



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MINUTES

Vulnerable Adults, Health and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **Vulnerable Adults, Health and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Committee** held on **Thursday 7th March, 2024**, 18th Floor Meeting Rooms. Westminster City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, SW1E 6QP.

Members Present: Councillors Concia Albert (Chair), Lorraine Dean, David Harvey, Sara Hassan, Patrick Lilley and Ralu Oteh-Osoka

Also Present: Councillor Aicha Less (Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection), Frances Martin (Executive Director of Environment, Climate and Public Protection)(online), Paul Perkins (Programme Lead - Community Hubs), Serena Simon (Director of Communities), Anna Ralieggh (Bi-Borough Director of Public Health), David Bello (Bi-Borough Head of Service, Adult Mental Health Services), Dr. Ben Holden (Acting Public Health Consultant, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust), Iain Cassidy (CEO, Open Age), Jackie Rosenberg (CEO, One Westminster/ Deputy CEO Paddington Development Trust), and Liz Thorpe -Tracey (Founder, Happy Lizzy Event Planning CIC)

1 MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 The Committee noted that Councillor Robert Eagleton gave his apologies.
- 1.2 The Committee noted that Councillor David Harvey was substituting for Councillor Amanda Langford.
- 1.3 The Committee noted that Councillor Patrick Lilley was substituting for Councillor Hamza Taouzzale.
- 1.4 The Committee noted that Councillor Sara Hassan was substituting for Councillor Gillian Arrindell.
- 1.5 The Committee noted that Councillor Ralu Oteh-Osoka was substituting for Councillor Selina Short.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 The Committee noted Councillor Concia Albert declared that in respect of Item 6, Westminster Community Hubs Programme, Iain Cassidy (CEO, Open Age), Jackie Rosenberg (CEO, One Westminster/ Deputy CEO Paddington

Development Trust), and Liz Thorpe -Tracey (Founder, Happy Lizzy Event Planning CIC) are known to her.

- 2.2 The Committee noted Councillor David Harvey declared that in respect of Item 6, Westminster Community Hubs Programme, Jackie Rosenberg (CEO, One Westminster/ Deputy CEO Paddington Development Trust) is known to him.
- 2.3 The Committee noted Councillor Lorraine Dean declared that in respect of Item 6, Westminster Community Hubs Programme, Jackie Rosenberg (CEO, One Westminster/ Deputy CEO Paddington Development Trust) is known to her.
- 2.4 The Committee noted that there were no other declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES

- 3.1 The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2024.

RESOLVED:

- 3.2 That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January be signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

4 WORK PROGRAMME

- 4.1 The Committee noted this was the last meeting for the 2023/24 municipal year.
- 4.2 The Committee noted that a Work Programme meeting will be held on 13 May to plan the next municipal year programme. This follows from the Policy and Scrutiny Cabinet Member Annual Updates to be held in April 2024.

5 INNER WEST LONDON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RECONFIGURATION JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (IWL JHOSC) UPDATE

- 5.1 The Committee received a verbal update from the Chair on the IWL JHOSC. The Chair drew Members attention to the following points:
 - The Inner West London Mental Health Services Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held five public meetings to scrutinise the proposed substantive change to mental health service provision by Central North West London Foundation Trust (CNWL).
 - The meetings of the JHOSC provided constructive critical friend challenge, amplified the voices and concerns of the public, worked to drive improvement in public services and the cross-party group of members came to their conclusions with an independent mind.
 - The scrutiny process has not finished; and both local authorities are committed to local resolution.

- Thanks were noted to colleagues who are members of this Committee, as well as the representations that have been received from CNWL and ICB, HealthWatch, Professor Jill Manthorpe, organisations in the community and voluntary sector, and those who have observed or contributed to the meetings.
- The JHOSC submitted its evidence-based and independent conclusions on Thursday 29 February 2024. It commented on the service reconfiguration proposals as well as the adequacy of the consultation.
- The JHOSC requires consideration of the recommendations it has set out by CNWL and ICB within 28 days.
- At the end of April, CNWL/ ICB will be providing a report to the JHOSC which summaries the consultation outcomes. The JHOSC will meet to scrutinise this, as well as invite independent experts and others to give comment on the patient voice.
- The evidence collected from this meeting, and at previous meetings, will be used to produce a more substantial report and the JHOSC would ask that the report and recommendations are responded to in the Decision-Making Business Case.
- The Business Case has been scheduled to be taken as a decision at the ICB meeting on 16 July 2024.
- The decision will not be implemented until September 2024 to give the JHOSC time to review and scrutinise the decision.

6 WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY HUBS PROGRAMME

6.1 The Chair welcomed Paul Perkins (Programme Lead - Community Hubs), to introduce the report on Westminster Community Hubs. The Programme Lead - Community Hubs, Serena Simon (Director of Communities), Anna Ralieggh (Bi-Borough Director of Public Health), Frances Martin (Executive Director of Environment, Climate and Public Protection), and Councillor Aicha Less (Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection, answered questions on the following topics:

- The importance of engagement with residents in the development of the hubs and the need for the engagement to be broader to inform plans and capture a full data set of residents.
- Why the sample of residents to date has been low from street engagement, where and how engagement has been carried out in the areas that are within a 15 minute walk of an intended hub site, and how figures can be improved from planned engagement activities.
- Direct conversations with residents in the south of the City.
- The different types of governance arrangements of the sites and the standards the Council will be expecting, including, reporting requirements and outcomes, and allowing organisations the flexibility to be creative and operate.
- Managing the sites with voluntary sector partners and how services will be integrated and achieve a common purpose.
- How the Council will reach and engage with residents that are difficult to contact.
- How the governance of the first pilot mini hub has been decided, the potential options that were presented, and the importance of gaining feedback from

other directorates across the Council to ensure all funding considerations are explored and long-term sustainability is achieved.

- The timing of the opening of each hub in line with the community engagement activities and the types of engagement that have taken place.
- Whether the residents who have engaged in the workshops are representative of the local demographics within 15 minutes' walk of the hub sites, engagement of children and parents on relevant estates, voluntary sector partners, and organisations, and ward Councillors.
- What parts of the population have been missing from the engagement activities.
- The need to involve all areas across the Council to ensure that the Council is targeting the right types of services in the hubs and in the right locations.
- Different hub models and the different organisations that could be involved.
- Other exemplar models that have been considered in the planning of the hubs, such as the community trust initiative run by an agency in Bromley-by-Bow.
- How each of the venues will be managed and who will make decisions.
- The potential duplication of services across the borough, how different the offer at the community hubs will be from family hubs and children centres in similar locations, how this is being considered in the planning, and why Queen's Park Community Centre is still not open.
- The LGBT community and what health inequalities are experienced by them, what types of services can be implemented to improve health outcomes, and whether to overcome challenges of HIV being lessened in Westminster by 2040 is part of the forward plans.
- How the Council will seek to engage with and offer free health support for the diverse LGBT QI+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning community), population in Westminster that is community based, especially the older LGBT community and black gay men and improve uptake.
- The deficit of services that are available for older gay men.
- The importance of the entry point into services, the different types of exposure residents experience, and the importance of consistency with the proposals for services to ensure there is a joined-up approach.
- The development of more mini hubs and outreach services to aid reaching the difficult to reach residents and those residents that would be unable to engage due to language or physical reasons and how joint engagement may be designed.
- The importance of language provision in each of the community hub sites to ensure access.
- The potential impact on the local community in the immediate area of the hub sites such as noise, traffic, and footfall, how this will be mitigated as part of the decisions and implementation of services at each site, and the feedback so far from those that have engaged, such as at Ernest Harris House.
- How will the types of activities that will be allowed within the hubs be decided and managed, codes of conduct, and the opening hours of each site.
- The Council's available revenue for the initial set-up, and whether any organisations will pay for space in the larger hubs such as the VCS (Voluntary and Community Sectors).
- Central London locations of additional community hubs such as Soho where a need is present and reasons behind why some have not been progressed.

- What the balance of services will be in the hubs between VCS, health services, and Council services, and how does the Council know this is the balance that is needed.
- What the first hub will contain, how those decisions have been made from the engagement sessions, and what provisions are currently already available in that location.
- Possible fundraising and income streams with organisations such as One Westminster and VS providers, and what central government funding may be available for certain aspects of the offer at the hubs.
- The need for future financial plans to be put in place following the development of the first pilot hub.
- How the longer-term funding of the hubs will be met, what will happen if the funding cannot be secured beyond the initial funded period, and whether any funding provided will be to the detriment of other statutory social services for children and adults after the initial funding stream.
- How the priorities for #2035 have been evaluated in the design of the hubs and how this has been considered alongside primary care provisions, especially in the first hub.
- The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and how this will inform the needs of the community hubs such as prevention services and male primary care.
- How the staffing at the hub will reflect the demographics of communities and residents in the area and how they will be involved in the co-design, such as the Harrow Road site.
- How NHS services and public health data sets in the hub areas will be used to consider public health needs and more specific health issues, especially in deprived areas to see the impact of health measures and determinants, including factoring in the effect on hospitals and Council service and health services and what and who will have the biggest impact.
- Whether services such as WAES (Westminster Adult Education Service) and employability skills, early help and housing will be included as part of the service at the hubs and how the engagement has informed this.
- Who will manage the sites, how will this be decided for each site, how will this be a flexible and transparent process, what annual evaluations will be used, and what variables will be used.
- How day to day issues with the vast mixture of people in public spaces will feel comfortable for residents and be managed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6.2 That the Council will investigate a free community health offer for the LGBT QI+ in particular, for the ageing male population.

6.3 That issues such as disruption due to additional noise, traffic and footfall in the immediate local community in the proximity of each of the hubs are considered as part of the planning and implementation process.

6.4 That longer-term funding plans are put in place, including outside Government funding available to the Council, to ensure adequate funding and longevity of the community hubs.

6.5 That the Council will retain over all control and management of the community hubs sites by implementing key performance indicators and regular review schedules and valuations with partners.

6.6 That individual management structures for each community hub site be considered in light of the individual local need.

6.7 That the Council actively involves residents in the co-space design of the community hubs spaces.

6.8 That the Council considers suitable case studies from other local authorities as part of the forward planning of the community hubs to ensure that good practice ideas are considered.

6.9 That the Community Programme Strategy come back to the Committee following the plans being formulated, the opening of the first pilot community hub, and prior to any further community hub expansion.

6.10 That the Council will implement processes to ensure that it partnerships with accountable organisations and that processes for measuring the suitability of each partnership and what they offer in each location be implemented, transparent, and in the right location.

REQUESTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

6.11 To provide an outline of the offer of services and programmes for the first community hub pilot to the Committee.

6.12 To provide a breakdown of the intended spending on the development of the community hubs programme (up to £10million over the next 2-3 years) to the Committee.

The meeting ended at 8.48 pm.

CHAIR: _____

DATE: _____