

**Minutes of the 108th meeting of the South Eastern Local
Commissioning Group held at 2.00pm on Thursday 4 February 2021
via Zoom video link**

PRESENT:

Dr Mark Timoney (Chair)	-	SELCG Chair Pharmacy
Mr James Rooney	-	Dental representative
Cllr Richard Smart	-	Local Government
Cllr Alex Swan	-	Local Government
Cllr Jenny Palmer	-	Local Government
Ms Kate Fleck	-	Community/Voluntary
Mr Nicholas McCrickard	-	Community/Voluntary
Ms Jane McMillan	-	Social Care
Dr Jonathan Howe	-	General Practice
Dr Michael Johnson	-	General Practice
Dr Peter Ryan	-	GP Medical Advisor, Integrated Care

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Paul Turley	-	South Eastern Commissioning Lead
Mr Michael Taylor	-	Senior Commissioning Manager, SELCG
Mrs Bernie Mooty	-	Commissioning Officer, SELCG
Ms Rosie Byrne	-	Director of operations, NIAS

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Ms Vivien Blakely	-	Chair of Omnibus charity
Cllr Sorcha Eastwood	-	Lisburn Castlereagh Councillor
Ethna McFerran	-	Queen's University Belfast
Louise Canning	-	West Belfast Federation

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from, Dr James McGlew, Ms Siobhan Donald, Ms Deirdre Cunningham, Eamon Farrell, Ms Frances Dowds and Mr Colin Bradley.

82/21 **Opening Remarks**

(i) **Welcome**

The Chair, Dr Mark Timoney, welcomed everyone to the 108th public meeting of the South Eastern Local Commissioning Group. He also welcomed the members of the public who were also in attendance.

83/21 **Chairman's Business**

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Members confirmed that they had no conflicts of interest in respect of any of the items on the agenda, as listed, and should any interests arise during discussion they would be declared accordingly.

Correspondence

- The Chair advised Members of a DOH News Release in relation to – Health Survey (NI) First Results 2019/20 dated 17 December 2020. The Health survey included questions relating to general health, mental health and wellbeing, loneliness, smoking, e-cigarettes, drinking alcohol, and obesity. The key findings showed that 71% described their health as being good or very good. There was however an increase in the obesity weight from the 2010/11 findings with over a quarter of adults (27%) were classed as obese with a further 38% classed as overweight. 44% respondents reported eating the recommended five portions of fruits and vegetables a day; an increase from the 2010/11 findings of 32%.
- The Chair advised Members that he received correspondence from the DoH dated 31st December 2020 in relation to guidance on rollout of Covid-19 vaccine. The GP programme will run alongside the ongoing vaccination programme and will prioritise those over 80 initially but will quickly work down through the priority groups recommended for vaccination by JCVI.

- The Chair referred to correspondence he received from the Health Minister and Justice Minister welcoming the launch of a pharmacy code word scheme for domestic abuse victims. The 'Ask for ANI' scheme allows those at risk or suffering from abuse to discreetly signal to a trained pharmacy worker that they need help and access to support. The Chair suggested that it might be useful to invite current Member Pharmacist, Ms Louise Seymour, to the LCG to talk about this initiative.

Ms Mooty

- Mr Turley referred to correspondence dated 17 December 2020 from the HSCB to South Eastern Trust in relation to the Updated Outline Business Case for the Rationalisation of Acute Inpatient Mental Health Services in the SEHSCT. He advised that he would be sharing this response with Mental Health and PHA colleagues with a view to moving this business case forward.

- The Chair advised Members that he had received an information request in relation to the prevention and management of the Falls Care Pathways for care homes. The proposal is to establish a short-term task and finish team to develop a pathway for use in managing people who fall in Care Homes. The Chair advised that nursing colleagues have taken this forward and will respond in due course.

Ms
Cunningham

- Mr Turley referred to correspondence dated 5th January 2021 from BHSCT to all GP practices in relation to the contraceptive implant review of patient care in BHSCT and SET. He advised that the Belfast Trust will be contacting a number of patients who may have had a contraceptive implant incorrectly inserted or replaced at several clinic locations in Belfast and South Eastern Trusts between October 2017 and August 2020.

Engagements

- The Chair advised that he had facilitated a meeting with Lisburn GPs, GP pharmacists and Lisburn community pharmacists to discuss contingency arrangements to ensure continuity of patients' medicines supplies during lockdown.
- The Chair attended the HSCB Board Meeting on the 10th December 2020 and updated the groups on issues including the HSCB Finance and HSCB Performance reports.
- The Chair and Mr Turley also attended a meeting on the 10th Dec 2020 with ICP colleagues in relation to addressing health inequalities in Lisburn.
- The Chair attended the Chairs and Leads meeting on Wednesday 27th January 2021 in which Members received a presentation from Mr Joe Brogan on 'WHO Patient Safety Challenge - Medication without harm'. Members also received an update on the new model of planning.
- The Chair attended meetings with Lisburn ICP representative, SE HSCB office and CPNI on plans to pilot a community pharmacy referral service to SE social prescribing initiatives.
- Mr Turley advised that he attended an LCG/ ICP meeting in December to discuss the ICP work plan with a specific focus on the Dementia aspect of the ICP work plan. A paper outlining the proposed approach through LCGs and ICPs and the intention to establish some regional supporting structures was approved by SMT. Lead ICPs are being asked to develop a plan for implementation of the pathway in one prototype site per LCG area but with a clear plan for scale up across the locality. Mr Turley

advised that Mr Seamus McErlean, Social Care Commissioning Lead, HSCB, will be attending the LCG in March to update Members on the dementia pathway.

Mr Turley

84/21 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 3 December 2020.**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 December 2020 were approved. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

85/21 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- (i) **Page 4 – The Northern Ireland’s new alcohol and drug strategy -Substance use**

Cllr Palmer commented that more people are dying from substance abuse than suicide and that there needed to be a holistic approach within the strategy moving forward if it is to achieve positive outcomes. Mr Turley advised Members that a response to the Consultation has been developed.

86/21 **Presentation on ‘Northern Ireland Ambulance Service – Ms Rosie Byrne, Director of Operations**

The Chair welcomed Ms Rosie Byrne, Director of Operations, NIAS, to the public meeting. Ms Byrne explained that her presentation was to give a broad overview of the ambulance service, outline some of the challenges and give some context on plans moving forward and work within the SET.

Ms Byrne began by giving some background information about the NIAS and the range of responses. She indicated that 90%of calls are answered in 5 seconds. She displayed a slide showing NIAS clinical response model showing new response target times introduced in November 2019. She pointed out that within the South Eastern Trust there

has been an improvement in Ambulance response times by 5minutes.

Ms Byrne also outlined the many COVID related challenges that NIAS have been faced with over the pandemic period such as staff absences, reduced operational cover and reliance on staff working additional hours, delayed patient handover at Emergency Departments, social distancing and increased late finishes for crews.

Ms Byrne also displayed a letter that was issued before the pandemic dated November 2019 from the PHA to all Trust Chief Executives in relation to the delayed ambulance handover at Emergency Departments. She advised that 'Ambulance arrival and handover zones' is one of the key actions in the DoH Covid19 Urgent and Emergency Action Plan – No More Silos.

Ms Byrne went on to talk about the NIAS Strategy 'Caring today. Planning for Tomorrow, Our Strategy to Transform: 2020-2026'. She outlined the ways NIAS are planning to improve operational performance and the work being developed within the South Eastern Division.

Some discussion took place about the concerns around the gaps in capacity. The Chair asked if there was any consideration given to bringing back the recently retired personnel to help manage this issue. Ms Byrne advised that NIAS have an escalation plan that they would refer to that would include, retired, part time and training staff that has assisted them at times of escalation when required.

Ms Dowds referred to the MATT Multi Agency Triage Team service that is made up of Mental Health Professionals working alongside dedicated Police Officers and Paramedics. She added that this is an essential service and it is key in reducing presentations to ED. Ms Byrne added that whilst she recognised the value of this service and its success, the impact has

been limited and would therefore be happy to support this service in terms of increasing its capacity. Ms Byrne also added she would be happy to be involved in the evaluation and would be keen to hear about patient outcomes and experiences.

Cllr Palmer commented on the gap in front line staff and how it could potentially take years to fill. She asked if students would have a pathway to the service once they graduate. Ms Byrne commented that NIAS were not solely dependent on graduates and had also attracted recruits from across the water.

Member of the public, Cllr Sorcha Eastwood, asked if there will be evidence to provide actual facts of how effective this time has been in terms of diverting people away from ED. Ms Byrne added that there will be a review of this due shortly and that it has been extremely positive.

Cllr Smart asked if they were to increase the number of Community First Responders could NIAS potentially support them in training. Ms Byrne advised that she would need to liaise with the Medical Director with regards to this and identify any barriers.

The Chair thanked Ms Byrne for an excellent presentation and a very worthwhile discussion.

87/21 **Report by Commissioning Lead**

Mr Turley noted that Members had received a link to the Consultation on the Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031. He advised that the closing date is the 26 March 2021 and that he would be coming back to this for further discussion.

Mr Turley

Ms Dowds also agreed to share with Members the submission to the 'Responses on the draft Making Life Better – Preventing Harm & Empowering Recovery: A Strategic Framework to Tackle the Harm from Substance Use.'

Ms Dowds

Mr Turley referred to the launch of the Adult Safeguarding consultation into legislative options to bring forward a new Adult Protection Bill. Ms McMillan emphasised the importance of this consultation as it marks a significant step forward in placing Adult Safeguarding on a statutory footing. She added that there are some adults who are at significant risk of harm and it for those people that these improved safeguarding arrangements can be put in place. Mr Turley agreed to send details of the consultation to Members.

Mr Turley

Mr Turley referred to the consultation on the proposed changes to the Northern Ireland Capitation Formulae that had already closed back in November 2020 but didn't make its way to any of the LCGs. He advised that finance representatives would update the group.

Mr Bradley

Mr Turley noted that Members had received the public consultation on the introduction of a statutory opt-out system for organ donation in Northern Ireland. The closing date for this consultation is the 19th February 2021.

Mr Turley also noted the announcement of the Executive Office launching a consultation on the Draft programme for Government, specifically nine proposed outcomes and that the Executive had urged everyone to have their say in order to help create a better society. Mr Turley advised that he would be coming back to this with more detail for Members.

Mr Turley

Mr Turley referred to the Minister's comments in relation to the cancer waiting times and the implications of Covid19. He advised Members that he would be looking at the details of the cancer recovery plan and would be returning to this issue in due course.

Mr Turley advised Members that nursing colleagues, Ms Donald and Ms Cunningham were not able to attend the LCG today as they had been invited to attend a tour of the new Acute Services Block at the

Ulster hospital. Ms Cunningham will update Members at the next meeting on how the roll out of district nursing services has been moving forward.

Ms
Cunningham

Cllr Palmer commented that in terms of radiology within the new block it would be important to consider a PET scanner for prostate cancer as this type of service is not available in N.I. Mr Turley advised that it is a regionally commissioned service and that PHA and Specialist Services at the HSCB would be giving this policy consideration.

Mr Turley noted that Members received a link to the presentation on a prototype for a new Integrated Care system. He indicated that work is continuing in terms of the migration of the HSCB and that at the next LCG workshop he would spend time looking at the structure of the HSCB Migration Project.

Mr Turley

Dr Johnson raised a concern in relation to reducing the cover at weekends of the OOHs and that this was premature within the context of NMS as it would be potentially putting the service at risk. Mr Turley agreed to reflect these concerns back to HSCB.

Mr Turley

Mr Turley also advised that at the morning workshop Members received presentations from Dr Hamish McCourtney and Ms Joanne McKissick on the Diabetes Network. Members also received a presentation from Mr Jason White, SET, on the Early Treatment Centre and the Emotional Wellbeing Hub.

88/21

Questions /Discussion with the public on local health issues

There were no questions from members of the public but members thanked the LCG for a very interesting and informative meeting.

89/21

Any other Business

Cllr Smart thanked the Chair and Mr Turley for inviting him to attend the Mental Health Wellbeing hub meeting

with the ICP. He also thanked them for all that they are doing on an ongoing basis.

Mr Rooney also raised a concern that dentists are not being utilised enough as part of the medical team, for example in terms of diabetes, dentist could carry out pin prick tests etc. The Chair advised that this could be picked up with ICPs around the broader diabetes strategy.

90/21 **Date of Next Meeting:**

Next meeting is Thursday 4 March 2021 via Video Link.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____