

# SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

## Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

### Meeting held 12 September 2024

**PRESENT:** Councillors Ruth Milsom (Chair), Steve Ayris (Deputy Chair), Toby Mallinson (Group Spokesperson), Rob Bannister, Laura McClean, Mick Rooney, Sophie Thornton, Ann Whitaker and Julie Grocutt

Also in attendance – Lucy Davies - Healthwatch

#### **10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

10.1 No apologies for absence had been received.

#### **11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

11.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public.

#### **12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

12.1 There were no interests declared at the meeting.

#### **13. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

13.1 The minutes of the previous meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 was agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **14. PUBLIC PETITIONS, QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

14.1 There were no public petitions, questions or statements to be considered at the meeting.

#### **15. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

15.1 A schedule of questions to the Chair, submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16, and which contained written answers, was circulated. Supplementary questions, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.4, could be asked, however this was deferred to the next meeting due to a delay in the member receiving the written answers.

#### **16. DENTISTRY REPORT**

16.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of Deborah Glen, Policy and Improvement Officer regarding the Dentistry Project. The report marked the completion of the first stage of the Sub-Committee's project on Dentistry Services in Sheffield, which comprised a 'Have your say' survey and a follow up workshop.

16.2 Debbie Stovin, Dental Programme Lead, South Yorkshire ICB/Yorkshire &

Humber was in attendance via remote access.

- 16.3 The aim of the project was to respond to concerns raised about the accessibility of Dentistry Services in Sheffield and to the wider work being carried out by the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (SY ICB) on the development of Dentistry across the whole of South Yorkshire.
- 16.4 The Policy and Improvement Officer presented the findings of the first stage of the project and gave additional information in response to members questions.
- There had been no consultation with Dentists as part of stage 1, this would be part of the next phase of the project;
  - A list of dentists who were currently taking on new NHS patients had been provided at the workshop and a list could also be found on the NHS website;
  - It was confirmed that a mixed response had been received through the survey regarding Charles Clifford's, people appreciated the facility, but found the communication between them and the dentists could be an issue;
  - The survey highlighted that last minute appointment cancellations were a problem. The Policy and Improvement Officer advised that appointment cancellations came up a few times as an issue. Responses were grouped into good and bad experiences;
  - The provision differed in postcode areas, and it showed that people could not access treatment in certain areas. There were dental deserts and comments were made how important it was for children to be able to access evening appointments, outside of school times.
- 16.5 It was confirmed that the recommendations outlined in the report would be taken back to the ICB for consideration and a response would be provided with additional information.
- 16.6 Debbie Stovin advised that the response would focus on headlines, such as the urgent/routine dental surgery and the commitment of the ICB to spend money on dentistry.
- 16.7 Children's dentistry was a key priority and the ICB had committed £1m on projects through the federation.
- 16.8 The Sub-Committee discussed reaching out to marginalised groups, such as people with learning disabilities, asylum seekers, SEND children and Domestic Abuse survivors and their access to dentistry treatments. The Chair advised that next stage would be to set up a working group and that all members of the Sub-Committee would be invited to the workshop. It was agreed that the Policy and Improvement Officer would begin work on this.
- 16.9 Resolved: - that the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

1. make the necessary amendments to the report;
2. agreed the final format of the report and stage 2 of the project to establish a working group to oversee further reviews of 'access to dental services by marginalised groups';
3. agreed to include stage 2 of the project in its work programme for 2024/25;
4. forward its recommendations on Dental Services to the ICB for consideration and response.

## **17. ADULT AUTISM AND ADHD REPORT**

17.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust that provided an overview of its Sheffield Autism and Neurodevelopmental Service and defined the two separate pathways for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and autism in adults.

17.2 In attendance were Holly Johnson, Clinical Psychologist, Robert Verity, Clinical Director, Alison Eggington, Service Manager, Adele Rowett, Head of Service and Liz Tooke, Transformation and Delivery Manager (ICB).

17.3 The report described the waiting times for the pathways, and the work undertaken to reduce waiting times and provide support to people whilst waiting.

17.4 The Sheffield Adult Autism and Neurodevelopmental Service (SAANS) is commissioned to provide diagnostic assessments and post diagnostic follow up for autism, and ADHD assessment and medication for ADHD where there is a co-occurring diagnosis of autism.

Demand nationally for autism and ADHD assessments had risen exponentially. In 2018 the demand for ADHD referrals was 200 per year. Currently the demand for ADHD assessment was around 200 per month.

17.5 The numbers of people waiting as at the ends of July 2024 was:

- ADHD: Sheffield 3,616 (2,250 on screening and 1,366 on wait list), national referrals 4,298 (2,361 on screening and 1,937 on wait list). 3,832 of these were Derbyshire (DDICB) service users and would be transferred back to Derbyshire at the end of October, once they had their own provision service in place. This would greatly affect the waiting list positions.
- National referrals could come as 'right to choose' options, or from the Derbyshire (DDICB) contract that was due to end in October 2024.

17.6 The Autism service workforce model was multi-disciplinary, and psychology led.

17.7 The service had been successful in attaining the commission target for Sheffield

which was 600 assessments and 1,200 follow ups per annum. There had been a reduction in referrals received from Rotherham, Doncaster and Barnsley due to the introduction of their local autism provision.

- 17.8 At the end of July 2024, the number of Sheffield residents waiting for an autism assessment was 996 with an average wait time of 65 weeks. This had halved in the last 12 months as Sheffield patients had been offered 80% of appointments.
- 17.9 Following member questions, it was noted that there was a workshop on 15<sup>th</sup> October to speak to people about 'Waiting Well'. It was recommended that a working group be established to consider the finding of the workshop. It was agreed that a report should be submitted to the committee in the first instance to look at the scope of the working group.
- 17.10 Resolved: That the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee: -
1. notes the report and support the continued programme of work to improve the experience and quality of service for autistic people and people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD);
  2. establishes a working group to look into the findings of the workshop on 'Waiting Well' on 15<sup>th</sup> October;
  3. requests a report to be submitted to a future meeting to consider the scope and remit of the working group.

## **18. WORK PROGRAMME**

- 18.1 The Sub-Committee considered its work programme which outlined all known and substantive agenda items for the forthcoming meetings. This enabled this committee, other committees, officers, partners and the public to plan their work with and for the committee.
- 18.2 The work programme report was presented by Deborah Glen, Policy and Improvement Officer.
- 18.3 It was noted that the response from the ICB on the Dentistry report would be added to the November meeting of the sub-committee.
- 18.4 The arrangements, reports and establishment of the two working groups discussed in today's meeting would be worked into the sub-committee's programme.
- 18.5 A member of the sub-committee requested that an item be added around Children's autism and ADHD service and the process for dealing for these referrals be added to the work programme for a future meeting. It was noted that further discussions would be needed around the timescales for this.

18.6 Resolved that:

1. the Sub-Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be agreed, including any additions and amendments identified in Paragraph 4 of the report and any agreed by members at the meeting;
2. any referrals from Council and Committees (petitions and resolutions) detailed in Paragraph 2 of the report be noted and the proposed responses set out be agreed.