



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on 17th March 2022

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL

2nd February at 4.00pm

Present:

Councillor Hudson (in the Chair)
Councillors Astbury, Brasted, Croft, Furneaux, and Wilson.

Officers in attendance:

- Geoff Barnes (Interim Director of Public Health)
- Bev Compton (Director of Adult Services)
- Eve Richardson-Smith (Legal Team Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer)
- Zoe Campbell (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)
- Stewart Watson (Safeguarding Adults Board Service Manager)

Also in attendance:

- Councillor Margaret Cracknell (Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)
- Shaun Stacey, Dr Peter Reading, Adrian Beddow and Maurice Madeo from Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust.

SPH.45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence for this meeting were received.

SPH.46 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received in respect of any item on the agenda for this meeting.

SPH.47 MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel meeting held on the 24th November 2021 be agreed as an accurate record.

SPH.48 QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public for this panel meeting.

SPH.49 FORWARD PLAN

The panel received the published Forward Plan and members were asked to identify any items for examination by this Panel via the pre-decision call-in procedure.

RESOLVED – That the forward plan be noted.

SPH.50 TRACKING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCRUTINY

The panel received a report from the Statutory Scrutiny Officer tracking the recommendations previously made by this scrutiny panel, which was updated for reference at this meeting.

RESOLVED – That the tracking report be noted.

SPH.51 ADULT SAFEGUARDING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

The panel considered the North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board annual report for 2020/2021.

Members suggested that performance data be included in next year's report to enable them to scrutinise and be given reassurance that North East Lincolnshire was a safer place for all people but specifically those adults within the community who were at risk of experiencing abuse and/or neglect.

A member queried if the consultation with the public was carried out online or face to face because the members were concerned that some residents may struggle to take part in the consultation. Ms Compton reassured members that there were several different topics as part of the consultation and it was a mixture of face to face, online and paper questionnaires to complete.

The increase in domestic abuse cases concerned members and queried if officers knew why the likely reason they had increased and could the service cope. Ms Compton explained that there might be an increase due to the lack of visibility which was a risk during Covid. This was acknowledged and she reassured members that services were in place and continued to provide support for people reporting domestic abuse.

A member referred to the number of applications per month year on year for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) and asked for

clarification if the figures referred to the person or the number of applications made. Mr Watson confirmed it was the number of applications and that people could have more than one DoLS applied for and that the repeat request for DoLS was from a small cohort. Ms Compton highlighted that as a local authority we were good at recognising when we needed to apply for a DoL and she confirmed there was an incredible amount of work going on across the health and care system. Ms Compton agreed to provide the panel with the numbers of people against the total number of DoLS

Referring to national benchmarking, members asked where we were compared with other local authorities in the number of DoLS that were applied for. Mr Watson referred to the Cheshire West court case which significantly increased the number of DoLS applications. Nationally we compared reasonably consistently and it was fair to say that a lot more work had gone into the new process than other areas.

Members were interested to know the types of referrals into the prevent panel. Mr Watson explained that the threat picture had changed over the years and although extreme right-wing ideology remained dominant in this area there were more referrals of a mixed or no clear ideology. Members referred to the consultation with young people and queried what could be done with the data. Mr Watson explained that the consultation was being carried out amongst 16-18 years old to identify how they were being targeted online. This would help develop local initiatives and provide the right support to those young people.

In response to a query regarding the current situation around modern day slavery, Mr Watson confirmed numbers of reported cases year on year had increased between 30% and 50% nationally but this had remained reasonably stable during the past two years. He explained that areas with high levels of deprivation would be targeted by those looking to exploit others. Traffickers were still supplying industries that required a large amount of manual labour such as food production or agriculture. However, child criminal exploitation still made up most referrals in this area. Mr Watson reassured the panel that the police force had created a modern day slavery team to identify and work with people across the borough and the Safeguarding Adults Board were members of the Humberside modern day slavery partnership.

A member noted the increase in the number of concerns raised about whole social care services and the member asked if the providers were amenable to providing information about those people who may have been affected. Mr Watson reassured the member that all allegations were scrutinised, and any trends were analysed.

RESOLVED –

1. That the report be noted.

2. That performance data be included in next year's report to enable this panel to scrutinise and be given reassurance that North East Lincolnshire was a safer place for all people but specifically those adults within the community who were at risk of experiencing abuse and/or neglect.
3. That this panel be provided with data showing the number of individual people with DOLs rather than the total number of DoLs applications since April 2020.

SPH.52 INFECTION CONTROL

The Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Director of Infection Prevention and Control from Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust (NLaG) attended the meeting to update on the Duty of Candour that had been applied to those patients who suffered moderate harm or above [i.e. they had died, been admitted to intensive care or were now attending a long covid clinic] as a result of testing positive for Covid-19 on day eight or above of their stay in hospital since admission. The panel heard about the numbers affected, comparison with other trusts, the issues faced by NLaG in terms of managing the spread of Covid-19, the response to minimising infection rate and the lessons learned during the pandemic.

Members queried what the outcome was for families in terms of compensation. Dr Reading explained that he had written personal letters to those people affected or their next of kin and he confirmed that compensation went through the national NHS litigation team to be dealt with.

A member asked what support was available for staff who worked through the pandemic. Dr Reading confirmed that they were acutely aware of the burden faced by staff working long hours with PPE equipment on and the emotional and physical affects that it had on staff. He highlighted that it was a major issue across the health and care sector and as a result there was a ramp up on mental health awareness with staff, and the offer of a wide range of support was available. In critical care, psychological services were provided together with staff groups meeting to talk through the emotional difficulties they were experiencing. The panel requested that a letter of thanks to NLAG staff via Dr Peter Reading be sent to staff on behalf of the panel to thank them for all their hard work and dedication to providing care for the residents of North East Lincolnshire throughout the pandemic.

The panel were keen to understand what learning was found to improve services going through the Covid pandemic. Mr Stacey explained that one of the biggest lessons learned was that they could help, support and hold appointments through the use of technology which meant that patients did not need to attend hospital and services could continue to be delivered effectively. In Accident and Emergency

(A&E), Mr Stacey confirmed that an important lesson was to effectively and quick triage people through the system and into to other departments where treatment and diagnosis could continue whilst freeing up valuable bed space in A&E.

A member queried if the Cromwell Road Surgery via 111 for urgent GP appointments created during Covid was going to remain. Mr Stacey explained that because of the pandemic, good services would stay and that there was a national campaign to promote the use of telephoning 111 where applicable.

Members were reassured and welcomed procedures put in place to minimise the spread of COVID-19 across the hospital through infection control.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the presentation be noted.
- 2) That a letter be sent, on behalf of this panel, to NLAG via Dr Peter Reading, thanking staff for all their hard work and dedication to providing care for the residents of North East Lincolnshire throughout the pandemic.

SPH.53 QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER

There were no questions for the portfolio holder at this meeting.

SPH.54 CALLING IN OF DECISIONS

There were no formal requests from Members of this panel to call in decisions taken at recent meetings of Cabinet.

SPH.55 URGENT BUSINESS – EAST MIDLANDS AMBULANCE SERVICE

The panel discussed and agreed that at the next panel meeting on the 30th March 2022, East Midlands Ambulance Service be invited to give an update on performance, recruitment and training.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.41 p.m.