

Minutes of a meeting of the **Wellbeing Panel** held via video link on **Wednesday 9 December 2020** at **6pm**.

A roll call was taken, and the following members were present:

Cllr F Whymark – Chairman

Cllr A D Crotch

Cllr M Murrell

Cllr N C Shaw

Cllr R R Foulger

Cllr S M Prutton

Cllr L A Starling

Cllr C Karimi-Ghovanlou

In attendance were the Director of People and Communities, the Assistant Director Individuals and Families, the Evaluation and Data Analyst and the Committee Officers (LA and JH).

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE NO 8

Member	Minute No & Heading	Nature of Interest
Cllr Crotch	34 – Health and Wellbeing Strategy Update 2020	A member of the Young Enterprise Norfolk Board and until recently, Chairman of Young Enterprise

31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N J Harpley and Cllr J A Neesam.

32 MINUTES

The minutes of the Wellbeing Panel meeting held on 7 October 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

33 MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman, Cllr Whymark, advised Members that the Youth Advisory Board would be invited to speak at the next Wellbeing Panel meeting in February 2021.

34 HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY UPDATE 2020

The Panel considered the report of the Evaluation and Data Analyst, which highlighted the activities undertaken by Broadland Council, to support the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, adopted by both Broadland and South Norfolk Councils, back in Autumn 2019.

The Evaluation and Data Analyst presented his report, referring to the progress made in support of the four themes within the Strategy, and also the impact of Covid-19 on the health and wellbeing of communities.

The Chairman thanked the Evaluation and Data Analyst for his report and commented on how well he thought the Council had adapted to new ways of working, that had arisen as a result of the pandemic.

During discussion, one Member asked whether the Council had plans to relaunch the Tots2Teens holiday scheme in the near future. The Assistant Director Individuals and Families explained that there were plans to start running the scheme in the February 2021 half term holidays, acknowledging the importance of the scheme for both children, and parents.

One Member queried how residents were referred to the Falls Prevention Scheme, as she was aware of a resident who would benefit from the scheme. The Assistant Director agreed to forward the relevant information on to the Panel, after the meeting.

One Member advised the Panel that he had received the Covid-19 vaccine that very morning, and he stressed the importance of encouraging everyone to get vaccinated, when invited to do so. The Panel discussed the potential barriers that might prevent or discourage people from receiving the vaccine, and the Assistant Director advised that officers were working closely with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to try to overcome some of the barriers, such as transport. He agreed that the District Council had an important role to play in encouraging residents, as it already worked closely with communities and hard to reach groups.

Members commented on the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on mental health and noted how this was exasperated by social isolation and loneliness. The Assistant Director referred to the stigma attached to mental health, explaining that his team were working closely with the marketing team to ensure that national campaigns reached local levels, and that the local community felt empowered to support those in need. He suggested that this was an item for future consideration and debate.

Members felt that the pandemic had highlighted a number of community groups that could provide support on a whole range of issues and stressed the importance of supporting and signposting these groups. Members discussed the use of leafletting, social media and local and parish magazines as ways of promotion.

The Assistant Director confirmed that officers were looking to replicate a scheme in Manchester, through the use of Community Connectors, whereby support was provided out of the normal office hours, to people needing to talk to someone about a whole range of issues. This was similar to work provided by other charities, but the advantage was that the Council had direct access to other services.

The Panel discussed the increase in domestic violence cases, and redundancy, as a result of the pandemic. The Assistant Director advised that officers were working closely with the police to examine how best the Council could support victims of domestic violence and also how it could help to prevent cases occurring. Members also noted that staff were working with Economic Development and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), to examine ways of supporting people to get back into work, through for example, training on interview skills or improving confidence. He added that returning to work quickly would positively impact on other issues, such as debt, mental health, and rates of domestic violence cases and homelessness. He added that this work would be a strong focus moving into 2021 and would be the subject of future reports to the Panel.

It was unanimously, by a show of hands

RESOLVED to

- (1) Note the report and the success of the Council's actions with regards to Health and Wellbeing and to further note the intention of officers to:
 - (a) Produce a further update for the panel to consider the ongoing impacts of coronavirus on resident health and wellbeing, by Summer 2021.
 - (b) Review and produce a Joint Health and Wellbeing Framework to take account of the long-term impacts of the coronavirus pandemic and to align to the 2020-2024 Joint Strategic Plan, for consideration of the Council for adoption from April 2022.

The meeting closed at 6.41pm