

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE INFORMAL MEETING OF THE HEALTH AND
WELLBEING BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 JULY 2021**

Present:

**Mayor Philip Glanville, Hackney Council (Co-Chair)
Dr Mark Ricketts (Chair of City & Hackney Clinical
Commissioning Group) (Co-Chair - in the Chair)**

**Ajman Ali (Group Director - Neighbourhoods and
Housing -- Hackney Council)**

**Malcolm Alexander (Interim Chair of Hackney
Healthwatch)**

**Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble (Cabinet
Member for Education, Young People and
Children's Social Care - Hackney Council)**

**Councillor Susan Fajana-Thomas (Cabinet Member
for Community Safety - Hackney Council)**

**Tracey Fletcher (Chief Executive - Homerton
Hospital)**

**Stephen Haynes (Strategic Director - Hackney
Council)**

**Dr Sandra Husbands (Director of Public Health, City
and Hackney)**

**Rosemary Jawara (Hackney, Community Voluntary
Sector)**

**Councillor Christopher Kennedy (Cabinet Member
for Health, Adult Social Care and Leisure - Hackney
Council)**

Raj Radia (Chair, Local Pharmaceutical Committee)

**Councillor Carole Williams (Cabinet Member for
Employment, Skills and Resources - Hackney
Council)**

**Helen Woodland (Group Director, Adults, Health and
Integration - Hackney Council)**

Officers in Attendance:

Maggie Boreham (Principal Public Health Specialist - City and Hackney Public Health)
Neil Cleary (Project Manager - Regeneration - Hackney Council)
Andrew Croucher (Operations Manager- Hackney Council)
Donna Doherty-Kelly (Principal Public Health Specialist - City and Hackney Public Health)
Diana Divajeva (Senior Public Health Intelligence Officer - City and Hackney Public Health)
Ross Hatfull (Legislation, Strategy and Projects Officer - Hackney Council)
Siobhan Harper (Director of Transition - City and Hackney Clinical Commissioning Group)
Beverley Gachette (Strategic Commissioner - Hackney Council)
Chris Lovitt (Deputy Director Public Health - City and Hackney)
Amy Wilkinson (Workstream Director, City and Hackney Clinical Commissioning Group)
Peter Gray (Governance Officer - Hackney Council)

1. Welcome from the Chair

1.1. The Chair welcomed new members to their first meeting of the Board.

2 Apologies for absence

2.1 Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Annie Gannon and Marcus Barnett.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 March 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

4 Declarations of Interest - Members to Declare as Appropriate

4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

5 Action Tracker 9

5.1 Action 1 had been actioned and was now closed.

RESOLVED:

- To note the action tracker.

6. Community Voice - Housing and Health

6.1 Catherine Perez Phillips (Hackney Healthwatch) presented to the Board on the report on health and housing in Hackney, highlighting the following:

- The report was produced based on the experiences of 27 households in relation to housing services.
- The report highlighted concerns around repairs and maintenance.
- Key themes - communication and information needed to be improved; Residents should be better informed on repairs; higher incidences of social isolation.

6.2 Elspeth Williams, speaking as a visually impaired person and Housing Association tenant, highlighted the following issues:

- Health inequalities in relation to housing.
- Housing Association not taking sufficient responsibility in relation to her needs.
- Confined to her bedroom, waiting for repairs.
- Council should ensure that Housing Associations act responsibly.
- Now on the housing list but this was impacted by the cyber attack.
- Difficulties for people who are visually impaired in completing housing benefits forms - need for a pan-london initiative to ensure improved efficiency.

6.3 Ross Hatfull highlighted the following:

- Difficulties in finding self-contained accommodation in Hackney and the surrounding areas, with individuals having to stay in hostels.
- Hostels were of a very high standard with every effort made to ensure effective management.
- Registered Social Landlords were not under the Council's control but the Council worked with them to ensure that they took action when necessary.
- Low numbers of social lettings compared to demand.
- Issues in relation to form filling and data protection.
- With the roll out of Universal Credit, housing costs were increasingly administered by the Department for Work and Pensions.
- The Council provided a range of support to residents in relation to housing.

6.4 Ajman Ali reported that the Council had repair standards in place. He stated that if there was a need to change policy on certain repairs to better serve vulnerable residents, this could be reviewed. Any policy issues on repairs could be raised with the G15, with conversations on support and repairs with London Housing Directors.

6.5 Stephen Haynes reported that the Council was clear in the need to work closely with Housing Associations, and to that end the Council was developing a Housing Association Compact to compel registered providers to respond effectively to complaints. Neil Cleary reported that this compact would provide an agreed set of principles in relation to working with Housing Associations, in particular monitoring any falling short of standards.

6.6 Rosemary Jarwara recognised that there were limitations to how involved the Council could be. In light of the impacts of Covid-19 she expressed concern about those in private rented accommodation.

6.7 Mayor Glanville stressed the need to expand on the insights identified by the report with a more quantitative approach taken, with a focus on the elements that had the largest health impact in terms of the housing strategy and links to social care, improving and making services more joined up.

6.8 Catherine Perez told the Board that work was ongoing with the Council on the issues raised in the reports and stressed that in future there would need to be consultation with Council tenants.

6.9 Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble stressed the need for immediate action around repairs and support to residents, with consideration being given to what support could be made available to individuals in temporary housing, in particular around mental health and wellbeing.

RESOLVED:

- To note the report
- To note the recommendations of the Temporary Accommodation report and response

7. Housing and Health: an overview and brief introduction in the relationship between housing and health (Maggie Boreham)

7. 1 The Board considered a series of presentations examining the key links between housing and health. These considered the impact which poor housing can have on health conditions, and the challenges that Hackney Council faced in ensuring that all residents had housing of a decent standard. The presentation examined the major structural problems within all sectors of the housing market locally, and the growing pressures on housing supply and affordability across the borough and its impact on homelessness. The presentation considered the current housing strategy, the development of a new housing strategy and the steps the Council was taking to increase affordable housing supply, and improve housing standards. The presentations outlined the high quality person-centric support which the Council provided to meet the needs of the most vulnerable residents, illustrating the challenges the Council faced in sourcing enough housing locally to meet demand.

7.2 Maggie Boreham presented to the Board on the relationship between housing and health, highlighting the following:

- Housing and Health were intrinsically linked with complex interactions.
- Housing Inequalities impact on health and wellbeing.
- Four overarching housing related drivers of health and wellbeing:
 - Overcrowding, damp, indoor air pollutants and poor heating associated with illness
 - Poor housing conditions increase the risk of depression, stress and anxiety
 - Children living in cold homes are more than twice as likely to suffer from a range of respiratory problems than children living in warm homes
- Affordability and availability of housing.
- Type of housing tenure.

8. Housing Strategy Development and driving Housing Supply (Neil Cleary)

8.1 Neil Cleary presented on the development of the Housing Strategy, highlighting the following:

- The Housing Strategy was due to be refreshed and revised. This process had started with a review of the evidence base and consultation with stakeholders.
- Five current Housing Strategy themes:
 - Building high quality, well designed and genuinely affordable homes
 - Making best use of new and existing homes
 - Addressing standards and affordability in the private rental sector
 - Meeting people's housing needs and helping to tackle housing health and related support needs
 - Promoting employment and sustainable communities
- Other influences:
 - Local Plan
 - Community Strategy
 - Inclusive Housing Strategy
 - London Housing Strategy
 - Legislative Policy changes
 - External Events
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9. Housing with Support: Current situation, challenges and innovations (Beverly Gachette)

9.1 Beverly Gâchette presented to the Board on housing related support available in Hackney, highlighting the following areas:

- Single and Rough Sleeper Pathway and COVID-19 response.
- Mental Health accommodation pathway.
- Domestic abuse refugees.
- City and Hackney housing first.
- The Panborough Floating Support Service.
- Domestic Abuse Refuges.
- Outcomes: Move on.
- Challenges facing the service.

9.2 The Chair referred to the value of the outcomes and feedback.

10. An overview of the current challenges in finding suitable, good quality housing and horizon scanning for opportunities (Andrew Croucher/ Ross Hatfull)

10.1 Ross Hatfull and Andrew Croucher presented to the Board on current challenges, highlighting the following:

- The Housing crisis in Hackney with difficulties in relation to affordability.
- Welfare Reform and the Benefits Cap.
- The impact of homelessness.
- How the Council responds to residents in housing need.
- Assessing needs including health and wellbeing.
- Horizon Scanning - Rents in Hackney had stabilised over the last few months.

11. Board discussion on housing and health

11.1 Mayor Glanville referred to the value of the presentations to the Board. He stressed the need for a refined list of what needed to be carried out differently to feed into the next steps, with the Board adding value to these. He asked for any insights into the impact of the end of the eviction ban. Ross Hatfull confirmed that the eviction ban ended on 30 May 2021 and the first few families had come through as a result. However, with the backlog in the courts due to Covid-19, the full impact would not be seen until September-November 2021. There were significant numbers of families who, due to job losses and other factors had built up significant rent arrears. Work was ongoing in terms of mediating with Landlords on the clearance of arrears to maximise benefit entitlement and prevent evictions. Most landlords recognised the challenging situation.

11.2 Frances Haste stated that it was difficult to ascertain the gap present in terms of aspirations for new build and repurposing existing buildings, and the level of serious need. Neil Cleary responded that supply ran significantly behind need in the borough. Part of the aim of the review of the Housing Strategy was to take a radical approach to housing supply options, looking at repurposing existing assets. Ross Hatfull reported that Hackney Council had been successful in maximising supply. He reiterated that demand was much greater than supply and without significant grant funding this would be a challenging area of work. He stressed the need to take a

more holistic approach to those accessing services with a 'one Council approach', identifying what other support needs the individual may have at the outset with

consideration given to resolution. Ross Hatfull asked for consideration to be given to the repurposing of any available assets within the Health Sector to provide additional housing.

11.3 Dr Sandra Husbands stressed the need for a more strategic approach to dealing with housing needs, in order to support healthy sustainable communities. Although the Council could not control market rates there may be ways to build into the strategic approach in relation to housing and education to assist in ensuring that people are in a position to remain in their local area with a sustained community connection.

11.4 Maggie Boreham discussed creating resilience and considering how the current strategies in the community are working, outreaching to and supporting community champions and other services working with people in the communities. This would ensure that the skills and knowledge are present to know where services can be accessed, ensuring that services are widely available. There would be a need to place emphasis on equity of access, not only by the Council but by those in the community who had knowledge of the available pathways and the benefits of accessing these.

11.5 Stephen Haynes referred to the need to consider how the assets across the public sector in Hackney could be used more effectively with consideration of broadening how communities are shaped.

11.6 The Chair stated that, in the short term the neighbourhood model was being developed, coterminous with primary care networks. Resources had been allocated by the Government to employ individuals such as care navigators, health coaches, etc..These new resources should now be linked into and aligned with current community activities, making links in a practical way. He stressed that the neighbourhoods had regular multi-disciplinary team meetings with case based reviews.

11.7 Rosemary Jawara commented that there were many concerns and risks in relation to housing and health and the need to see tangible results. She asked about the extent of external investment being used in the plans.

11.8 Siobhan Harper stated that she welcomed the conversation, identifying the complexity and the scale of the challenges. She stressed the importance of identifying an expectation around standards for Registered Social Landlords and private landlords, particularly as there was a clear correlation between poor accommodation and health, causing pressure on the health service. There was a need to be more strategic in terms of planning around capacity and consideration of vulnerable populations and varying accommodation needs, and how to support the move from supported care to high end nursing care, investing locally.

11.9 Beverly Gauchette stated that when creating plans for those with support needs, in particular high level needs, it was clear that the necessary property was not available and she stressed the need to repurpose National Health Service property, where possible. Staff who were supporting individuals with increasingly

complex needs were impacted by these pressures and there was a need to build resilience, delivering psychological interventions to those staff.

11.10 Dr Sandara Husbands referred to the anchor institution work of the Council and its role in supporting the local population into good quality jobs that would enable the transfer of wealth through the generations, enabling individuals to afford local accommodation more readily.

11.11 Mayor Glanville stated that public housing was categorised as 'Health and Housing' when it was first created after the war and that the new strategy should be a Health and Housing Strategy. He stressed that there was a requirement for education across the system about the work that was ongoing on housing in the borough. He commented on the importance of coordinated and effective multidisciplinary work with neighbourhood teams, better aligned with more devolved decision making.

11.12 Councillor Fajana-Thomas referred to a recent report on those who had suffered through lockdown, substandard housing and mental health issues and asked what support was provided locally in this regard for those impacted.

11.13 Ajman Ali stressed the need for good intelligence in relation to the borough's tenants and residents to properly identify need, enabling the Council to repurpose the way in which services are delivered where necessary. There was a need to look at maximising social value from investment made to support residents and communities. there was a need for housing providers to invest properly and to enforce against those who did not invest adequately to ensure their properties were in good condition. In relation to supply and demand there was a new build programme in place with the ongoing difficulty of accelerating this programme to ensure a more imminent increase in supply.

11.14 Councillor Carole Williams stated that much work was ongoing in relation to developing skills and employment in the Borough and that the Council required all partners to deliver on the same principles, extracting as much social value as possible from all social pathway schemes. She highlighted the need to pay at least the London Living Wage to apprentices. However, high housing costs in Hackney put housing outside the reach of many people.

11.15 The Chair stressed that next steps should now be considered in relation to Housing and Health with a report back to the Board as soon as possible.

Action: Andrew Croucher

12. Update from the Member Development Workshop - Next steps (Dr Sandra Husbands/ Chris Lovitt)

12.1 Dr Sandra Husbands introduced the report. Members attended the development workshop to discuss and refine the Board's vision and approach to improving population health and tackling inequalities, in particular through partnership action on the wider

social and economic drivers of health. Discussion also focused on the government's proposals for NHS reform. Following discussion, priorities were ranked in order as follows:

- Strong Community Engagement.
- Improving the Board's use of data and combining with residents' lived experience.
- Focus on the work of the wider determinants of health, and utilising the experience of wider Board members to broaden beyond health and social care.
- Developing vision and purpose to include different ways of functioning.

12.2 Recommendations for next steps were as follows:

- Healthwatch and City and Hackney's People and Places Group to develop a plan for workstream 1 and present it at the September Health and Wellbeing Board meeting. Public Health to have an initial discussion with Healthwatch to plan this.
- Public Health Intelligence to develop a presentation and paper for the September Health and Wellbeing Board meeting to explore improving the use of data within Hackney's Health and Wellbeing Board work.
- Public Health to develop a proposal for further embedding of Health in all Policies work and present this at the October Health and Wellbeing Board meeting.
- Develop an action plan and task and finish group to progress the three workstreams.
- Provide updates at upcoming Health and Wellbeing Board meetings on progress made across workstreams when the task and finish group convenes.
- The Board will agree a timeline for revisiting the Terms of Reference in a future Health and Wellbeing Board meeting, after progress has been made on the first three priority workstreams.

12.3 Mayor Glanville asked for a progress report in relation to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Diana Divajeva told the Board that a paper on this matter and the processes involved, including qualitative and quantitative, would be submitted to the September meeting of the Board.

Action: Diana Divajeva

RESOLVED:

- To note the report.

13. Health and Wellbeing Strategy Update (Donna Doherty-Kelly)

13.1 Donna Doherty-Kelly introduced the report, highlighting the following:

- A joint working group has been set up, chaired by Cllr Kennedy and Marianne Fredericks. This working group convened in April 2021, with the second meeting taking place on June 24th. The working group would now meet monthly to discuss and shape the progress of both the City of London and Hackney's strategies.
- Data evidence packs for Hackney were developed, to inform discussions around strategy priorities.
- A Joint Health and WellBeing Strategy Prioritisation Workshop was delivered in May 2021, which produced a list of initial draft priorities for both the City of London and Hackney.
- A request for Quotation for Peer Research was published in May, scored and awarded to Hackney Volunteer Centre in early June.
- Recruitment for peer researchers started at the end of June, and the first peer research steering group meeting was held on Wednesday 30th June.
- Stakeholder and peer research engagement plans are being developed.
- A joint City and Hackney half-day workshop was delivered by the King's Fund on 21st May. The aim of the workshop was to bring together leaders from the City of London and Hackney Health and Wellbeing Boards and City and Hackney Health Inequalities Steering Group. Members explored opportunities and priorities for population health and co-produced a draft list of priorities to be incorporated within the new City of London and Hackney Health and Wellbeing Strategies. It was proposed to engage more broadly with Hackney residents. To ensure thorough engagement, it was proposed to have an extended timeline, from January to March 2022.

13.2 Donna Doherty-Kelly told the board that she was available to meet to discuss stakeholder engagement in this strategy.

13.3 Councillor Christopher Kennedy thanked Donna for her work in regard to the development of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, supporting the extension to the timeline for engagement on the strategy.

RESOLVED:

- To note the report and agree to the proposal of an extended timeline for Hackney's Health and Wellbeing Strategy

14. 0-25 - Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Amy Wilkinson/ Ellie Duncan)

14.1 Amy Wilkinson introduced the final draft of the 0-25 Integrated Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2021-2026), developed to bring together an integrated approach to supporting the wellbeing of children and young people across City and Hackney. It was the first integrated children and young

people's emotional health and wellbeing strategy, bringing together the collective ambitions of all partners across health, social care and education. The strategy was

submitted to the Integrated Care Partnership Board (ICPB) during the previous week and received helpful comments on a number of matters including the strengthening of parental relationships. Consultation with Councillors Kennedy and Woodley would take place on the school sections and strengthening physical and mental health. Amy Wilkinson stressed the need for a preventive approach and that the strategy focused on strengthening this.

14.2 Mayor Glanville thanked Amy Wilkinson for its production. He asked for clarification on the governance arrangements in relation to the strategy and detail of monitoring arrangements. Amy Wilkinson stressed that the Board's role in relation to the strategy was advisory and that it would be returned to the ICPB with the amendments that membership had asked for. Reports were made to the Children's Scrutiny Panel on mental health issues in Hackney together with the Overview and Scrutiny Commission. Councillors had reviewed the strategy and had been involved in the direction of travel. A Board for 0-25 had been set up and would be responsible for delivering the action plan.

14.3 Deputy Mayor Bramble stressed the need not to overlook the role of fathers in the process of parenting. Further, Councillor Fajana-Thomas should be consulted on the strategy.

14.4 The Chair thanked Amy for the strategy and ensuring its proper scrutiny, referring to the fact that the strategy was very good and thorough.

RESOLVED:

- To note the report

15. Any other business that the chair considers urgent

15.1 There was no other urgent business.

End of meeting.

16:00 to 18:10pm

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