

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

18 January 2024

Commenced: 10.00 am

Terminated: 11:45am

Present:

Councillor Wills (Chair)	Executive Member (Population Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Fairfoull	Deputy Leader (Children and Families)
Councillor Naylor	Executive Member (Inclusive Growth, Business & Employment)
Councillor Taylor	Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Homelessness & Inclusivity)
Sandra Stewart	Chief Executive
Stephanie Butterworth	Director of Adult Services
Debbie Watson	Director of Population Health
Liz Windsor-Welsh	Action Together

In Attendance:

Shaun Higgins	Active Tameside
Peter Marland	Ashton Pioneer Homes
Susan Riley	CAB
Celia Stone	DWP
Ian Redfern	GMFRS
Jane Timson	Tameside Adults Safeguarding Partnership Board

Officers In Attendance:

Julian Jackson	Director of Place
James Mallion	Assistant Director of Population Health
Alison Montgomery	Assistant Director of Social Care
Sarah Jamieson	Head of Economy, Employment & Skills
Beth Wolfenden	Head of Public Health Programmes
Tom Hoghton	Policy & Strategy Service Manager

Apologies for Absence: Trish Cavanagh and Allison Parkinson

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

16. MINUTES

RESOLVED

The Minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 14 September 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

17. TAMESIDE HEALTHY PLACES STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Population Health & Wellbeing) and the Director of Public Health that provided an update on the development of the proposed 'Tameside Healthy Places' strategic framework, which was one of the areas of focus in the recently ratified 'Building Back Fairer, Stronger, Together: Tameside Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy' and 'Locality Plan (2023-2028)'. A draft copy of the 'Tameside Healthy Places' strategic framework was appended to the report and presented to Members of the Board.

It was reported that in September 2023, following the approval of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Locality Plan, work began on the development of a draft strategic framework that

would deliver healthy places in Tameside. A growing body of evidence suggested that a whole systems approach could help address complex problems like unhealthy weight. The 'Tameside Healthy Places' strategic framework would support the local system in Tameside to maximise local scope for action to improve health and tackle inequalities by initially addressing these key risk factors. Plans were underway to work with The Health Foundation to develop this framework to include wider systems in a place and test this as an approach in Tameside.

Members of the Board were informed that tobacco, poor diet, and physical inactivity were the three leading causes of preventable death and ill health in England and key drivers of health inequalities. Tameside had the following challenges in these areas:

- Fourth highest smoking prevalence in England, with 1 in 5 adults being a smoker.
- Only one quarter of adults had the recommended five portions of fruit and vegetable a day.
- 40% of households experienced low or very low food security.
- Over 1 in 10 (11.8%) reception age children were obese rising to about a quarter (24.6%) in Year 6.
- About a third of adults were living with obesity and over two thirds were living with either overweight or obesity.
- Physical inactivity levels remained higher than pre-pandemic levels with approximately a third of all adults and children classified as 'inactive'.

It was stated that the 'Tameside Healthy Places' strategic framework set out the ambition of a place based, whole system approach to deliver healthy places, which supported Tameside residents to have a healthier and happier life. The framework was currently being developed with a range of consultation and engagement activity having been completed and further activity planned with a range of partners, VCFSE stakeholders and members of the public until February 2024. This ongoing consultation and engagement would continue to inform the final version of the framework, which would be brought back to the Health and Wellbeing Board in March 2024 for final approval.

A lengthy discussion ensued around obesity and the prevalence of smoking in children and young people; information was provided on the healthy schools programme led by the Starting Well programme and Members of the Board were advised that further engagement was planned.

RESOLVED

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- (i) acknowledged and supported the need for wider system change and cross sector leadership buy in and continued to champion the collaborative work in place in Tameside;**
- (ii) review the draft 'Tameside Healthy Places' strategic framework and provide feedback on the work to date; and**
- (iii) approve the key ambitions and timeline for the subsequent development of the strategic plans for tobacco control, physical activity, and food.**

18. WORK & SKILLS UPDATE

The Assistant Director of Public Health submitted a report that provided an overview of the progress made against the Health and Wellbeing Board priority around Work & Skills. This included an update on work, which sits with the Inclusive Growth Board; some of the existing support programmes and good practice already in place in Tameside, including further detail of the Pathways into Employment Forum, which was led by the hospital; and early findings of the Work & Skills Needs Assessment, due to be finalised in March 2024.

It was reported that one of the six areas of focus included as part of 'Building Back Fairer, Stronger, Together: Tameside Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy' and 'Locality Plan (2023-2028)' was "Help people get into, and stay in good work". A series of commitments were set out in the strategy to support a healthy workforce in Tameside and the positive relationship between good work and good

health. This highlighted the importance of the joint work between the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Inclusive Growth Board for Tameside, as well as committing to specific objectives.

A summary of the work of the Inclusive Growth Board was detailed in the report alongside an example of existing good practice, such as the Pathways into Employment Forum, run by Tameside Hospital, which was a network of local public and third sector organisations across Tameside, who worked collaboratively to reduce unemployment and supply people with the right skills and support to work in the health and care sector.

It was noted that the scope of the needs assessment would look at work and skills through a health and wellbeing lens, to include examining the cycle of poverty, low-quality work and poor health seen in Tameside. This would include looking at the impact of unemployment and poverty on health; the impact of low-quality work on health; and vice versa, and the impact of poor health on employment and economic development. The needs assessment also highlighted existing key health challenges in Tameside, which contributed to the relationship between poor health, low-quality work, unemployment and poverty. These included the gap in life expectancy compared to the national average; high rates of obesity and smoking, which drove the level of long term conditions; the high rate of residents living with a disability or limiting long-term illness; and higher prevalence of mental health disorders.

The initial findings of the Work & Skills Needs Assessment, which would undergo further analysis and exploration, were presented and included:-

- Broad levels of deprivation
- A range of female inequalities
- Challenges around adult education and skills
- Lower levels of qualifications
- A higher proportion of economically inactive people
- Lower job density
- Low pay
- Low proportion of people working in managerial or professional roles
- A high proportion of night-time workers
- High levels of digital exclusion
- Affordable housing

The next steps were outlined and the Board were informed that the growing partnership working and engagement at the Inclusive Growth Board would continue, as well as further work around supported employment programmes, such as the Pathways into Employment Forum, Routes to Work and In Work Progression programmes. Relevant recommendations on this ongoing work would be included in the findings of the Work & Skills Needs Assessment. In addition, development of the Work & Skills Needs Assessment would continue and the final version would be brought back to the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting in March 2024, for approval and publication.

A detailed discussion ensued around inequalities in the Borough, digital exclusion and the work and engagement with the Tameside business community. Members of the Board suggested that a targeted insight was needed on debt journeys of women on maternity leave.

RESOLVED

That the final version of the Work & Skills Needs Assessment be brought back to the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board, scheduled for 14 March 2024, for approval and subsequent publication.

19. BUILDING RESILIENCE: TACKLING POVERTY IN TAMESIDE - UPDATE ON STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Population Health and Wellbeing and the Director of Public Health that provided an update on the delivery of the anti-poverty strategy action plan to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

It was stated that in recent years the rise of poverty, exacerbated by the cost of living crisis and the Covid-19 pandemic, had emerged as a major policy issue. The current cost of living crisis had been significantly worsened by a number of longer-term structural weaknesses in the UK, including low wages, low productivity and high inequality relative to other major economies. This had been recognised and the Council and its Partners were working hard to support residents and gain a deeper understanding of poverty through cooperation with groups such as the Greater Manchester Poverty Action and the recommendations of Tameside Poverty Truth Commission.

Members of the Board were reminded that they had adopted the strategy 'Building Resilience: Tackling Poverty in Tameside' at the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting in March 2023 to address both the short-term and long-term issues that drove poverty in Tameside following the development of a Poverty Needs Assessment, as part of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. An action plan to deliver the ambitions set out in the strategy had been developed and delivery was undertaken by a sub-group alongside an internal operational delivery group. A number of areas of focus had been selected, which included the voices of people with lived experience of the issue, the use of data and evidence, and benchmarking against other areas, as follows:

- Debt journeys and service response
- Access to and experiences of ethnic minorities in healthcare
- Experiences of people with protected characteristics in the private rental sector
- Educational inequalities

It was reported that the Council had called on the Government to mount a covid-style response to help the many people across the country struggling to pay bills, eat and stay warm in the face of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis. Concern had been expressed about the increase in poverty and deprivation, with demands broadly falling into four categories: Benefits, local government funding, national policy and debt.

An update on progress against the action plan was appended as a table to the report and considered by the Board.

Thanks were extended to partners for their collective work around the issue, which they were encouraged to continue, with leadership and support being provided by the Council to deliver against the action plan.

RESOLVED

That the report and progress against the action plan be noted.

20. INEQUALITIES REFERENCE GROUP DEBT JOURNEYS AND PRO-ACTIVE SERVICE RESPONSE

The Policy and Strategy Service Manager submitted a report outlining local debt journeys by exploring existing resident survey data and primary survey data from those with lived experience of the debt journey. The report identified barriers that people faced in seeking advice, and how services could be more proactive and intervene earlier. It considered the research findings alongside local service statistics and mapping.

It was reported that there were significant implications to individuals arising from indebtedness, which could include civil proceedings for recovery that may cause further indebtedness through the addition of Court costs and fees. It was important therefore that individuals were aware of their legal

rights and obligations and the legal options available to them in the event that they found themselves in financial difficulty.

The key findings were outlined as follows:-

- 17.6% of adults in Tameside were over-indebted.
- Tameside had the 7th highest rate of individual insolvencies in England and Wales and the highest rate of individual insolvencies in Greater Manchester.
- Residents of Tameside were becoming insolvent at nearly twice the national average.
- People experiencing debt were more likely to experience a mental health problem than the national average.
- Tameside had one of the lowest Good Credit Index Scores, coming 276 out of 307 local authorities in England, indicating poor financial health in the borough.
- People in Tameside were more likely to seek debt advice once enforcement action had begun, indicating a need for earlier intervention.

The report detailed that exploration of existing resident survey data highlighted themes of the cost of living impact, pressures on incomes, experience of and perceptions of accessing support and dealing with debts through family and friends or as an individual, awareness of advice services, stigma of accessing advice services, themes of alternative borrowing or unregulated lending to deal with debt, individuals concern of the impact of debt on credit ratings.

Feedback from residents from the Dealing with Debt survey offered initial themes for proactive service responses to addressing barriers to accessing debt advice and support services, which were included in the recommendations, and set out in the report as follows:-

- Continuation of dealing with debt survey.
- Increase awareness of debt advice services.
- Multi-channel access to debt advice services
- Increased debt advice service provision
- Review of local financial capability/ education provision

A detailed discussion ensued with Members commenting on the additional issues many people who found themselves indebted faced, which led to complex cases, and consequently the importance of sign posting residents to the necessary support services.

RESOLVED

That the Health and Wellbeing Board endorse the recommendations contained with the report.

21. INEQUALITIES REFERENCE GROUP PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR REPORT

The Policy and Strategy Service Manager submitted a report that outlined the experience of residents with protected characteristics living in the private rented sector in Tameside in order to provide context and contribute to further discussions. Particular emphasis was given to the impact of housing conditions within the sector, and the capacity within the local authority and other Partners to understand and address inequalities.

Members of the Board were notified that the report sat within an existing body of work that had been carried out by a number of council services to understand the local private rented sector, for example the Poverty Truth Commission and Anti-Poverty Strategy and Tameside Housing Strategy 2021-26. The annex to the report provided important information in relation to the experience of individuals with protected characteristics living in private rented accommodation. In addition, the report also provided an accurate description of the key impacts of the Renters Reform Bill, which was yet to become legislation, but would provide significant new powers, such as, enable local authorities to enforce and protect renters' rights, the creation of an ombudsman for the Private

Rented Sector and the abolition of Section 21 'no fault' evictions. Information was also detailed on the Greater Manchester strategy document "A New Deal for Renters".

It was reported that, according to the 2021 Census, 17.5% of Tameside residents rented privately which was a 4% increase on the figures from the 2011 Census. It was noted that the private rented sector in Tameside was lower than the North West and National figures. The key findings were outlined as follows:

- White households in Tameside were less likely to be in private rented sector accommodation compared to other ethnic groups.
- The private rented sector contained a greater proportion of households where no people in that household had English as a main language.
- A third of households in the private rented sector had at least one person who identified as deprived in the health and disability dimension.
- There were a higher proportion of younger residents (aged 0-34) presenting as disabled in private rented sector accommodation compared to other tenure types.

It was stated that at the lower end of the private rented sector market, poor quality standards were having a significant impact on the mental and physical wellbeing of residents, exacerbated by the cost of living crisis, which had seen a sustained increase in rent levels in the private rented sector. Some of the issues included excess cold or heat, damp and mould, poor air quality, accidents and other physical risks, overcrowding and lack of space, insecurity and mental health.

The annex contained a number of recommendations, which were outlined as follows:-

- Deliver on existing Council work streams on improving the private rented sector, including the recommendations in the Housing and Poverty Strategies, and reviewing and updating the council's Private Sector Housing Strategy, with an emphasis on enforcement and disrepair.
- Work with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and other GM local authorities to roll out the trial and implementation of the Good Landlord Charter, A New Deal for Renters, and associated measures in Tameside.
- Conduct fact-finding exercises within Tameside to gain a better understanding of the local private rented sector, including who landlords are, which properties they own, the demographics of tenants, and whether essential safety checks are being carried out.
- Investigate possibilities to increase resourcing to Housing Services to facilitate inspections and enforcement action.
- Improve communication and signposting mechanisms between the Council, relevant partners and private rented sector tenants to ensure that they are aware of their rights and know who to ask for support if they experience issues.

Members of the Board commended the information contained within the annex and requested that the data be broken down to Ward level and shared with Members.

RESOLVED

That the Health and Wellbeing Board endorse the recommendations contained with the report.

22. BETTER CARE FUND 2023/24 QUARTER 2 MONITORING

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Population Health and Wellbeing / Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity / Director of Adult Services / Deputy Place Based Lead, Tameside Locality that provided details of the Quarter 2 monitoring return against the Better Care Fund (BCF) plan 2023/25.

It was reported that the BCF was one of the government's national vehicles for driving health and social care integration that required the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and local government to agree

a joint plan, owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board. These were joint plans for using pooled budgets to support integration, governed by an agreement under section 75 of the NHS Act (2006).

The Board were informed that the core purpose of the BCF was to support people to live healthy, independent and dignified lives, through joining up health, social care and housing services seamlessly around the person. The two core BCF objectives were to enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer and provide the right care in the right place at the right time. The BCF plan 2023/25 included: -

- Unplanned hospitalisations for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions
- Proportion of hospital discharges to a person's usual place of residence
- Admissions to long term residential or nursing care for people over 65
- Reablement outcomes (people aged over 65 still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital to reablement or rehabilitation at home)
- Emergency hospital admissions for people over 65 following a fall.

A reminder was provided that the 2023/24 locality BCF plan was formally approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 15 June 2023 and included the following funding allocations awarded to the Tameside locality for the financial year periods 2023/24 and 2024/25:-

- Revenue Funding
 - Core Better Care Fund
 - Improved Better Care Fund
 - Discharge Funding
- Capital Funding
 - Disabled Facilities Grant.

A table of the BCF funding awarded in 2023/24 was detailed in the report. The 2023/24 revenue funding allocations awarded to the Council were included within the 2023/24 Adult Services net revenue budget of £41.591m. The Disabled Facilities Grant allocation was included within the 2023/24 Adult Services capital programme. The quarter 2 monitoring return of the related metrics for the Tameside locality that were delivered by the schemes within the 2023/24 plan were provided in a document appended to the report.

Members of the Board were informed that as part of the BCF plan 2023/25, the Health and Wellbeing Board had agreed integrated plans for Urgent Care, Length of Stay and discharge, out of hospital 2 hour urgent care response, all of which were supported and embedded through BCF funding and linked to the capacity and demand monitoring. A key focus on reducing the length of stay for residents/patients both in hospital and in intermediate care meant that the locality had been able to sustain increased demand within existing capacity. However, there had been an increased demand for community reablement and so capacity had been increased accordingly.

A discussion ensued on the reablement team and in response to questions, it was confirmed that there was capacity at present and there had been a reduction in short stay beds in the community due to residents receiving the right support in the home environment and the necessary therapy.

RESOLVED

That the Health and Wellbeing Board approve the Tameside Locality Better Care Fund Quarter 2 return 2023/24 return.

23. TAMESIDE ADULTS SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

Consideration was given to the annual report of the Independent Chair of Tameside Adults Safeguarding Partnership Board (TASPB), setting out the activity and delivery of the objectives of the strategic plan of the TASPB in Tameside during 2022/23. There was a statutory duty for the TASPB to produce an annual report setting out the work to improve the outcomes for adults at risk of abuse.

The report highlighted the strategic direction of the TASPb and its partners in accordance with the duties and responsibilities set out in the Care Act 2014. The main focus of the TASPb during the period was the conclusion of the TASPb Strategy 2019-22 and revision of the TASPb Strategy 2022-25. There had also been a review of membership and three new partner agencies had been welcomed to the TASPb, as detailed below, with a new Independent Chair of the Board.

It was reported that the TASPb was represented by three statutory agencies – Tameside MBC, Greater Manchester Police and Tameside and NHS GM Integrated Care Organisation – and the following partner agencies – Healthwatch, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, Greater Manchester Probation Service, Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust, Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, Jigsaw, Change Grow Live, Northwest Ambulance Service, Care Quality Commission and VoiceAbility. There was elected Member representative through the Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Homelessness & Inclusivity.

The Chair of the TASPb stated that there had been a significant increase in the number of safeguarding concerns with 2089 concerns reported. She explained that this was partly due to a local change in the approach to recording adult safeguarding concerns and enquiries but it was a similar situation nationally due to an outcome of the COVID restrictions ending. It was reported that there had been 331 Section 42 safeguarding enquiries with neglect and acts of omission being the most prevalent types of abuse in Tameside with 31% of the total reported, a decrease on last years' figures; the most common location of abuse occurred in a person's home with 53% of the total, an increase on the previous year's data.

The Board were notified that the TASPb had a statutory obligation to undertake Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) and the reviews carried out during 2022/23 were available to view on the TASPb website [Safeguarding Adults Review \(SAR\) \(tameside.gov.uk\)](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/safeguarding-adults-review-sar). It was reported that the SAR Review of Action Plans Sub Group had been set up in 2022/23 to monitor progress of action plans that had been developed in response to the recommendations from SARs. The group was represented by key statutory and non-statutory partners who had worked collaboratively to agree the terms of reference and develop the work plan for 2022/23. The group continued to monitor the progress and implementation of action plans developed from the completed and published SARs during the period. One of the main priorities to respond to the learning in the SAR's had been the development of the Team around the Adult Model, which was a protocol for supporting practitioners working with adults at risk, and enabled a co-ordinated and collaborative multi agency approach. Work was also in place to develop an audit process to provide assurance that organisations had adopted, which would be further developed during 2023/24.

The Chair of the TASPb highlighted that due to the successful response to the priority of Making Safeguarding Personal as part of the TASPb strategy 2019-2022, it would remain a core focus for the Board and it had been embedded as practice across the partner organisations. The work had evolved and promoted a person centred, outcome focused and strength based approach to safeguarding adults. Adult Social Care had been particularly pro-active in working in partnership with the TASPb to develop a survey and leaflets for the adults at risk and their carers to promote Making Safeguarding Personal and this work would continue during 2023/24.

It was reported that World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and National Adult Safeguarding Week were both recognised and promoted in June 2022 and November 2022 respectively, with two development sessions held during the safeguarding week.

The shared priorities were outlined and it was stated that the TASPb would continue to work in partnership with the Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership, Community Safety Partnership, Health & Wellbeing Board and Domestic Abuse Steering Group.

The report detailed the learning and development, training for partner organisations and information on the quality assurance subgroup, in addition to contributions from individual organisations such as Tameside Adult Services, the Tameside District of GMP, the Integrated Care Board, Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, Healthwatch, Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation

Trust, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, Northwest Ambulance Service and Change Grow Live.

The Chair thanked the Independent Chair of Tameside Adults Safeguarding Partnership Board for a comprehensive report and praise was bestowed on the new approach adopted where people with lived experience were invited to contribute to the TASP. An example was provided of a hoarder who had overcome their issues and was now assisting others.

RESOLVED

That the Tameside Adults Safeguarding Partnership Board Annual Report 2022/23 be noted.

24. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

25. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board scheduled for 14 March 2024 be noted.

CHAIR