

PEOPLE'S BOARD

At a meeting of the People's Board held on
Wednesday, 22 July 2020

(Present)

Councillor Baines	(Chair) Leader, St Helens Borough Council
Geoffrey Appleton	Chair, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
Councillor Bell	Cabinet Member, Community Safety
Councillor Burns	Cabinet Member, Public Health, Leisure and Libraries
Rachel Cleal	Deputy Director Peoples Services, St Helens Council
Dr M Ejuoneatse	Clinical Deputy Chair, CCG
Sue Forster	Director of Public Health, St Helens Borough Council
Tami Garvey-Jones	T/Superintendent, Local Policing, Merseyside Police
Gill Healey	Manging Director of Housing, Torus
John Heritage	Chief Operating Officer, NW Borough Healthcare NHS
Helen James	Community Rehabilitation Company
Guy Keen	Area Manager, Operational Response Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Jim Leivers	Interim Director of Children's Services
Wayne Longshaw	Director of Integration, St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Sarah O'Brien	Executive Director/ Accountable Officer Peoples Services, St Helens Council
Sandra Oluonye	Assistant Chief Officer, National Probation Service
Councillor Murphy	Deputy Leader, St Helens Borough Council
Councillor Quinn	Cabinet Member, Adult Social Care and Health
Sally Yeoman	Chief Executive, Halton & St Helens VCA

A Minutes silence was held for all those affected by the Covid-19 Pandemic and in remembrance of Paul Sanderson, Former Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director, Place who had sadly died earlier in the week.

Following the minutes silence, the Chair took the opportunity to thank all Partners and organisations of the Board for the incredible work done to help support residents and communities in the Borough during the pandemic, in what had been an unprecedented and difficult few months.

54 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from, Councillor Nova Charlton, Kath O'Dwyer, Carla Jones and Ann Marr.

It was noted that John Heritage had tendered his apologies for Part 2 of the meeting.

55 MINUTES

* **Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2020, be approved and signed.**

56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made.

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57 PEOPLE'S BOARD REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Director of Public Health, Sue Forster presented the report on People's Board Revised Terms of Reference which updated the Board on the review of The Terms of Reference of the People's Board.

The People's Board Terms of Reference were reviewed annually, normally in March 2020, prior to the Annual Council meeting in May where the Terms of Reference were formally approved.

It was noted that in managing the COVID-19 Outbreak, both Annual Council and the People's Board had been cancelled in May and June respectively and therefore there had been a delay in reviewing the Terms of Reference of the Board.

However, with the new requirements of local authorities to have Outbreak Management Plans and both Outbreak Management Boards and Health Protection Boards, it had been agreed by emergency decision that the People's Board would be the oversight and public engagement arm of actions delegated to the Board. Therefore, the Terms of Reference had been reviewed.

The report highlighted the key changes which included redevelopment of the vision of the People's Board and strategic objectives, updates and inclusions to the Board Membership, inclusion of Oversight of Outbreak Management for the COVID-19 response for St. Helens to the statutory duties of the Board and amendments and inclusions to the functions of the Board.

The Board was advised that the changes to the Terms of Reference had been made to ensure the Board functions met the new requirements and that titles were changed appropriately.

Also, amendments had been made to ensure a greater links between the People's Board and the Place Board and a level of political oversight had been introduced with members of Cabinet and a representative from the opposition party.

The Membership and Terms of Reference St Helens Peoples Board June 2020 was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) the report be noted; and**
- (2) the changes to the People's Board Terms of Reference be endorsed and approved.**

58 SAFER ST HELENS EXECUTIVE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Councillor Bell, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities presented the report on Safer St Helens Executive Proposal.

The St Helens People's Board encompassed both the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Community Safety Partnership functions for St Helens.

The Board was advised that over recent months, consideration had been given to developing an Executive to lead on issues of community safety to both mirror the arrangements for health and social care (St Helens Cares Executive) and to provide additional capacity for strategic planning and delivery of services that supported safer

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communities.

The report set out a proposed revision to the current governance arrangements in relation to the Community Safety Partnership element of the overall scope of the People's Board. The background and reasons for the recommendation and consideration of alternative options for arrangements were detailed in the report.

The Safer St Helens Executive Terms of Reference and Safer St Helens Executive Governance Proposal flow chart were appended to the report at Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) the report be noted;**
- (2) the creation of a Safer St Helens Executive, the Terms of Reference for the Executive, associated reporting mechanisms and the creation of a subgroup structure to support delivery be endorsed and approved; and**
- (3) the proposal that the St Helens People's Board would retain overall responsibility as the Community Safety Partnership forum for St Helens be endorsed and approved.**

59 UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Councillor Bell, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities presented the report on Community Safety activity during the Covid-19 pandemic which provided the Board with an update to key actions undertaken in relation to Community Safety during the pandemic.

The introduction of a national lockdown and significant restrictions on personal activities and movement had created an unprecedented context for service delivery and response.

It was reported that the strong partnerships across St Helens to build safer communities had adapted quickly to the new landscape and emerging risks and co-ordinated responses, shared resources and reframed services.

Services working to deliver safer communities in St Helens had worked together during the period of the pandemic to respond to a challenging, complex environment. The lockdown changed the nature of anti-social behaviour, presented an additional risk factor in ensuring that services could reach out to victims of abuse and had significantly changed the profile of crime and disorder in the borough.

The report provided updates and key actions to the Board under the following Community Safety headings:

- Domestic Abuse;
- Anti-Social Behaviour;
- Hate Crime; and
- Impact Crime and Disorder – appended to the report at Appendix 1.

It was noted that whilst many of the reported changes would be temporary in nature, services would continue to rely on mutual support and co-ordination to flex to the next stage of the lockdown restrictions, new emerging threats to safety and to ensure that Partners strengthen local communities for the residents, visitors and businesses of the

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Borough.

- * **Resolved that the update report from the Community Safety service in relation to recent activity during the Covid-19 pandemic be noted.**

60 ST HELENS JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA) 2020: MORTALITY

The Director of Public Health, Sue Forster presented the report on St Helens Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2020: Mortality.

The aim of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) was to identify the health and social care needs of the local population in order to support local organisations to plan, commission and deliver services and to ensure that local services best met the needs of local residents.

The report to the Board considered the key public health issues of life expectancy and mortality. Life expectancy was a measure that indicated the overall health of the population and since 2011, this has slowed in growth nationally for the first time in several decades. The mortality section provided insight into the trends, inequalities and causes of death in the Borough.

The report set out key findings, life expectancy, all age all-cause mortality, premature mortality, specific causes of mortality, excess winter deaths. It was reported that the data within the presented JSNA was for 2019 and therefore Covid-19 data had not been included.

The Director of Public Health advised that there had been some indication of the impact of the pandemic on mortality rates thus far, and at the time of writing in June 2020 there had been 188 registered deaths in St Helens that mentioned Covid-19 between March and June 2020. This reflected a greater number than deaths St Helens in the whole of 2019 from diseases of the nervous system, including Alzheimer's disease and digestive diseases, including liver disease, at 154 and 133 deaths respectively.

The St Helens Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2020: Mortality had been appended to the report.

The Board discussed the report and the need to refocus the health priorities and health inequalities that had been identified as priorities for focus for St Helens before the impact of Covid-19

It was noted that the impact in the stepping down of health services, in particular those responsible for early diagnosis and treatment of cancer and cardiorespiratory disease, was likely to have a future negative effect on the health and mortality outcomes for the Borough.

- * **Resolved that:**

- (1) the report be noted;**
- (2) the Board consider the JSNA 2020 Mortality section in the planning and delivery of services and programmes to reduce mortality inequalities and increase life expectancy in St Helens; and**
- (3) the report be used to understand the mortality rates prior to the pandemic and be used as a benchmark in relation to impacts of Covid-19 on the Borough's population in 2020 and subsequent years**

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61 COVID DASHBOARD

The Director of Public Health presented the Covid Dashboard, which presented to the Board details of the number of diagnosed and suspected cases of SAR-COV2 (Covid-19) in St Helens from 13 March 2020 to 10 July 2020 and trends in other outcomes.

It was reported up to the 18 July 2020, a total of 1,189 positive cases of SAR-COV2 (Covid-19) had been diagnosed in St Helens, with cases peaking at 194 cases per week in April 2020. It was reported that currently diagnosed cases were all time low of three per week.

The Board was advised in terms of benchmarking, St Helens had currently the lowest rate of cases in the North West, although the Board was advised to be mindful of the fact there could be asymptomatic cases.

In relation to deaths, it was reported there had been 196 deaths related to coronavirus in St Helens, 86 of which had occurred in care homes up to the 3 July 2020. The Board was advised that currently overall deaths had been close to the long-term average in St Helens for the last eight weeks.

The Board expressed the importance of the data coming through from Government being correct and on time, particularly to help ensure that 'Track and Trace' worked locally.

* **Resolved that the report be noted.**

62 OUTBREAK PLAN AND GOVERNANCE

The Director of Public Health presented the report on Outbreak Management Plan.

On 22 May 2020, Directors of Public Health received a briefing and presentation from Tom Riordan, the Chief Executive of Leeds City Council, who had been seconded to support the Government and the Department of Health and Social Care on Test, Trace, Contain and Empower.

The Board was advised that within the presentation, local authorities had been given clear guidance that their role would be to manage local outbreaks of COVID-19 now that test and trace systems were in place in order to keep rates are low. It had been considered that local authorities were best placed to understand the implications for their communities, and be able to work alongside partners and residents to manage the spread of COVID-19.

It was reported that it had been nationally mandated for Upper Tier Local Authorities to have Outbreak Management Plans and governance, and for this to be in place by 30 June 2020. The plans covered seven specific areas:

- Care homes and schools;
- High risk places and communities;
- Local testing capacity;
- Contact tracing in complex settings;
- Data integration;
- Vulnerable People; and
- Local Boards.

With the aim to protect the health and wellbeing of populations, through effective outbreak management, in St Helens the view had been taken that it was useful to have weekly

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meetings for both the Health Protection Board and Outbreak Management Board, with the rationale being that infections could spread quickly, there was a need to be able to respond in a timely manner.

The Board was advised that Health Protection Board and Outbreak Management Boards would meet frequently and take preventative measures where possible. However the Board could sit urgently should there be a need to set up an Incident team and report to the Board.

It was reported that the People's Board would be the public oversight of the Outbreak Management Board where updates on Covid-19 would be presented.

The St Helens Borough Council Management Plan for Covid-19 Summary June 2020, Terms of Reference of the Outbreak Management Board and the Terms of Reference of the Health Protection Board were appended to the report at Appendices A to C respectively.

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) **the report be noted;**
- (2) **Partners email the Director of Public Health to provide feedback on what information would be valuable to include in future reports to the Board on outbreak management; and**
- (3) **future updates from the Outbreak Management Board be received by the Board.**

63 ST HELENS CARES COVID UPDATE PRESENTATION

The Executive Director/ Accountable Officer – People's Services, Sarah O'Brien gave a presentation to the Board on St Helens Cares Covid Update.

The presentation '*Response to Covid-19*' detailed the following:

- Introduction;
- Care Homes;
- Primary Care and Community Care;
- Public Health Advice;
- Public Health Services;
- Acute Care;
- Mental Health;
- Integration and Enabling Activities; and
- Reflections and Learning

The Board noted the significant advantage that St Helens Cares and the Shared Care record had given to the local Health service in managing and treating the outbreak across the local authority, CCG and hospital.

* **Resolved that the presentation be noted.**

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64 ADULT SOCIAL CARE APPROACH TO SUPPORTING CARE PROVIDERS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Deputy Director Peoples Services, Rachel Cleal presented the report on Adult Social Care approach to supporting care providers during Covid-19 Pandemic.

The Council had an obligation to ensure that contracted adult social care services remained financially sustainable. The Board was advised that over the past ten weeks officers had worked with providers and the wider health and care system to understand and respond to the challenges of Covid-19.

The Government had been intent on supporting adult social care, specifically the care home sector. It was reported that there had been several Government announcements in recent weeks and that the Council was required to respond to all changes in policy, although was noted government announcements were advisory.

The Board was advised that the Council were adhering to much of the guidance Already, including the requirement to consider the future sustainability of the market beyond Covid-19, any uplift in payments only meeting temporary costs for providers, no standard or prescribed way to undertake the financial approach to Covid-19, enhanced uplifts for out of borough placements to be addressed locally and that payments should be made on plan and in advance.

The report set out a range of measures to support the adult social care provider market, to address the potential for increased demand and cost pressures arising from Covid-19 and to provide a level of financial security and cash-flow so care providers can operate effectively and safely.

The report also advised the Board on the financial implications common across the social care market including; Domiciliary Care, Residential / Nursing care, Supported Living, Day Support Services, Supporting Hospital Discharge, Changes to Payment Cycles and indirect Financial support.

The Financial Return for St Helens and Letter to the Minister of State for Care dated 29 May 2020 re: Support for Care Homes had been attached to the report at Appendices A and B respectively.

The Board made comment on the omission of carers in the recently announced public sector pay awards by the Government and that the system as a whole needed financial support.

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) the report including the detailed range of measures as set out within this report to support the adult social care provider market in St Helens be noted;**
- (2) the Board note that there may be a need to review provider capacity, in response to the demands on NHS Acute Trusts and the need to ensure a viable and sustainable care market in these unprecedented circumstances; and**
- (3) an update report be received by the Board in 6-12 months' time.**

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65 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 23 September 2020 at 2.30pm.

66 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

* **Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item for the reason stated:**

<u>Minute</u>	<u>Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)</u>
67	Information relating to any individual (Para 1 of Schedule 12A)

67 DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW

The Independent Reviewer, Steve McGilvary presented the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR).

The report presented both the Overview and Executive Summary detailing the findings of a Domestic Homicide Review following the commissioning of the Review by the People's Board in 2019.

A presentation was given to the Board on the outcomes and findings of the Domestic Homicide Review. The presentation detailed the following:

- Status of DHR Report;
- Background;
- Key Lines of Enquiry;
- Events;
- Disclosure November 2018;
- Response to Disclosure;
- Assessment December 2018;
- Conclusions; and
- Lessons Learnt and Recommendations.

The Domestic Homicide Review Overview Report and the Executive Summary – Domestic Homicide Review was attached to the report at Appendix 1 and 2 for the Board's approval prior to submission to the Home Office for endorsement and official publication.

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) **the report be noted;**
- (2) **the findings and recommendations of the Domestic Homicide Review be noted; and**
- (3) **the submission of the Domestic Homicide Review to the Home Office for evaluation and consideration for publication be agreed.**