

Adult's Social Services & Public Health Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	Wednesday 28 April 2021
Report Of:	Councillor Tim Mitchell
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health
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1 Summary

As per the new agreed Cabinet Member report structure, this update provides highlights on my City for All priorities, and current areas of focus in the Adult's Social Services & Public Health portfolio. Since the last Adult's Social Services & Public Health Policy and Scrutiny Committee, I have formally approved the following key decisions:

- Adoption of the Core Drugs and Alcohol Treatment Service Award

2 City for All – Adult's Social Services and Public Health Priorities

Vibrant Communities

2.1 Addressing the Impacts of COVID-19 on Residents

This priority will address identified disparities by creating and developing healthy and sustainable places and communities, which will enable all residents to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives. This work is currently being scoped. The spotlight will be both on health inequalities and a recovery plan.

2.2 Providing Services That Enhance Emotional Wellbeing and Support Mental Health

This commitment is in the scoping phase and will require a corporate approach and agreement on focus and priorities. A task and finish group has been set up which also aims to identify gaps in the services and develop a business case for sustainable service development.

2.3 Supporting People Living with Dementia

There are a number of initiatives underway such as the council facilitating Dementia Friends sessions and bespoke dementia training to the whole community. During COVID-19, internal council training was made available to the wider community.

Smart City

2.4 Trial Smart City Assistive Technologies

Adult Social Care (ASC) has been working with PA Consulting to build on the existing digital offer within ASC to develop a roadmap that will enable WCC to be at the forefront of digital delivery in ASC. Two potential 'quick wins' that can be progressed, alongside the initiatives that are running or planned already, are the Automated Contact Services and Smart Speakers (e.g. Alexa). The approach is designed to expedite delivery whilst simultaneously building local capability to inform the design of a sustainable service model for scaling post pilot.

3 COVID-19 Update – Adult Social Care & Public Health

3.1 Cases / Epidemiology

On March 29th the Stay at Home Order was lifted and national restrictions will slowly ease in England as per the guidance from the National Government. As of the 10th of April Westminster, recorded a 7-day rate of 28.3 cases per 100,000. Compared to 331.4 cases per 100,000 at the time of the last report in early February.

3.2 Outbreak Management / Local Testing Strategy

Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) are still being made available to support targeted asymptomatic testing and there is still currently capacity at these sites. Local testing sites, using PCR laboratory tests for those with symptoms, are at Lydford Hall, Greenside Community Hall and Grosvenor Hall with mobile testing facilities at Hyde Park. Asymptomatic testing is available at Moberly Sports Centre, Little Venice Sports Centre and Westminster Cathedral.

3.3 Supporting the CCG with the Rollout of Vaccinations

The roll out of COVID-19 vaccinations commenced in late December. The vaccination programme is being led by colleagues in the NHS with support from the Local Authority. Westminster has multiple vaccination centres: South Westminster, Lord's Cricket Ground, and Hospital Hubs. Since March 3rd two additional vaccination sites have opened at Marble Arch and Westminster Abbey. Residents in all care homes have been offered the vaccine via an initial round of visits from NHS teams. In Priority groups 1 to 9 (adults over 50 and at clinical risk) 51,185 of first doses have been administered as of April 20th, representing 65.05% of that population.

3.4 Local Contact Tracing

This is supplementary to the national scheme which passes details of those who test positive but have not been contactable within 24 hours to the local authority for intervention. Local teams are phoning or visiting persons at home to encourage self-isolation of cases and of their contacts and offer support for those self-isolating, where this is required. NHS and local teams are now regularly achieving 80% of necessary contacts.

3.5 Communications and Resident Engagement

Public Health and Communications colleagues continue to work closely in delivering the council's COVID-19 communications, ensuring residents, businesses and stakeholders are aware of how to stay safe with advice on how to prevent the spread of the virus available across our diverse communities. Recent focus has been on promoting the stay at home message, symptomatic and asymptomatic testing, and encouraging residents to feel confident in taking up the vaccine when they are offered it.

3.6 Recovery Planning

National and regional research to date, including that published by Public Health England, has confirmed that COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted certain people and communities. Local data also suggests that a higher proportion of deaths from COVID-19 are among people from a BAME background.

4 Areas of Focus

4.1 Changes in NHS

North West London (NWL) are moving to an Integrated Care System (ICS) commencing 1st April 2021. Local CLCCG dissolved on the 31st March 2021 and has been replaced by a Borough Committee. Changes in personnel and operating models are likely to cause some distraction during the early part of 2021/22, as the new models bed in. NWL Clinical Commission Group (CCG) reports that in Westminster there has to be a £10M budget reduction within the next 5 years. The Borough Committee will have to reduce spend to deliver the savings. The extent and impact are unknown.

5 Performance Updates

5.1 New Permanent Admissions to Residential/Nursing Care of People Aged 65 Years and Over

Performance continues to remain on track. Our position at Q3 showed 46 admissions. COVID-19 has led to a significant reduction in the numbers of people being admitted to residential and nursing care.

5.2 Service Users Receiving an Assessment or Review

65% of service users (i.e. anyone over the age of 18 who needs support from ASC in WCC) have received an assessment or review at Q3 compared to 43% at Q2. This target is performing well and is on track.

5.3 Total Sexual Health Screens Undertaken Through E-Services

Performance continues to exceed targets at 11,529 at the Q2 position. From next quarter, we will be changing this indicator to focus on contraception (which has recently moved to online delivery).