



# **Minutes**

of the  
Meeting of the  
**Public Health and Prevention Cabinet Panel**  
on  
**Wednesday, 18 September 2019**

**1. AGENDA**

**2. MINUTES**

**3 - 10**

# MINUTES



To: All Members of the Public Health and Prevention Cabinet Panel, Chief Executive, Chief Officers, All officers named for 'actions'  
From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services  
Ask for: Stephanie Tarrant  
Ext: 25481

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH AND PERFORMANCE CABINET PANEL 18 SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **ATTENDANCE**

### **MEMBERS OF THE PANEL**

A P Brewster (Vice Chairman), L A Chesterman, S Gordon, T Howard, T R Hutchings (Chairman), M B J Mills-Bishop, N A Quinton, A F Rowlands, W J Wyatt-Lowe

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Public Health and Prevention Cabinet Panel meeting 18 September 2019 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below:

*Note: M B J Mills–Bishop declared an interest as recorded at item 8.*

### **PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS**

#### **1. MINUTES**

- 1.1 The Minutes of the Cabinet Panel meeting held on 21 June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **2. PUBLIC PETITIONS**

- 2.1 There were no public petitions.

#### **3. HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT POSITION STATEMENT**

[Officer Contact: Bethan Clemence, Strategic Lead Healthy Places, Tel: 01992 555863 / Fiona Deans, Healthy Places Officer, Tel: 01992 588804]

- 3.1 The Panel received a report which presented a draft Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Position Statement and supporting guidance, developed in collaboration between officers within Public Health and Environment. Members heard that this had been developed to inform planning processes and local planning authorities are encouraged to consider making HIA policy provisions within Local

#### **ACTION**

Plans to ensure that health and wellbeing is considered as part of development and growth. The Panel heard that the report had been presented to the Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy Cabinet Panel on 4 September 2019 and was to progress on to Cabinet on 28 October 2019. It was noted that the Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy Cabinet Panel had requested that officers continued to liaise with Local Planning Authorities to ensure that there was minimal impact on staffing resources.

- 3.2 Members noted that it was not a statutory requirement to produce HIA's and that the County Council was taking steps to ensure that major future developments took into consideration health implications to residents. Members agreed that legislative back up was required and the Chairman agreed to write to the Secretary of State to seek support in introducing HIA's into national planning. Members were interested to note that statutory provisions for HIA were in place in Wales and noted that other Local Authorities in England were working to produce similar guidance.
- 3.3 In response to a Member question regarding staff resourcing to manage the HIA process, officers advised that it was not just a matter of capacity but developing the knowledge and skills on HIA's and that Public Health is looking to offer HIA training to planning colleagues in the near future. Officers confirmed staffing capacity for the County Council would be met within existing resource. It was noted that the County Council was trying to lead by example and that the Minerals Local Plan would include a policy provision for HIA's. Officers would be sharing the importance of HIAs with the Hertfordshire Infrastructure Partnership in due course to raise awareness at the Member level.
- 3.4 Members discussed the absence of a stated threshold for requiring HIAs to be undertaken for commercial developments. Officers explained that whilst specific thresholds were given for residential development, commercial/industrial proposals would be dealt with on a case by case basis.

Tim Hutchings

**Recommendations:**

- 3.5 The Panel:-
- noted and commented upon the content of the report.
  - supported the Director of Public Health's view that the County Council should make clear its position on planning-related Health Impact Assessment's, given the level of growth and development anticipated within Hertfordshire over the next 10 years.

**4. HEALTHY PLACES UPDATE**

[Officer Contact: Bethan Clemence, Strategic Lead Healthy Places]

- 4.1 The Panel received a report which provided an update on the Healthy Places workstream, including current priorities, ongoing projects, challenges and future areas for development.
- 4.2 Members heard that the service had a good working relationship with Highways colleagues and that shared priorities were being addressed together e.g. air quality issues. Members were encouraged by the progress being made as part of the Healthy Places workstream.
- 4.3 In response to a Member question regarding volunteers to support residents health, officers noted that it was vital that all services (both professionals and volunteers) that came into contact with residents in their homes were aware of and promoted 'Make Every Contact Count'.
- 4.4 Members discussed the Hertfordshire Warmer Homes Scheme and noted that 4.19 of the report detailed a high level of cancellations and queried how much of an issue this caused. Officers advised that cancellations lead to a lot of unnecessary work. It was noted that a high number of cancellations were due to the applicants not meeting government-set eligibility criteria and that the scheme is currently under review.
- 4.5 Officers confirmed that recreational/green areas were not included in the report as these were generally managed at district level. It was noted that the service would always comment on any consultations regarding open space and that ParksHerts (a public health funded project) provided a website that included information on green areas for all 11 district/borough councils. Public Health also engages with Environment colleagues in relation to tree health. Officers agreed that information regarding health and green spaces could be provided in the next update.
- 4.6 Members commented on the Local Transport Plan in relation to bus usage and noted that buses in Canada had cycle racks on the front of them and suggested that this may be a suitable pilot to run in rural areas to help make cycling into towns and cities safer. Officers agreed to pass this suggestion on to colleagues in environment for consideration.

Bethan Clemence

Bethan Clemence / Rupert Thatcher

**Recommendations:**

- 4.8 Panel noted and commented on the content of the report.

**CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS**

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**5. HERTFORDSHIRE'S HEALTHY WORKPLACE PROGRAMME**  
[Officer Contact: Piers Simey, Consultant in Public Health / Zach Mather, Project Manager, Tel: 01992 588073 / Rushma Patel, Business Manager, Public Health, Tel: 01442 453625]

- 5.1 The Panel received a report which provided an update on how workplace health and wellbeing was being addressed within the County Council through the Healthy Workplace Programme.
- 5.2 Members noted that 38 Work Place Health Champions had already be trained with aim of having 70 in place by April 2020. In addition, free NHS Health Checks and blood pressure checks were offered to eligible staff. The next step was to review the programme and to bring the programme evaluation back to Panel.
- 5.3 Members discussed the free Health Checks for County Council staff and members and commented that there was not an internal follow up process for any concerns raised. Officers noted this and agreed to consider this further and look at what could be offered alongside the NHS.
- 5.4 The Panel discussed whether there was any offering for Members around mental health and officers advised that there had been initiatives, however take-up from Members was not consistent. The Panel noted that there could now be an intense pressure on Members via Social Media that was not present a few years ago.
- 5.5 Members noted that 50% of 35-54 year olds did not do any physical activity and queried what was available to encourage staff in the workplace. Officers advised that Workplace Health Champions had initiated Healthy Walks which took place over lunch. There were also pool bicycles available for staff to help increase physical activity. In addition, teams had been encouraged to replace snack bowls with healthy snacks. Members requested that initiatives were also communicated to Members so that they had the opportunity to partake.
- 5.6 In response to a Member question regarding trauma experienced as part of a job, officers advised that there was a Mental Health training package for managers to help support staff and there was an Employee Assistance Programme, which provided a free 24-hour confidential helpline.

Jim McManus

**Recommendations:**

- 5.7 The Panel: -
  - noted and commented on the content of the report.
  - noted and commented upon the Director of Public Health's view

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INITIALS**

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that supporting employees to improve their health and wellbeing was an appropriate priority for the County Council, as it could benefit both individual staff members and the organisation as a whole.

- noted that a further paper would be presented at Panel in early 2020, setting out findings from the first full year of the Healthy Workplace programme. The paper would also cover potential next steps for extending the programme in the ten districts/boroughs and other workplaces from April 2020.

## **6. PREVENTION GREEN PAPER**

[Officer Contact: Joanne Doggett, Head of Programme Delivery and Resources, Tel: 01992 556358]

- 6.1 Members received a report which presented the recent government green paper 'Advancing our health: prevention in the 2020s – consultation document' ("the Green Paper"). The Panel noted that the County Council had until 14 October 2019 to submit a response and therefore comments for inclusion were welcomed. It was noted that the response would be shared with Panel Members following submission.
- 6.2 Members expressed concerns around Community Pharmacists not having access to patients records e.g. to see what medication patients were already taking. It was noted that it may be difficult to share records, however, it was noted this should be highlighted as it reflected the direction of travel required.
- 6.3 The Panel discussed the role in which Local Authorities had in relation to Public Health and if there had been any advances to the NHS plan. Officers advised that Local Authorities continued to lead on Public Health, however it was clear that NHS Local plans could not be delivered without working collaboratively.
- 6.4 It was noted that Members could also provide a personal response to the online consultation.

### **Recommendation:**

- 6.5 Members provided comment on the Green Paper to inform the County Council's response to the Consultation.

## **7. PUBLIC HEALTH QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT – Q1 2019/20**

[Officer Contact: David Conrad, Consultant in Public Health, Evidence & Intelligence, Tel: 01992 555391 / Will Yuill, Public Health Analyst, Tel: 01992 555127]

- 7.1 The Panel received a report which provided an overview of work being undertaken in Public Health, along with key statistics on local service performance and public health outcomes.
- 7.2 In response to Member comments on the way in which the graphs were presented, officers noted that these should have been updated and that the information would be displayed more clearly in future reports.
- 7.3 Members noted that the Children’s Healthy Weight Programme contract was due to finish in March 2020. Officers advised that discussions had taken place with Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group regarding a new contract, whereas direction was still awaited from East and North Herts Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 7.4 The service was commended for the national recognition received around the ‘Just Talk’ campaign and officers noted that the service had been shortlisted for three awards recently and won two commendations last year. Officers noted that the ‘Just Talk’ campaign had started to be modelled in other areas and gratitude was expressed to all those involved with the campaign.

**Recommendation:**

- 7.5 Panel noted and discussed the content of the Public Health Quarterly Performance Report for Q1 2019/20 (Appendix 1), as detailed above.

**8. BROXBOURNE AIR QUALITY PROJECT UPDATE REPORT**  
 [Officer Contact: Trevor Brennan, Strategy & Programme Manager, East Herts & Broxbourne, Tel: 01992 658406]

- 8.1 M B J Mills–Bishop declared an interest as the Leader of Broxbourne Council in October 2018 when the Ministerial Directive was issued. M B J Mills–Bishop remained in the room and participated in the discussion.
- 8.2 Members received a report which provided information regarding the development of the Broxbourne Air Quality Project. It was noted that the report had already been received at the Highways and Environment Cabinet Panel, where the recommendation at 3.2 of the report was supported.
- 8.3 Members queried if an analysis of which vehicles were causing the problem had been carried out. Officers advised that a 7-day ANPR was undertaken and from that officers would be able to determine which vehicles would have been charged. This information should be available by the end of September 2019. Members heard that a key issue was due to housing being within 150 meters of the A10.

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INITIALS**

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8.4 In response to a Member question, it was confirmed that any vehicles pre-2016 would be charged and any Euro 6 compliant would. The Panel discussed the proposed exclusions to charging and it was noted that an answer was still awaited from central Government on the exclusions. Concern was noted that if compliance was not achieved with the exclusions then the exclusions may not be feasible, which could lead to further charges.

8.5 Members noted that there would be an element of revenue, for which the Transport Act allowed for re-investment in local schemes. In addition, funding was being sought to put supporting structures in place e.g. offering a scrappage scheme and providing more electric charging points across the Borough.

**Recommendation:**

8.6 The Public Health and Prevention Cabinet Panel noted the content of the report.

**9. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

9.1 The Panel noted the provisional agenda for 14 November 2019:

- › Update on 0-19 Family Service
- › Stop Smoking Service Annual Report 2018-19
- › Q2 Performance Report
- › Public Health Strategy Update

**10. OTHER PART I BUSINESS**

10.1 There was no other Part I business.

**QUENTIN BAKER  
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHAIRMAN'S  
INITIALS**

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