

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel

9 November 2023

Commenced: 6.00pm

Terminated: 7.45pm

Present: Councillors Sharif (Chair), Owen (Deputy), Axford, Beardmore, Bowden, Drennan, Patel

Apologies: Councillors B Holland, Tillbrook, Warrington

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair declared a personal interest in connection to Item 4 of the Agenda. Councillor Naila Sharif informed panel members and attendees that she is currently employed by Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, in a capacity that is not senior or decision making. This will not impact her role as Chair given the nature and purpose in which the Scrutiny Panel will receive the information.

21. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel held on 14 September 2023 were approved as a correct record.

22. TAMESIDE MENTAL HEALTH PROVISION

The Panel welcomed Simon Sandhu, Medical Director, Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust; Trish Cavanagh, Deputy Place Based Lead; and Lynzi Shepherd, Head of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism (Tameside), to receive an update on mental health priorities for Tameside and an overview of services and support delivered by Pennine Care.

Information was provided on regional planning and the Tameside Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Locality Plan, the work that is ongoing and aspects relating to all age mental health and wellbeing.

It was reported that mental health priorities for Tameside include: –

- Improving mental health outcomes and understanding future needs (whole system approach)
- Mental health community transformation programme
- Mental health urgent and emergency care
- Continued development and implementation of the 'No Wrong Door' approach to all mental health care
- Prevention and crisis management/pathways (complex and varied need)
- Partnerships including VCSE

The Panel received a detailed update on the services provided by Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, with a summary and breakdown of service provision, resources and demand. This included chronology, key milestones and strategy relating to the improvement journey since the 2018 CQC inspection.

National benchmarking has shown local variances regarding resourcing and cost pressures. Spend on community services is considerably below the national average. It has also shown a

higher use of adult acute beds over the last 3 years, which can be attributed to a lack of community alternatives.

With reference to child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS), local services are in the lowest quartile for costs per contact. There are significant gaps in CAMHS capacity due to baseline levels and increased demand.

Other areas of variation include:

- Inconsistent alternatives to admission services and availability of crisis beds
- Significant gaps in commissioned neurodevelopment pathways (Autism/ADHD) – long waits
- Funding and models across memory assessment services
- Disparity in commissioning levels for NHS Talking Therapies
- Interface issues transition from secondary to primary care

Panel members received a detailed breakdown and summary of quality metrics for Pennine Care. The areas covered:

- Patient safety
- Experience of care
- Workforce data and challenges
- Community mental health – access and crisis
- Aspects of specialist mental health provision
- Inpatients and bed occupancy, length of stay, out of area placements, delayed transfers and readmission

The current position and challenges for CAMHS in Tameside include significant increases in waiting times for neurodevelopment. Tameside has experienced the most significant increases across Pennine areas. It was reported that referrals and demand in other areas referrals and is picked up by paediatrics and recorded outside of the current method used locally.

The officers responded to a number of questions from the panel on:

- Complexity of demand and variation in needs of individuals – prevention and crisis
- Workforce planning and the challenges to be addressed
- Access, pathways and waiting lists
- Funding challenges
- The changing nature of the way young people display distress and concerns relating to high referral rates to CAMHS – managing risk and improvement priorities.
- Transitional support and variations age 18 to 25
- Specialist mental health provision - out of area placements, delayed transfers and readmissions
- Importance of partnerships, including VCSE

23. CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Chair advised members of upcoming Scrutiny reports to be tabled at the meeting of Overview Panel on 21 November 2023.

The second meeting of the Domestic Abuse working group will take place at 1pm on 11 December 2023. Members of the working group have received notice and details of the meeting.

24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel will take place on Thursday 11 January 2024.

25. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR