In this edition of my Chair’s Report, I talk about our response to the Department of Health on Public Health Grant reductions and an exciting new development around Accountable Care Organisations. I also provide an update on the Make a Change campaign and Care City. I would welcome Board Members to comment on any item covered should they wish to do so.

Best wishes,
Cllr Maureen Worby, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board

#makeachange makes a change!

The healthy lifestyle campaign #makeachange has been out and about this summer, engaging with residents at the borough’s 50th anniversary celebrations. We’ve been at all of the big events so far and some of the smaller ones too, where we can target a particular audience. Twelve events down and nine to go!

Community Health Ambassadors, as well as our own volunteer Community Health Champions, have been encouraging people to pledge even the smallest healthy change, and to share their pledge with a ‘healthy selfie’. Everyone who makes a pledge has been rewarded with a #makeachange cotton shopping bag or a healthy ‘sweet treat’, including freshly made fruit juices from Community Food Enterprise’s Juice4Life stall. There are also t-shirt and badges to be won for the best healthy selfies.

The team has been joined by the Harmony Clinic providing free health assessments and advice, the Terrence Higgins Trust advising on sexual health, Chlamydia testing and free condoms, as well as Big White Wall promoting free online emotional support for borough residents. We’ve also been promoting and signposting Diabetes UK, Cancer Research UK, PHE & NHS Cancer awareness campaigns, the British Heart Foundation, and the pan-London HIV testing campaign ‘Do It London’.

Part of the joy of these big community events is seeing cross-referrals happen before our very eyes, especially working alongside teams from Culture and Sport’s Active Leisure Centres and Healthy Lifestyles teams, and the Adult Social Care’s eye health survey and signposting, as well as the ELF programme for adults with learning disabilities. It’s also been great to see local diabetes and kidney health groups at some of the events. On top of that, we’ve just hosted the Diabetes UK Roadshow for two days in Barking, with support from Tesco, complete with hula hoop and skipping challenges!

You can meet the #makeachange team and make your pledge, or let us know how you’re getting on, at these events:

- East European Harvest Festival, Sun 13 September, 1-5, Valence House
- African & Caribbean event, Sat 19 September, details TBC.
- Youth Parade (11am to 4pm) Pondfield Park to Old Dagenham Park, Sunday 27 September
- Older People’s Week, including Older People’s Day, Thursday 1 October, venues and times TBC
- International Day for Disabled People, Thursday 3 December, times TBC, Dagenham and Redbridge Football Club
- Santathon Fun Run, Sunday 13 December, 11am to 1pm, Dagenham and Redbridge Football Club, Fundraising event.
Barking and Dagenham’s response to the Department of Health’s in-year Public Health Grant Reductions

On 4 June 2015 as part of wider government deficit reduction, the Government announced further reductions across public spending. The Department of Health (DoH) is to deliver savings of £200 million in the financial year 2015/16 through reductions to the Public Health Grant (PHG) to local authorities (LAs) in-year. On 31 July the DoH launched a four-week consultation on the proposed savings options. The consultation sets out possible options as to how the £200m savings might be spread across LAs most fairly and effectively. The DoH’s current preferred approach is option C:

A. Devise a formula that claims a larger share of the saving from LAs that are significantly above their target allocation.
B. Identify LAs that carried forward unspent reserves into 2015/16 and claim a correspondingly larger share of the savings from them.
C. Reduce every LA’s allocation by a standard, flat rate percentage. Nationally the £200million saving amounts to about 6.2% of the total grant for 2015/16, so that would also be the figure DoH applies to individual LAs (option preferred by DoH)
D. Reduce every LA’s allocation by a standard percentage unless an authority can show that this would result in particular hardship.

Based on the DoH’s preferred option, the indicative impact of a flat 6.2% reduction to Barking and Dagenham’s total 2015/16 PHG is as follows:

| Total PHG excluding 0-5 children’s allocation | £14,213m |
| Children’s 0-5 allocation (part year) | £2,512m |
| Total 2015/16 PHG allocation | £16,725m |
| Indicative revised allocation (original minus 6.2%) | £15,688m |
| Total savings from Barking and Dagenham in 2015/16 | £1,037m |

The Council’s formal response is summarised as follows:

- Options A and B would impact on Barking and Dagenham adversely, particularly option B as Barking and Dagenham carried forward an underspend of £978K from 2014/15. In regards to option B, historic spend should not be used as the sole criterion for determining the size of the public health funding going forwards.
- Option C – favoured by Board members as the least inequitable option.
- Option D – too complex and also potentially subjective in terms of how DoH would weight the various factors when calculating the percentage reductions.
- There should be an alternative option (D) that clearly recalibrates spending in accordance with levels of need e.g. those areas with higher levels of deprivation, poorer health outcomes, complexity of need, etc.

Barking and Dagenham Council has also submitted a statement in support of the London’s Council’s challenge to the grant reductions.

CQC Abuse

The Observer reported this week that there has been a significant increase in the number of safeguarding allegations reported to CQC, with over 30,000 allegations of abuse involving people using social care services in the first six months of this year. Allegations ranged from physical, emotional and sexual abuse to financial fraud. The Safeguarding Adults Board will be looking at this at their December meeting.
News from NHS England

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

This is the time of year when young girls may be taken abroad for female genital mutilation (FGM). The NHS reported in February 2015 that 2,600 cases of FGM were treated in six months.

A great step forward has been taken in protecting those at risk of female genital mutilation. The NSPCC’s FGM helpline practitioners have recently received additional training to provide an enhanced service for NHS staff to discuss any questions or concerns they have about FGM and what action to take.

The initiative has been developed to support health professionals who are directly working with women and girls that may be at risk or have been victims of FGM, with a dedicated 24/7 team of advisors who can discuss the often complex circumstances surrounding cases of FGM. The training enables the helpline staff to work with nurses and other clinicians. In busy clinical environments, dealing with a sensitive, upsetting and unfamiliar situation, healthcare staff often face difficult dilemmas. By calling the helpline they can talk through concerns, clarify risks and seek advice on action.

New Programme to Improve Young People’s Mental Health Services

Never in recent times and memory has the profile of the emotional and mental health of children and young people been so high. There are a wide range of local and national established work programmes from health and education, and more coming on line since the publication of Future in Mind, as well as the very welcome announcement of further resources to allow us to move more quickly to build capacity.

This work is challenging because there is evidence on how we are currently, across the system, need to do more to support children and young people who need and deserve care and support.

One of the finest achievements this year has been the publication of Future in Mind, with 49 proposals which are all underpinned by the commitment to involve children, young people and parents not just in their own treatment but in service design and commissioning.

The principal themes indicate than we must do better with what we already have, while promoting resilience, prevention and early intervention, improving access to effective support, care of the most vulnerable, accountability and transparency, particularly in commissioning, and with all of this developing the workforce, so essential to the delivery of excellent skilled care.

Care City Innovation Test Bed Site

Founded by NELFT (Community and mental health NHS Trust) and London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, Care City is working with all of our local system partners and UCL Partners to improve health outcomes for people as they age and to support social regeneration through innovation, education and research www.carecity.london

In June, Care City applied to NHS England to be one of five planned national Innovation Test Bed sites. We are delighted to announce that we are now through to the next stage. The aim of the Test bed will be to support with the intention of being able to better scale up innovation and ultimately support service users and professionals to better access emerging technology and innovation.

On 29 July Care City was invited to attend a test bed ‘meet and greet’ event hosted at the Oval by NHS England to showcase the test bed proposal and meet with innovators. Over the coming weeks Care City will be selecting their innovation partners and developing a bid which will then be presented to NHS England. The final decision will then be made in December 2015.
VisBuzz

Visbuzz is an extremely simple way for people who don’t use computers to make and receive video calls to and from their family and friends on a tablet. It is easy to set up and use and the user needs little technical knowledge. The Council is looking at how this could be used to help to combat loneliness or isolation and we’ll keep the Board up to date with developments! More information can be found at: http://visbuzz.com/

EPG Development Session

The Executive Planning Group held a very productive development session on Thursday 13 August. The time was used to discuss the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, sub group development and Health and Wellbeing Board channels of communication.

In terms of communications it was felt that the H&WBB newsletter was a useful source of information but the group felt that investigating alternative ways to present the information may be useful, possibly in an email format with links which may make it more readable. The group discussed the theming of future meetings to allow more discussion on particular topics. There was some discussion around the sub groups and the development of sub-group performance reporting. The group also received a presentation on the JSNA and discussed how the information could be used to help the H&WBB to discuss the issues and focus on setting priorities. This has shaped the item elsewhere on the Board’s agenda.

The EPG will now work on taking all of this forward – we hope the Board sees some useful changes in the coming months!

Accountable Care Organisation

Exciting proposals are taking shape that may put Barking & Dagenham, together with Havering and Redbridge, at the centre of the moves to devolve increasing control of health, wellbeing and social care to local areas. The concept of an ‘Accountable Care Organisation’ was floated in the NHS 5-Year Forward View, launched by Simon Stevens earlier this year: in essence, it is about giving a single organisation responsibility for end-to-end preventive support, healthcare and social care for its citizens. It follows our successful ‘Vanguard’ proposal around urgent and emergency care, which is itself based on our long history of good partnership working around the ‘BHR’ health economy. It also fits well with the innovation programmes that we will be seeing through CareCity. A coalition of the three local authorities, CCGs and the two major hospital trusts, with input from UCL Partners, are putting a proposal together for the BHR area to pilot the accountable care organisation framework in the London area.

There are a number of hurdles to jump yet, not least making a convincing case to NHS England, the Mayor of London and, ultimately, the Treasury, but we have received positive encouragement for our ideas to date and are confident of a good hearing. The Board will be kept informed as the proposals take shape, and when the key decisions are required about governance and other matters.

You can read more about Accountable Care Organisations on the Kings Fund website at http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/accountable-care-organisations-united-states-and-england

Health and Wellbeing Board Meeting Dates

Tuesday 20 October 2015, Tuesday 8 December 2015, Tuesday 26 January 2016, Tuesday 8 March 2016, Tuesday 26 April 2016, Tuesday 14 June 2016.

All meetings start at 6pm and are held in the conference room of the Barking Learning Centre.