the UK should [register with an NHS doctor \(known as a GP\)](#) for everyday health issues. NHS services including hospitals are free.

**It's important to see a doctor if you think you may be pregnant.**

## Safeguarding Concerns

Most children arriving in the UK are expected to be in the care of a parent or family member. If children are identified who are not in the care of a parent or appropriate adult, please make a referral to the Local Authority:

Weekdays from 9am to 5pm: call the Access and Assessment Team on 020 7641 6000

Out of hours (5pm to 9am) and 24 hours bank holidays and weekends call the Emergency Duty Team on 020 7373 2227.

If you are worried someone is in immediate danger, please call 999.

## Libraries and Internet Access

Westminster has library facilities at different locations across the borough. Newly arrived families and individuals will be able to register to use the services available including access to the internet. [Further information can be found here.](#)

Your local libraries are:

### Queen's Park Library

666 Harrow Road, W10 4NE

Open Mon-Sat, closed Sun, hours vary

- Adult Library
- Children's library
- Learning centre
- Computers
- Free wifi
- Study area
- Reading groups
- Photocopying, printing and scanning

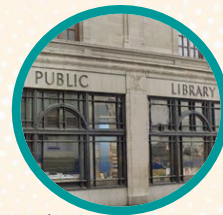


### Paddington Library

Porchester Road, W2 5DU

Open Mon-Sun, hours vary

- Computers
- Free wifi
- Study area
- Reading groups
- Photocopying, printing, scanning
- Books, newspapers, magazines & DVDs
- Hublet - borrow a Samsung tablet to use in the library with your Westminster library card



### Paddington Children's Library

Westbourne Park Baptist Church, Westbourne Park Villas, W2 5EA

- Storytime / Rhyme Time - Wed 11am-11.30am. Booking essential.

To book contact: [paddingtonlibrary@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:paddingtonlibrary@westminster.gov.uk)

- Books - Wide range of books for all ages and reading abilities.
- Lego Club - Fri 4pm-5pm. Children of all ages welcome.
- Board Game Club - Sat 2pm-4pm. Children of all ages welcome.
- Computers - Free Wifi & PC access, for children to do homework or play games.
- IXL-digital platform with maths and English activities and practice tests for ages 4-17.



## HAF Programme

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme provides free activities and food for children aged 4 to 16 eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) during the Easter, Summer and Christmas Holidays.

Find your nearest centre and activities here:

<https://ourcity.org.uk/haf-programme>

## Emmanuel Food Pantry

Opening times: Friday: 2pm - 5pm

Emmanuel Church, 389E Harrow Road, London, W9 3NA

Phone: 07818 118685

Email: [emmanuelpantry@yahoo.com](mailto:emmanuelpantry@yahoo.com)

Contact Unfold for details.







City of Westminster

## Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 18 April 2023

**Portfolio:** Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector

**The Report of:  
Report Author and Contact Details:** Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis  
Maria Burton, Portfolio Advisor  
[mburton@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:mburton@westminster.gov.uk)

1. **No key decisions have been made in the period since my last Policy & Scrutiny report dated 28 February 2023.**

2. **The following report includes my priorities and delivery progress to date:**

### **Adult Social Care and Public Health**

#### **2.1 Ethical Care Charter**

2.1.1 The UNISON Ethical Care Charter was introduced “to establish a minimum baseline for the safety, quality and dignity of care” by ensuring good conditions for people working in the homecare sector. The Charter comprises 11 criteria, set out in three stages:

- Stage 1 – focuses on the commissioning and scheduling of home visits.
- Stage 2 – relates to procedures, contracts, and training.
- Stage 3 – provides a link to London Living Wage and other conditions of employment including travel time.

2.1.2 A review group has been established comprising staff from Adult Social Care, Commissioning and Brokerage, as well as the Westminster UNISON Joint Branch Secretary and homecare agencies. Following a period of review the group has recommend that the Council is in a position to sign-up to the Charter. It has also noted that the ongoing improvement to commissioning of homecare and close contract management will further enhance compliance with the Charter.

2.1.3 A date is being identified in early May 2023 to sign the Charter with representatives from national Unison in attendance.

## **2.2 Learning Disability accommodation services and day services**

- 2.2.1 A new framework contract for organisations providing housing care and support to residents with Learning Disabilities is due to go out to tender in May 2023. The design of this new framework incorporates engagement from local residents, agreement with landlords for ongoing use of properties, and input from the provider market.
- 2.2.2 The aim is to ensure consistent, high-quality accommodation and support, stable contractual arrangements for providers so that they can invest in staff and services with confidence, and the ability to include additional property into the framework in future as part of our ongoing work to increase local supply.
- 2.2.3 Our in-house teams continue to deliver excellent services for residents from the Lisson Grove and Droop Street Hubs. Recently, staff at the Droop Street Hub have worked closely with The Paddington Development Trust and the Mozart Community Champions Project to build on existing 'drop in' sessions offered to the community from the Beethoven Centre. These sessions have covered a range of themes ranging from leisure to friendships to health support.
- 2.2.4 The service has worked closely with the QEII School regarding transitions and establishing a rapport between the two settings. This work has resulted in students from QEII accessing sessions at the Droop Street Hub and Droop Street Hub service users accessing classes at the QEII School. The aim of this work is to raise awareness for students (and their families) as they approach the age for transitioning from Children's to Adult Services. As part of this collaboration staff have attended EHCP Plan reviews with students and their families to talk about adult services as an option for their child/looked after person.
- 2.2.5 The Droop Street service is also developing a community offer 'pilot' with the Queens Park Library. Our service users began to attend their weekly 'drop in' story book reading sessions at which the opportunity for a more accessible story book reading session was identified. The full pilot is due to launch in June of this year. If successful, the Queens Park Library would like to roll out Bag Books (multi-sensory story resource) as an accessible Story Telling session to other libraries within Westminster.

## **2.3 COVID-19 response review**

- 2.3.1 An independent review of Westminster City Council's Pandemic response including the local uptake of COVID-19 vaccinations has been conducted by Professor Jill Manthorpe CBE.
- 2.3.2 The department is currently taking the report through due diligence and will confirm arrangements for presentation to scrutiny once complete.

## **2.4 Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea Health and Wellbeing Strategy – draft for consultation**

2.4.1 An engagement process has taken place over the last 6-12 months to develop the Bi-borough Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2.4.2 Supporting the vision are the outcomes that matter to people and what we are all working to achieve.

- Residents live longer and in a way that allows them to fulfil their lives.
- Residents have their mental wellbeing seen as important as their physical health.
- Residents live in communities that are healthy, safe and with good quality schools, housing and environment.
- Residents have access to good quality and fairer services that meets their needs.

2.4.3 The Strategy will be available in hard copy and an interactive online version as well as easy read. Following the Health and Wellbeing Board's approval on 30 March, the consultation will go live for eight weeks between April and June 2023 to form the final strategy. We welcome input and invitations to existing events to take comment on the strategy which we aim to launch in the summer.

## **2.5 Care Quality Commission Assurance**

2.5.1 From April 2023, a new approach to regulation will be introduced as part of the Health and Care Act 2022. This framework will apply to providers, local authorities and integrated care systems and be undertaken by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) via a single assessment framework.

2.5.2 The framework is based on a set of quality statements that are arranged under topic areas and describe what good care looks like. It sets out clearly what people should expect a good service or system to look like; places people's experiences of care at the heart of their judgements; ensures that gathering and responding to feedback is central to expectations of providers, local authorities and integrated care systems.

2.5.3 The CQC envisage that it will take two years to gather baseline data from all local authorities, which can then be used to form the basis of the ongoing assessment.

2.5.4 An ASC Delivery Board has been established and is chaired by the Interim Director for Adult Social Care, to oversee preparations for future assurance activity by the CQC.

## **2.6 Mental Health programmes**

2.6.1 The Department is actively working to deliver a mental health training offer, a digital platform and a community outreach campaign working with residents, voluntary sector, and NHS partners. These will supplement national resources with provision locally and stimulate a social movement in support of mental wellbeing.

## **2.7 Mental Health training offer**

2.7.1 A new mental health training offer due for implementation in the Autumn will build awareness and capacity to promote mental wellbeing and respond to mental health issues across residents, statutory and voluntary sector services, and businesses across Westminster.

2.7.2 Suicide prevention training is currently available and expanding. Regional offers are already being amplified such as Thrive London Core Conversation, NHS Every Mind Matters and further training options are being reviewed with partners.

## **2.8 Mental Health digital platform**

2.8.1 A user-friendly platform for all residents' mental health and wellbeing needs will be developed, sign posting them to local provision and support. This will be geared towards preventative interventions, encouraging people to seek support before reaching crisis point.

2.8.2 The implementation of the platform due in the Autumn 2023 is planned to be aligned with a training offer. Working closely with the Digital and Innovation department, a stakeholder needs assessment will be undertaken to help shape the platform to meet the needs of Westminster's communities and services.

2.8.3 The first service user engagement forum will be undertaken in April 2023.

## **2.9 Community Outreach Mental Health Drive**

2.9.1 Public Health is currently working with governmental, voluntary sector organisations and NHS partners to amplify regional campaigns around mental wellbeing such as Good Thinking with Thrive London.

2.9.2 Local options are under development; including creation of community conversation via Open Dialogue with the NHS, through upskilling Westminster's Community Health Workers.

## **2.10 Gordon Hospital**

- 2.10.1 In March 2020, CNWL temporarily closed The Gordon Hospital, which was the only in-patient psychiatric care service for Westminster residents in need of specialist mental health provision. The reason given for the temporary closure was because of COVID -19 related concerns.
- 2.10.2 Patients were dispersed to other out-of-borough hospitals, and some were discharged back into the community.
- 2.10.3 Consultation of the closure was expected in October 2022 but was pushed back by a year to October 2023, and then brought forward again to July 2023.
- 2.10.4 The closure of Gordon Hospital has resulted in no in-patient beds being available in the borough for Westminster residents, adding further pressure across the wider system. Care in the community is not the only solution for people in need for specialist care and there is always going to be a need for in-patient beds.

## **Voluntary Sector**

### **2.11 Advice Services**

- 2.11.1 All advice services are facing significant increases in demand due to the Cost of Living crisis, and additional funding has been provided to a range of advice services. The Westminster Advice Service partnership has been extended for an additional two years.

### **2.12 Westminster Connects**

- 2.12.1 A number of changes have been made to improve the offer to volunteers. Monthly introduction sessions are held for volunteers, and have been established for English as an Additional Language (EAL) learners in WAES to create a pathway into volunteering. Bi-monthly online Feedback Forums will start in April to provide a regular route to provide feedback.
- 2.12.2 Volunteers through Westminster Connects have participated in a number of events, and upcoming events include the St George's Day parade, the Mini Marathon and Trooping the Colour. Following an agreement with the Metropolitan Police, Westminster Connects volunteers will be approached when volunteers are needed for large ceremonial events in the City.
- 2.12.3 The #Give16 staff volunteering programme offers a range of volunteering opportunities, including the Language Café, homework clubs, mentors and reading volunteers. A closer relationship with Night Stars has been formed.

## **2.13 Engagement and Consultation**

2.13.1 A forward plan of forthcoming consultations has been developed through working with other departments, and a website is in development to centralise information on consultations.

## **2.14 Community Investment Strategy**

2.14.1 The final external consultation session was held on 22 March with the BME Health Forum. The Strategy is expected to be published in early May, and a comms plan is in development.

## **2.15 Community Development**

2.15.1 108 bids were received for the Community Priorities Programme, with applications received from across the City. Learning from this round will be used ahead of the next round in the autumn.

2.15.2 At the Fairer Westminster Delivery Plan event on 21 March, the Active Residents Register was also launched, and 35 residents have signed up to date. In addition, 24 members for the Resident Panels for the Community Priorities Programme have been recruited, reflecting the community.

2.15.3 The Community Leadership Programme, which will support people who want to be more involved in their community, is in development.

## **North Paddington Programme**

### **2.16 Partnership Board**

2.16.1 Following the successful launch of the North Paddington Partnership Board in February, the second meeting was held on 29 March, where the agenda included determining criteria for shortlisting of projects. The April meeting will focus on community engagement.

2.16.2 Works on the Maida Hill project are scheduled to commence in Autumn 2023, subject to community support in the final consultation in March/April 2023.

2.16.3 The Maida Hill Community Steering Group was established in March 2023, with the first session focused on listening to community views in the local area.



# Children, Adult Public Health and Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	18 April 2023
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	Access to Mental Health Services in Westminster
<b>Report of:</b>	Senior Accountable Officer
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	All
<b>Policy Context:</b>	Adult Mental Health Services
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	<b>Sally Milne</b> <a href="mailto:sally.milne@nhs.net">sally.milne@nhs.net</a>

## 1. Executive Summary

This report sets out the access to mental health services in Westminster to explain the pathway for service users. There have been a number of additions to the service user pathway since the launch of the NHS Long Term Plan (LTP). Services available in Westminster can be found on the Hub of Hope, our official signposting partner on either CNWL or Westminster City Council websites.

## 2. Background

The last few years have seen major investment and changes in CNWL's mental health provision within Westminster.

In early 2019, CNWL launched its urgent and acute care transformation to respond to local needs, listening to feedback from our service users and communities and deliver against the requirements of the LTP. This included ensuring appropriate

community-based crisis care (clinical and non-clinical alternatives) alongside a therapeutic inpatient offer.

Over 2019 and 2020, CNWL reached major milestones in delivery as across Westminster supported by new NHS England bid monies from the LTP, including launching a new model of community mental health care as an early implementer site, the establishment of a First Response Service offering 24/7 assessments within the community, a revised Home Treatment Team offer with planned consultation to move to 24/7 functions, the procurement of new third sector-provided crisis havens (The Coves) providing non-clinical alternatives, and the design of a 24/7 bed management hub.

The last year coming out of COVID has been particularly challenging with access to MH services however we are seeing an improving picture. Information about services available in Westminster is detailed in this paper.

### **3.1 Westminster Talking Therapies**

Those experiencing anxiety or depression can self-refer or be referred to our Talking Therapies service where they will receive up to 6 sessions with a trained therapist. In most areas this offer is for people aged 18+, but North West London has recently extended it to people 16-18 to support young adults in the area.

There is work underway in these services to increase access and to engage with communities to ensure the service is culturally sensitive and able to meet the needs of diverse populations (see <https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/news/westminster-talking-therapies-outreach>)

Across NWL residents are also able to access Qwell (18+) or Kooth (11 to 25), which are digital support tools for those with low level stress and anxiety. (<https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/services/mental-health-services/online-mental-health-services>).

### **3.2 Community Mental Health offer**

Westminster was an early implementor site for the National Community Mental Health Framework, so developed and implemented the new Community Hub Model in September 2020.

The hub offers integrated care to Westminster residents and investment bringing recruitment of new staff:

- an additional two Community Navigators,
- two family therapists,
- a Lived Experienced 'Personality Disorder' pathway specialist and
- a senior 'Personality Disorder' Nurse,
- a GP based Eating Disorder specialist,
- four newly developed graduate mental health worker roles and
- two new Social Prescribers through a partnership with One Westminster.



Westminster is also part of a community pharmacy pilot in the hubs.

Since the launch of the new model of care, there has been a 200% increase in referrals to the hubs which has been met by support from the teams.

Referrals should come directly to the hubs from a patient's GP, or from another CNWL service, for example the Single Point of Access (SPA).

Our Hubs align to Primary Care Network (PCN) footprints and the GPs can access support from the Hubs if needed before referrals.

There is also a mental health link worker in each PCN in Westminster to support GPs providing care for people with mental health needs and improving the link between primary and secondary care mental health services. In 2023/24 CNWL will be working with PCNs to expand this workforce.

In order to support Young adults aged 16 to 25, we have introduced a Young Adult Pathway in Westminster. The service hold a regular Young Adult Pathway Forum to support referrals for this age group. Young people also have access to community navigators to support them accessing support across the borough.

Over the last few years we have been building relationships with the local VCSE and community organisations which means referrals into the hubs may be redirected to another community organisation if they are able to provide more appropriate support to someone to meet their needs.

### **3.3 Perinatal mental health services**

There has been significant investment through the NHS Long Term Plan in mental health services for women in the perinatal period and their partners. CNWL has a community Perinatal Mental Health Service for Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster that provides care for women with mental health needs around the perinatal period which will continue for up to two years after birth.

The service more recently has begun also providing care for partners to ensure the whole family is supported through this period.

NWL's Maternity Trauma and Loss Care Service provides support for women who have had a traumatic birth experience and can be accessed via self-referral or referral by another health professional. This service was Highly Commended in the Positive Practice in Mental Health National Mental Health Awards in 2022.

When women need an inpatient admission, we have a bespoke ward based at Park Royal in Brent which has been designed to provide a warm and therapeutic environment.

### 3.4 Crisis care

In the last few years there have been a number of changes and improvements in access to crisis care a number of these have been presented to the Overview and Scrutiny committee previously (see Table 1 below). However, we know that we are still in a challenging position where we have people waiting for too long in A&E, and until 2023 were still using some inpatient beds in other areas. We continue to work as a system to meet the needs of people in Westminster experiencing a mental health crisis and are continuing to improve these services.

In addition to these changes, on 28 November 2022, CNWL opened the Mental Health Crisis Assessment Service (MHCAS), which provides an alternative location to A&E for people experiencing a mental health crisis.

The MHCAS is located at St Charles and people can access it through the SPA or be redirected from A&E, once medically optimised. It is a calmer more therapeutic space than A&E and allows treatment to start as well as de-escalating crisis.

Since opening, the MHCAS has had 96 referrals from Westminster who were warranted for in admission to a mental health bed, of which 84 (88%) had a less restrictive alternative to admission found.

Table 1 – Transformation to the crisis care pathway, previously reported to the Committee.

Areas	Planned Impact	Current Position
<b>Home Treatment Team</b>	Increased capacity, meeting fidelity including intensive home treatment and in-reach to wards to facilitate early discharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teams supporting Westminster have increased capacity.</li> </ul>
<b>The Covets</b>	Offer crisis alternative, upstream avoid escalating acuity (face to face and digital offers covering all five CNWL London boroughs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Services live with three locations serving Brent and Harrow, Kensington Chelsea and Westminster, and Hillingdon – further detail available at <a href="https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/services/covets">https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/services/covets</a></li> </ul>
<b>Crisis House</b>	Offer support for individuals in crisis in a community setting to support admission avoidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Live with four beds located in a residential home within Westminster. There are 11 further beds in other boroughs covered by CNWL</li> </ul>
<b>Step Down Beds</b>	Provide alternative to inpatient ward for patients who are medically optimised to facilitate shorter length of stay and support transition back to receiving care in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nine total beds within houses in the community in Westminster to provide short stays (up to 12 weeks) for medically optimised patients to 'step down' from wards into the community</li> </ul>
<b>High Intensity User Programme</b>	We know that frequent attendances can be an indication of unmet social needs. The team, therefore, take on a social prescribing and a non-stigmatising approach, working closely with the individual and people involved in their care in ways that traditional services may not be able	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CNWL has commissioned the British Red Cross (BRC) offer to provide bespoke high-intensity user (HIU) services in Westminster, launched in late April 2021 to support people who use services repeatedly over a short period of time</li> </ul>
<b>Inpatient Care</b>	Ensure purposeful admissions, reduce 30+ day Length of Stay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Community Access Service' (team which focuses on enabling movement of 30+ LoS)</li> </ul>

	(LoS) and embed clear therapeutic interventions	<p>staff in place in part. Voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations offer being mobilised for additional support as recruitment completes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Westminster, additional support via dedicated consultants has been put in place.</li> <li>• Managing Director chaired LoS group to drive progress in long stayers</li> <li>• Trauma Informed Approach (TIA) tailored plans in boroughs for full roll out underway</li> </ul>
<b>Enhanced SPA-NHS 111 link</b>	Increase numbers of people calling SPA before/ instead of A&E; provision of enhanced phone and virtual support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hestia 'The Coves' digital offer in place accessible through the Single Point of Access</li> <li>• Warm transfer in place for NHS 111, task and finish group underway for more direct link (e.g. "NHS111 press option 2 for mental health") and communications plan</li> </ul>

### 3.5 Inpatient Services

Inpatient admissions should be a last resort as, where possible, we should be providing care in the community and keeping people in their own homes and support networks. We know from service user feedback that inpatient stays can be re-traumatising. There is now a consensus across service users and mental health professionals that wherever possible we should be seeking to work more preventatively, proactively into our communities with more flexible models of care based on service user needs, as these approaches lead to better recovery rates. This has driven the development and design of the new Community Mental Health model of care that has been embedded in Westminster.

When people from Westminster do need to access an inpatient bed, this is currently offered a majority of the time at the St Charles Centre for Health and Wellbeing. We have always had beds at St Charles dedicated to Westminster residents and since the temporary closure of acute inpatient wards at the Gordon, the number of beds allocated to Westminster residents at St Charles has been increased.

Following the temporary closure of acute inpatient wards at the Gordon, CNWL's bed base is now aligned with national benchmarking. Overall, new and transformed services and models of care have started to embed and our regularly-monitored metrics indicate that performance on key metrics such as length of stay, readmission rate, and patients placed outside of the NWL system have remained the same or improved since the temporary ward closures.

Since 01 April 2020 there have been 1,102 admissions for Westminster residents and of these 70% of occupied bed days were at St Charles. This position in the last year has further improved with nearly 80% of Westminster occupied bed days at St Charles, 10% at Park Royal in Brent and the final 10% at Northwick Park (Harrow) or Riverside (Hillingdon). CNWL will always prioritise the site closest to someone's home Borough and where this isn't possible on admission we look to bring back to the closest beds at the earliest opportunity. Of the admissions in the last year, 60 were informal (14%).

Since the temporary closure of the inpatient wards at the Gordon there has been a significant reduction in readmission of Westminster residents, with this reducing from 10% to 5%. Below this is broken down by original admitting site.

### **Adult Acute Readmissions by Discharging Ward - Westminster Residents**

<b>Discharging Site</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Hillingdon Hospital	<b>29%*</b>	<b>3%</b>
Northwick Park Hospital	<b>0%</b>	<b>10%*</b>
Park Royal	<b>5%</b>	<b>8%</b>
St Charles Hospital	<b>6%</b>	<b>5%</b>
The Gordon Hospital	<b>8%</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>5%</b>

*\*absolute numbers of discharges and readmissions in Hillingdon and NPH are very low which increases the percentages*

There has been a 26% reduction in occupied bed days, which has been driven by a reduction in admissions. CNWL ensures that when someone needs a bed they are able to access one, and we have no Westminster residents in any inpatient unit outside of the Trust.

Our length of stay on inpatient wards for Westminster residents has reduced from 36 to 32 days which is now much closer to the national average. The table below shows the LoS in each of the CNWL boroughs.

### **Adult Acute Length of Stay (excl. Leave & OAP)**

<b>Borough of Residence</b>	<b>19/20</b>	<b>22/23</b>
Brent	29	32
Harrow	39	34
Hillingdon	43	35
Kensington and Chelsea	34	30
Westminster	36	32
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>33</b>

Since January 2023 we have sustained a Trust position of zero inappropriate out of area placements, so for the last three months, all Westminster patients have been treated within our bed base.

#### **3.5.1 Next steps for acute inpatient wards at the Gordon**

Following the temporary closure of the acute inpatient wards at the Gordon in 2020, CNWL is working with North West London ICB and with the boroughs affected by the changes, to deliver a public consultation to determine the future of inpatient wards at the site. We are targeting the summer of 2023 to launch the consultation and are

working with the ICB and NHS England (London Region) to ensure a robust pre-consultation process that maximises engagement from local stakeholders, as well as testing our clinical model with the London Clinical Senate.

In developing the Pre Consultation Business Case (PCBC) we are engaging with partners from Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, and Brent to review the model of care in order to inform the development and evaluation of options for consultation. A three-stage appraisal process using deliberative workshops will take place between late March and early May. We are keeping local and joint Overview and Scrutiny committees regularly updated as these plans progress.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers, please contact Report Author [sally.milne@nhs.net](mailto:sally.milne@nhs.net)**

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## Children and Adults, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	18 April 2023
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	<b>2023/2024 Work Programme</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolios:</b>	Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure and Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	All
<b>Policy Context:</b>	All
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	<b>Linda Hunting</b> <a href="mailto:lhunting@westminster.gov.uk">lhunting@westminster.gov.uk</a>

### 1. Executive Summary

1. This meeting completes the cycle of meetings for this Committee for this municipal year. This report asks the Committee to discuss topics for the 2023/2024 work programme. The proposals set out in appendix 2 have been developed in consultation with senior officers as well as members of the Executive (Cabinet) on their plans for the year ahead to ensure scrutiny is focused on those areas where it may have most impact.

### 2. Meeting Dates for the 2023/2024 Municipal Year

- 2.1 The Committee is advised that the scheduled meeting dates for the 2023/2024 year are:
  - 12 June 2023;
  - 27 July 2023;
  - 21 September 2023;
  - 5 December 2023;
  - 5 March 2024; and
  - 18 April 2024.

### **3. Background**

3.1 Since January, the Policy and Scrutiny team has been supporting the Chair to consider the work programme for the next municipal year. The process for this included; consultation with the Cabinet Members, consultation with Executive Directors and relevant Heads of Service, following up on previous items and commitments from previous meetings, consideration of forward plans in the Cabinet Portfolios and challenges identified across the Directorates.

3.2 The aim of this process has been to culminate in a work programme which:

- Focuses on what is important;
- Focuses on areas where performance might be improved;
- Focuses on services which are important to residents;
- Focuses on where scrutiny can make a difference and add value;
- Proactively feeds into policy development by contributing to pre-tender considerations or strategy development for example; and
- Uses the insight of backbench Members to act as critical friend to services of the City Council and our partners thereby enabling good governance and excellent services.

### **4. Draft Work Programme for 2023/24**

4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the draft work programme for the next municipal year, 2023/2024, set out in Appendix 2. The Committee is requested to discuss the proposed topics listed as well as provide comments and suggestions.

4.2 When considering the work programme, and agreeing an overall programme of scrutiny activity, the Committee should have regard to whether the work programme is achievable in terms of both Officer and Member time, taking into account that the Committee is scheduled to meet six times per year. Members are also reminded that it is advisable to hold some capacity in reserve for any urgent issues that might arise.

4.3 Each Committee has discretion to establish Task Groups to examine key issues in more detail and also to commission Single Member Studies. The Committee is asked to consider whether they would like to establish a Task Group or commission a Single Member Study. The Committee should be advised that both Members and Officers will only be able to successfully take part in and support a finite number of Task Groups at any one time.

**If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect any of the background papers, please contact Linda Hunting.**

[lhunting@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:lhunting@westminster.gov.uk)

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference  
Appendix 2: Work Programme  
Appendix 3: Action Tracker



## **CHILDREN, ADULTS, PUBLIC HEALTH AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **COMPOSITION**

7 Members of the Council (4 Majority Party Members and 3 Opposition Party Members).

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(a) To carry out the Policy and Scrutiny functions, as set out in Chapter 4 of the Constitution in respect of matters relating to all those duties within the terms of reference of the Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector.

(b) To carry out the Policy and Scrutiny function in respect of matters within the remit of the Council's non-executive Committees and Sub-Committees, which are within the broad remit of the Committee, in accordance with paragraphs 18.2 and 18.3 as well as section 19 of Chapter 4 of the Constitution.

(c) Matters within the broad remit of the Cabinet Members referred to in (a) above which are the responsibility of external agencies.

(d) Any other matter allocated by the Westminster Scrutiny Commission.

(e) To have the power to establish ad hoc or Standing Sub-Committees as Task Groups to carry out the scrutiny of functions within these terms of reference.

(f) To scrutinise the duties of the Lead Members which fall within the remit of the Committee or as otherwise allocated by the Westminster Scrutiny Commission.

(g) To scrutinise any Bi-borough proposals which impact on service areas that fall within the Committee's terms of reference.

(h) To oversee any issues relating to Performance within the Committee's terms of reference.

(i) To have the power to scrutinise those partner organisations under a duty to that are relevant to the remit of the Committee.

(j) To consider any Councillor Calls for Action referred by a Ward Member to the Committee.

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**APPENDIX 2 – Children, Adults, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny Committee  
Work Programme 2023 /24 Municipal Year**

<b>ROUND 1 12 June 2023</b>		
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Community Investment Strategy	To consider the funding cycles and process for community investment funds. This will include advice services, food strategies and hardship schemes, public health initiatives, and how the Council will support the VS in a long-term sustainable way.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
The Health and Wellbeing Strategy	To review the joint health consultation and provide Member input.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care
The Council's Covid-19 Pandemic Response	To review the independent assessment carried out by Professor Jill Manthorpe of the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions.	Linda Hunting, Policy and Scrutiny Advisor

<b>ROUND 2 27 July 2023</b>		
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Update on the Mental Health Plan for Adults	To update the Committee on the borough's Mental Health Plan and position statement, including recommendations and the transition services for 16–25-year-olds.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care
1. Annual IRO (Independent Reviewing Officers) report in relation to LAC's (Looked After Children)  2. Annual Participation Report	To review the annual report in relation to the care provisions for Looked After Children.  To review how Looked After Children are engaged with the Council in developing services that affect them.	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions.	Linda Hunting, Policy and Scrutiny Advisor

<b>ROUND 3 21 September 2023</b>		
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure

		Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Voluntary Sector Core Funding and Allocation Report	To update the Committee about what level of funds are available to the Voluntary Sector and how funding decisions are managed.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Mental Health and Children	To review the Mental Health Support Teams, Suicide Prevention Strategy (public health), Emotional Wellbeing Strategy, and the impact of Covid-19 on the mental health of young people and how this is being addressed in the mental health plans for young people.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions.	Linda Hunting, Policy and Scrutiny Advisor

<b>ROUND 4</b> <b>5 December 2023</b>		
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social

	remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
The Council's Integrated Care Plan	To update the Committee on the integrated care programme, the use of Council funds, and for the Committee to make future recommendations.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Strategy	To review the assessment strategy for how childcare sufficiency is measured through services across Westminster and make recommendations.	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions.	Linda Hunting, Policy and Scrutiny Advisor

<b>ROUND 5 5 March 2024</b>		
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
The Council Drug Strategy	To review the Council's current drug strategy and make future recommendations.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector

		Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care
Public Health Investment Report	To Committee to review the effectiveness of the public health investment fund, how the Council invests the Public Health Grant, and promotes and protects the health and wellbeing of Westminster residents.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions.	Linda Hunting, Policy and Scrutiny Advisor

<b>ROUND 6 18 April 2024</b>		
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Sarah Newman, Executive Director of Children's Services Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the Committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Learning Disability Report	The Committee to review the provisions available for residents with Learning Disabilities and make recommendations.	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Adult Social Care
Leisure Services Contracts	The Committee to review the current leisure services contracts and programmes, the future of these services in Westminster, and make recommendations.	Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change

Work programme	To consider and agree the outline work programme for the Committee for the year ahead, with input from Cabinet Members, Executive Directors and other officers on how to make best use of the Committee's time and where the Committee will have the biggest impact.	Linda Hunting, Policy and Scrutiny Advisor
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Unallocated items: this may either be substituted in for a substantive item elsewhere in the year or may be rolled over for future municipal years.

Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector
Attainment Gap Report	Autism Strategy delivery update
Annual Fostering and Adoption Report	The Gordon Hospital Campaign
Update on the Annual Youth Justice Plan (after results from the service's inspection have been released).	The Unison Ethical Care Charter
Westminster Guardian's Report (Corporate Parenting Report)	

Proposed Briefing Sessions:

Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure	Purpose	Proposed Date
Review of primary schools for the 2023/24 academic year	Members to be briefed on falling rolls, potential amalgamations and financial considerations of this.	Before summer 2023
Westminster Adult Education Service (WAES) Strategic Plan Review	Members to review and feed into the strategy which considers the future offer of this service in Westminster.	TBC
Active Westminster	Members to consider the strategy being developed to include the service provided in the primary leisure service centres in Westminster.	TBC
Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector	Purpose	Proposed Date
Adult Social Care Complaints Report	Members to review Adult Social Care complaints and, in particular, trends, complaint levels against Key Performance Indicators, lessons learned, and steps that have been taken to address poor results.	September 2023



Forthcoming Written Reports/ Updates:

Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure	Purpose	Proposed Date
Annual Corporate Parenting Report	To update the Committee on the Council's annual review of supporting parents and families with children across the borough.	September 2023
Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector	Purpose	Proposed Date
LGBT and the Local Community Update	To consider the community care, support, and public health offer for the LGBT community. This update will be provided by Cllr Williams.	June 2023
Adult Social Care User Survey	To update the committee on the results for the Council's Adult Social Care User Survey and compare Westminster Council results nationally and make recommendations for future learning.	December 2023
Carer Strategy Report	To update the Committee on the how the Council's strategy in for supporting and working with carers across the borough is working.	March 2024

Cabinet Member Updates to the Committee:

Councillor Tim Roca, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure	Meeting Expected	Councillor Nafsika Butler-Thalassis, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector	Meeting Expected
School Inclusion Strategy - a review of the current inclusion strategies, policies, and future recommendations	April 2023	Community Health Workers Update	April - June
Pre-birth to five strategy review	April / June 2023	JSNA (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment)	June - July
SENCO Provisions across the borough	April 2023		
School Uniform Support Scheme	April 2023		
Libraries service overview and review	April 2023		
Supported Internships Annual Review	After August 2023		
Progression pathways for young people	April / June 2023		
Westminster Reveals / Summer Cultural Outreach	April 2023		

Potential Visits:

- St. Charles Hospital
- Hallfield Primary School
- Family Hubs
- Voluntary sector organisations in Westminster
- Children in Care Council
- Organisations such as Substance Misuse facilities (CGL / Turning Point)

Possible Task Groups/ Single Member Studies:

- Primary school capacity and the development of federations across Westminster
- Autism Strategy delivery update
- How is Meals on Wheels replaced / a food strategy for Westminster residents
- Housing Allocation and Learning-Disabled residents
- Obesity in Westminster

**Appendix 3 - ACTION TRACKER**  
**Children, Adults, Public Health and Voluntary Sector Policy and Scrutiny**  
**Committee**

<b>ROUND 1</b> <b>12 JULY 2022</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status/ Follow Up</b>
Item 4 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector	That arrangements be made for Members to visit voluntary sector organisations in Westminster.	Ongoing
	That the following items be reported regularly in the Cabinet Member Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the status of covid in care homes and disability settings.</li> <li>• update on the work and decisions of the Integrated Care Board (ICB).</li> <li>• the on-going budget pressures on Adult Social Care Health.</li> </ul>	In progress / completed  Report on Integrated Care to be provided in the new municipal year work programme.
Item 5 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure	That the Children and Young People Mental Health Task Group Report be published and that an update on the recommendations contained in the report be circulated to the Committee.	In progress  Members should receive an update on this item in Sep 23.
	That details of how the schools were managing the school uniform scheme be circulated to the Committee.	In progress
	That a visit to a family hub to be organised for Committee Members.	In progress
<b>ROUND 2</b> <b>12 SEPTEMBER 2022</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status/ Follow Up</b>
Item 4 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector	Information on the JSNA focus on health inequalities and whether in light of this, Public Health has been involved in decisions about park opening/closing hours and to what extent access to green space is considered in equalities analysis.	In progress Update provided 24.10

<b>Round 3 OCTOBER 2022</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status/Follow Up</b>
Item 4 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure	More information about the activities provided in the HAF programme and about what is being done to measure the effect of the HAF funding distributed and whether this information can be shared with the committee when ready? In particular, how the funds are spent with each provider.	In progress  Update provided 25.11.22 Update 20.01.23 Information to be provided about when evaluation / measures information will be available by officers.
	Officers to provide a demonstration of the social care marketplace to the Committee in a future meeting.	In progress  CM to advise who would be appropriate.
Item 5 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector	That the figures for people going outside of the borough to seek in-patient mental health medical treatment and how far people need to travel to receive mental health treatment to be provided to the Committee.	In progress  Up to date figures are being provided by CNWL at April scrutiny.
	That figures for admissions and re-admissions for mental health hospital services in the borough be provided to the Committee.	In progress  Update provided 23/01/23 27/01/23. Further update to be provided by CNWL at April scrutiny.
	Healthwatch to provide for the Committee its findings from the interim review visits to be carried out at the Gordon Hospital over the coming months, in due course.	In progress  24.01.23 Healthwatch confirmed reports to be published estimated April 23
	Members to request, via Scrutiny Officer, visits to the Crisis House - Paddington, St. Charles and the Gordon Hospital's.	In progress / ongoing Member-led.

Item 6 Work Programme	A Task Group to consider the falling rolls of primary schools to be discussed and constituted by the Chair, as lead.	In progress Committee updated Dec 22.  On hold till the next municipal year.
<b>Round 4 DECEMBER 2022</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status/Follow Up</b>
	That an optional session be arranged for Councillors to discuss with a Head Teacher /s, Ian Heggs (Bi-Borough Director of Education), and potentially others, the most pressing current issues in the schools and what can be done to support them.	In progress
	Information be provided to the Committee about the Suicide Prevention Strategy and what the Council is doing to prevent suicides in the borough.	In progress  This will come to committee as part of MH updates July / Sep 23
Item 8 The Children and Young People's Plan (2023-2026)	The Committee to receive performance data for the priorities and outcomes of The Children and Young People's Plan (2023-2026) and officers will present to the Committee in due course.	In progress
<b>Round 5 FEBRUARY 2023</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status/Follow Up</b>
Item 7 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Young People, Learning and Leisure	Officers to provide the invite information for music hub events and any relevant details a to Members.	In progress
	Information to be provided to the committee about the funding provided for the Ukrainian refugees in comparison to other refugee groups.	To be provided in the CM update at April scrutiny.
	Regular updates to be provided to the committee on Afghan refugees.	In progress

	Information to be provided to Members about when and how information about the library at the Seymour Centre is being circulated to residents.	Completed Information emailed to Members 13 March
	Officers to provide information for the next scrutiny committee on mental health and young people and the increases noted in mental health cases among young people.	Completed Report emailed to Members 5 April
	Officers to provide information on the culture report recommendations.	In progress
	Officers to provide information for the next scrutiny committee on the complexity and amount of social care referrals.	Completed Report emailed to Members 5 April
Item 6 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector	Officers to provide the report for Members which focusses on the lessons learned and areas for improvement that derive from complaints received to the ASC/ PH service.	Completed  This item has been discussed with officers and will be fed back to Audit & Performance P&S following the annual report being and can refer back to this committee.
	Officers to provide an update on what types of webinars are currently planned for the future	In progress
	Officers to provide a report outlining the most recent Covid-19 vaccine data.	In progress  To be provided at April scrutiny
	Information to be provided to Members (as available and appropriate) on the interventions for LD people.	In progress  Officers and CM update