



Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 27th October 2021
via Zoom

Present:

Peter Bower (PB) Chair	Ged Dixon (GD) Director
Arthur McKean (AMc) Director	Sheila Scott (SS) HWST Manager
Margaret Adams (MA) Director	Tara Johnson (TJ) HWST Team

In attendance:

Tom Hall - Director of Public Health South Tyneside
Nafizah Ahmed - Young Healthwatch volunteer
Suzy Hall - Gam Care
Bev Cook - Inspire
Lynsey Finlayson - XL Health
Maria Scurfield-Walton - Churches Together

Agenda Item		Actions
1	<p><u>Welcome and apologies for absence</u></p> <p>PB welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted from Marilyn Stidolph, Joy Curry, Tracey Grainger and Shobha Srivastava.</p> <p>PB asked attendees to introduce themselves.</p>	
2	<p><u>To receive and approve the minutes of the previous year's Annual General Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a correct record.</p>	
3	<p><u>To note appointments to and retirements from the Board</u></p> <p>Dr Shobha Srivastava retired from HWST Board on 29 September 2021.</p> <p>Tracey Grainger was appointed to HWST Board on 29 September 2021.</p>	
4	<p><u>Guest Speaker</u></p> <p>Tom Hall, Director of Public Health, South Tyneside gave a presentation, Health Summary for South Tyneside.</p> <p>Some highlights from the presentation below:</p>	

- Acknowledged the difficulties during Covid-19, this has highlighted health inequalities for example some areas more than others e.g., lower incomes, BAME and vulnerable groups
- Tom discussed the different waves in the pandemic first and second wave
- Tom highlighted the great support work in South Tyneside in schools for example laptops, Social Care Support Service

Current and Future Challenges

- Indirect COVID impacts - physical inactivity, obesity, mental health and wellbeing, screening and immunisations
- Key lifestyle and behavioural issues - smoking and alcohol (all age)
- Major challenges exacerbated by COVID - poverty, worklessness and domestic abuse
- System change

Tom also provided a COVID Vaccine Uptake by Ward (age 12+) and thanked all involved in the vaccination programme.

Tom advised that HWST had played a key part in the local Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) and thanked HWST.

Questions for Tom Hall -

Q. Are there any figures around dementia in South Tyneside.

A. TH stated the Alzheimer's Society had produced a report, but he was happy to look for any other information.

Q. Will dementia be included in mental health work.

A. TH said absolutely and that the Mental Health Alliance is working on a refresh.

MA stated there is potential for focus groups with CNTW

AMc said as a care worker he cares for 2 clients with dementia and saw the changes in them during the Pandemic.

TH advised that the Melissa Bus would be in South Tyneside areas on 4th/5th November and 2 dates in December.

NA mentioned the low uptake of the vaccination in some areas.

Q. PB asked about long-covid and hidden-covid - what is this?

A. TH stated that the CCG has funds to set up clinics to address this, that is all the information he has at this present time. It is being ran by the long-term condition's alliance

SS thanked TH and the vaccination team and Nafizah for helping HWST to distribute posters to the community/BAME groups.

TH acknowledged public health have been recognised during the pandemic at

	<p>a more strategic level for the impact we have in the most deprived areas, but this needs to be improved .</p> <p>MA raised in terms of addiction, can gambling can be pushed up the agenda. TH stated there is a new gambling policy that is being fed into the public health agenda that is out for public consultation and we would welcome any partnerships for feedback. TH will share this.</p> <p>Suzy discussed gambling and the need to support this. She has seen many cases of income generation through gambling and to recognise that it can often be hidden and thanked MA for bringing this up.</p> <p>TH thanked HWST and partners for their continued efforts in matters relating to health and social care.</p>	
5	<p><u>To Receive Healthwatch South Tyneside’s Annual Report and Accounts for 2020-2021</u></p> <p><u>Chair’s Reflections on the year</u></p> <p>PB reflected on the last year and how people have had to learn how to work differently throughout the pandemic. He thanked everyone again for all their efforts, NHS, and social care staff.</p> <p>Acknowledged the vaccine roll out and how we learn from it and the amazing work of staff and volunteers.</p> <p>PB discussed the change from CCG to ICS and the challenges this may bring.</p> <p>PB acknowledged great work with partners across South Tyneside.</p> <p><u>Annual Accounts</u></p> <p>GD our financial situation is comfortable.</p> <p>Staff costs were less than predicted, this was due to covid and staff shortages.</p> <p>HWST have a small surplus to carry forward.</p> <p><u>Highlights and top three priorities for 2021-2022</u></p> <p>Roll out of vaccination programme, HWST worked with HW Sunderland to gain detailed feedback around the vaccination programme.</p> <p>There has also been an increase in Facebook and website traffic - 33% increase from the previous year, which can only be a good thing.</p> <p>SS advised that HWST commissioned 2 companies this year to produce a care home report and an adult mental health report. These reports which are in draft will be published soon, shared with HealthNet and will be published on HWST website.</p> <p>As a follow up to sharing the drafts with Healthwatch England, HWST have been asked to present at Healthwatch Week about analysing and presenting demographic data.</p>	

	<p>Integrated Care System Update: SS is part of a working group along with the 13 North East and North Cumbria HWs. This has been meeting to discuss how HWs will work with the new ICS model. It is still early days to see how things are going to work in the future and therefore it is difficult to determine until we have a clearer picture of the ICS intentions.</p> <p>SS said a big thank you to the Board, volunteers and staff for all the hard work and challenges faced working from home and attending virtual meetings.</p> <p>The Annual Report and Accounts were formally adopted by the Board members present.</p>	
6	<p><u>Questions from the public on the annual report</u></p> <p>No questions we asked.</p>	
7	<p><u>Appointment of Accountants</u></p> <p>SS recommended the reappointment of Quantum Accountancy Services Ltd. This was agreed.</p>	
8	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>PB acknowledged the hard work of staff, partners and volunteers, he said that the recruitment of adult volunteers was on HWST agenda.</p> <p>MA advised that CNTW is holding a focus group specific to South Tyneside on 16th November 2021, 1-2pm to be held via MS Teams.</p> <p>CNTW 2030 is a project to imagine CNTW's future role in improving the health of our local communities.</p> <p>There will be three questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What must we protect? • How would you like us to work together? • What would make a difference to you? <p>PB brought the meeting to a close and thanked all attendees, GD for presenting the accounts, SS and TJ for their continued work at HWST.</p>	