



In the last edition of my Chair's Report for 2013, I begin with an overview of our achievements since the Board became statutory as part of my 'Christmas message'. The report then goes on to give a summary of three events/meetings that I have recently attended - the Barking and Dagenham Partnership Conference, the November Health and Adult Services Select Committee and the Alcohol Strategy launch. I then draw the Board's attention to some recent announcements, as well as the launch of the Council's new Adult Social Care website – the Care and Support Hub.

I would welcome Board Members to comment on any item covered should they wish to do so.

Christmas Message

As 2013 draws to a close, I wanted to reflect on the year, and particularly the months since the Board officially became an Executive Committee of the Council in April. Since 'becoming statutory' we have achieved a great deal together, including:

- Continuing to strengthen our focus on integrated service delivery, agreeing priorities for joint funding and designing new joint services to improve people's discharge from hospital.
- Commissioning a range of new public health prevention programmes through our new Public Health Grant, investing across the age range, from healthy child services, through to our Active Age programme for older people.
- Responding to the Government's reports on Winterbourne View and Mid-Staffordshire NHS Trust, ensuring that our services are as safe as people have a right to expect.
- Starting the preparations for the implementation of new legislation, particularly the Care Bill and the Children and Families Bill.

Our five subgroups are also now meeting regularly and have good and relevant representation from member organisations. I see the subgroups as the 'driving force' behind the Health and Wellbeing Board and I look forward to continuing to hear about the progress of their work programmes as they take forward various priorities on the Board's behalf over the next year.

I thank you all for your hard work and dedication over the last year and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas with family and friends. I look forward to seeing you at our Development Day on 13 January 2014 to discuss our key challenges and aims for the year ahead.

Winter Plans kick-in

Since 1 November, partners in the local health economy, including the Council's Social Care team have been implementing 7 day working to ensure that patients receive a joined up service in hospital. We have been working with residential, nursing and domiciliary care providers to ensure that patients can be discharged quickly from hospital on any day of the week and that the right care and support is in place for them when they leave hospital. Gearing up for this challenging time of year is always a huge demand on our time: it's always a partnership effort, but this year it has been more so than ever.

New Adult Social Care Website

A new website for Adult Social Care in Barking and Dagenham, called the 'Care and Support Hub', has now gone live. The website can be found by clicking on the 'Care and Support Hub' link on the Council's homepage or by visiting <http://careandsupport.lbbd.gov.uk/>

The Care and Support Hub aims to be colourful and engaging, simple to use and facilitates service users to have more choice and control in their social care. The website includes general information and advice pages but also two new functions which we hope will help our local residents.

One is a service directory that contains an interactive directory of Social Care related services and providers in the Borough, including care and residential homes. Helpfully, this directory also includes CQC inspection information about the service where it is available.

The second new function is our new Personal Assistant Finder. This is a tool which service users can use to view the Council's register of accredited Personal Assistants (PAs), look at individual PA profiles and help them to find a PA who matches their requirements and personal preference.

We would be grateful to receive any feedback about the new website and also any information that members of the Health and Wellbeing Board may wish to see included on there. Please contact Louise Hider, Business Services Unit Manager on 020 8227 2861 or email Louise.Hider@lbbd.gov.uk with your ideas!



Partnership Conference

At the beginning of November I attended the Annual Barking and Dagenham Partnership Conference. This year the conference covered two main themes. Firstly, reviewing the Community Strategy and hearing from the theme boards (including the H&WBB) and secondly, focusing on civic engagement in the Borough. As part of the first theme, I was pleased to be asked to give a presentation at the Conference about the Health and Wellbeing Board and I discussed our membership, our progress since 'going statutory' in April and our work going into 2014.

As part of the second theme of 'civic engagement', four interactive workshops were hosted by each of the theme Boards, with our own Board hosting a workshop on civic engagement and emotional wellbeing. Our workshop promoted the work already going on in the Borough to support residents in their emotional wellbeing and the workshop was set up in a series of stalls to showcase some of the services and support available, including the Recovery College, Starlight (a local mental health service user-led support group) and the Older People's Mental Health team.

Other stalls also offered 'taster sessions' to allow delegates to sample support in the workplace, online and in the community including Mental Health First Aid staff training, the Big White Wall and self-help books available in our libraries through the 'Books on Prescription' scheme. Importantly, we also asked delegates to put forward ideas on the workshop's 'Improvement Wall' on how they could improve their own emotional wellbeing and how services could help individuals to do this, as well as where gaps in current service provision may lie.

The workshop was really well-received and the ideas from the 'Improvement Wall' will be given to the Mental Health sub-group to discuss over the coming months.

Mental Health scrutiny review

Over the past five months the Health and Adult Services Select Committee (HASSC), led by Councillor Alasia, has conducted a scrutiny review on the impact of the current recession and the welfare reforms on the mental health and wellbeing of residents in Barking and Dagenham. As part of its investigation, the Committee has undertaken three sessions and two site visits with representatives from various statutory Council services, voluntary organisations, Job Centre Plus, the CCG, NELFT and the NELFT Service User Reference Group. The Committee has also hosted a focus group with service users to coincide with World Mental Health Day on the 10 October 2013.

I was invited along to talk to the Committee about what the Health and Wellbeing Board does to support residents with existing mental health problems and initiatives that are in place to support those that may be experiencing depression, stress and anxiety, particularly as a result of the recession and welfare reforms. It was good to discuss the work of the Board with the Committee and to hear about their initial findings and recommendations, some of which they will propose to put forward to the Health and Wellbeing Board for further exploration and action.

The draft of the Mental Health Scrutiny Review is currently being written - look out for the report when it is published for agreement at the HASSC meeting on 14 January 2013. I'll ensure that the report and recommendations are brought to a future Health and Wellbeing Board for discussion.

Alcohol Awareness Week Launch

I was privileged to open the launch event for the Barking and Dagenham Alcohol Strategy 2013-2016 on 22 November as part of Alcohol Awareness Week. The delivery of the Alcohol Strategy is being led by the Community Safety Partnership's Alcohol Alliance Group. It is envisaged that the key outcomes from the delivery of the strategy in 2016 will be:

- Better health outcomes for people misusing alcohol.
- A safer community with a reduction of victims of alcohol related crime.
- Preventing young people from misusing alcohol.
- Strong and resilient families that are able to meet their individual needs.

The launch event was attended by GPs, Council staff, Police, NHS, pharmacists and other professionals from the local health economy and was an opportunity for everyone to talk about the work that they do on the alcohol agenda and how the Alcohol Strategy is being delivered. The event was a success and I would urge all members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to familiarise themselves with this important document if they haven't done so already. The Strategy can be found at: <http://modern.gov.barking-dagenham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=180&MId=6400&Ver=4>

Specialist Cancer and Cardiovascular Services

Engagement has begun on a suite of proposals that will change the way cancer and cardiovascular services are delivered in North East London. The recently published [Case for Change](#) sets out the vision, rationale, and recommendations which seek to develop two world-class specialist centres in North and East London, one for cardiovascular services at St Bartholomew's Hospital and one for cancer services at University College Hospital. The purpose of the change is to improve clinical outcomes which are currently below regional, national and international averages.

The proposals will be scrutinised by the four-borough Outer North East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee once the consultation is launched by NHS England in the New Year. To inform the scrutiny process the Council welcomes the views of local commissioners, providers and Board Members on the impact of the re-configuration on Barking and Dagenham residents who will be travelling to different sites for their specialist treatment. Views can be given through Glen Oldfield, Scrutiny Officer (glen.oldfield@lbbd.gov.uk // 020 8227 5796).

New ASCOF reports

ASCOF stands for Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework and it measures the performance of the adult social care system as a whole and its success in delivering high quality, personalised care and support. ASCOF has always been important for internal planning by Councils, Ministers and Parliament but has now been made available to the public via the website below;

<http://ascof.hscic.gov.uk>

This website allows members of the public to access the ASCOF data for their local authority and compare this with the performance of other areas and I thought it would be useful for Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to be aware of this for their future work and analysis. The performance report contains some highlights from the data.

Announcements

Empowering GPs: Changes to the GP Contract

Changes to the GP (General Medical Services) Contract will come into effect from April 2014. The changes put emphasis on GPs providing proactive care, reducing hospital admissions, and increasing access to consultations. Furthermore, patients will benefit from extended opening hours, improved online services, and the freedom to choose which GP practice best meets their needs. Full detail of the contract changes can be found in [NHS England's letter to Area Team Directors](#).

Monitor's Walk-in Centre Review: Preliminary Report

Monitor has reviewed the provision of Walk-in Centres, analysed how and by whom they are used, and studied the drivers behind the trend of Walk-in Centre closures which include duplication of service, funding pressures, and the failure to reduce A&E attendances. When considering the Barking and Dagenham context, section 7 of the report states that closures of Walk-in Centres have an adverse affect in areas where it is difficult to access a GP. The report urges commissioners to be cautious when closing Walk-in Centres and take steps to ensure that primary care access is able to meet patient needs before Walk-in Centre provision is withdrawn.

A final report from Monitor is expected in January 2014 with recommendations for commissioners and responses to feedback from the review's findings. It will be important that the findings from this report are used alongside the evaluation of the Surge Scheme pilot to inform the new model of urgent care being developed locally.

Failure of London A&Es on Waiting Targets

The London Assembly's Health Committee has analysed data that shows that over the past year many London A&E departments consistently missed the Government target of 95 per cent of patients being dealt with within four hours. The report singled out Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals Trust for missing the 4 hour target every week – averaging a rate of just 84.8 per cent over the past 52 week period. The Health Committee has put pressure on NHS England (London) to demonstrate strategic leadership and develop a coherent plan for the capital's A&E services.

A New Blueprint for Urgent and Emergency Care

Following the completion of phase one of the national Urgent and Emergency Care Review, Sir Bruce Keogh, Medical Director of NHS England, has proposed a fundamental shift in provision of urgent care, with more extensive services outside hospital and patients with more serious or life threatening conditions receiving treatment in centres with the best clinical teams, expertise and equipment.

Keogh envisages that it will take 3 to 5 years to enact the major transformational change set out within the report as commissioning is overhauled and new payment mechanisms are developed. Phase two of the review will engage services, organisations, professionals and patient representatives in the practical design of a new system. Reports from Keogh's Delivery Group will be published on an ongoing basis.

CQC State of Care Report 2012/13

The findings from more than 35,000 inspections underpin CQC's fourth annual State of Care report, which considers how care is delivered in hospitals, care homes, dental surgeries and in the community. The report highlights that:

- 10% of people received poor quality care.
- 'Avoidable' emergency admissions among the elderly increasing
- People with dementia continue to have poorer outcomes in hospital

The key findings of the report can be viewed as an infographic by following this link: http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/documents/stateofcare_infographic.pdf