



HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD ADDENDUM

4.00PM, TUESDAY, 9 JUNE 2020

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL



ADDENDUM

ITEM

- 4 FORMAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**
- 5 FORMAL MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority at each ordinary meeting of the Board.

Every question shall be put and answered without discussion by the Chair. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion.

The following written questions have been received from member of the public.

1. Question from John Kapp — Asset-based Approach

“I welcome the Social Care director, Rob Persey’s inverted pyramid of the operating model Self Help Early Intervention shown on page 107 of the Health and Social Care Strategy (HACS) in item 66 of the last meetings (24.3.20) agenda because it shifts the focus of support to the **asset-based approach**, as described in the Better Lives Stronger Communities Operating Model (BLSC).

This **asset-based approach** focuses on what people can do, not what they can’t do, and builds on their strengths, and community assets, by working with their support networks, the community and voluntary sector, and social enterprises.

Does the Board agree that this **asset-based approach** should be extended to and incorporated in the CCG’s commissioning strategy and social prescribing for which the health budget is more than three times that of social care, at about £470mpa, together totalling £600mpa, which would integrate health and social care by ensuring that both adopt the same **asset-based approach**?”.

3. Question from Ken Kirk – Substance Misuse Contract

“patients with drug and alcohol problems often present to A&E in crisis or with related conditions and providing support for them is a highly skilled job. Yet the new contractors CGL have disastrously cut nurse posts. Of the current fifteen nurses and four nurse prescribers, seven nurse posts will be cut, the number of recovery worker posts is uncertain.

Did the HWB Board approve the Council’s decision to transfer the Drug and Alcohol Service to CGL; shouldn’t the council attach conditions to contracts to stop the emasculation of service, or is the contract price the only issue?”

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

The following questions have been received from Councillor Bagaen and will be taken at Item 5:

(1) Unauthorised Traveller Encampment During Covid 19

Over the week there has been a small unauthorised encampment of travelling families on the Patcham Place that has raised some pertinent health and well-being issues.

To help travelling families during the pandemic to access health and hygiene requirements such as water, sanitation and waste disposal facilities, Government guidance suggests making alternative stopping place available such as transit sites, providing suitable local authority land or using holiday campsites which may have closed and have established facilities. Government as we know, has provided the council with funding to deal with Covid 19 issues.

However, contrary to Government advice the council has decided to close the multi-million transit site we have at Horsdean (other councils are opening transit sites such as Canterbury) and leave transit families in a popular park where somehow these essential health and hygiene requirements will be provided aside from the fact the council hasn't yet provided the scientific or medical advice to support closing the transit site. What plans have the council in place to support travelling families, what is happening at Patcham Place cannot be a sustainable and healthy solution across the whole city.

Surely, the plan isn't to leave families in the parks and open spaces they initially pitch up onto not knowing how long the pandemic arrangements will be in place. Please could the Chair advise what better strategy and protocol is being put into place to support travelling families and the affected than just leaving travelling families in the parks where they initially turn up.

(2) Closure of Madeira Drive During Covid 19 Outbreak

The council to a great fanfare, closed Madeira Drive to general traffic and encouraged the space to be used for cycling and walking. Above Madeira Drive as we know, is the wide boulevard of Marine Parade. However, it seems that the consequence of not thinking this through is that thousands of people encouraged to this area are having to squeeze by each other on the only two staircases that link these locations. Obviously, there is the ramp and the extreme ends of Madeira Drive for people to safely use. Regardless, people will try to find the shortest route between two points and the staircases could now become areas of close contact between individuals.

Please could the Chair advise what plans are being put into place to ensure that people can still use the staircases without the risk of spreading Covid 19. For example, could one stairway be up only and the other down only. It may require more physical marshalling but that would be better than the position that the stairs are ok to cross on.

(3) Closure/Continuing Closure of City Schools – Covid 19

On Friday 20 May 2020, the council advised schools in the city not to open. Could the Chair and the Board share what health advice has the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Director of Public Health given to schools on the issue of health and safety and risk of infection around opening schools at this point in the pandemic response.

(4) Discussions with GMB – Covid 19

On Friday 29 May 2020, Mark Turner of the GMB union, wrote to all Councillors saying that his and the GMB's information to date (29 May) is that the infection rate in Brighton and Hove is increasing not decreasing and the unions and Mr Turner had seen evidence indicating that the R value may be as high as 1.7.

Mr Turner advised all councillors that he and the GMB Members need to see scientific evidence locally to demonstrate to us that the R value is truly reducing.

Could the Chair and the Board share what information was shared with Mr Turner and the GMB and why this information was not shared with the other members of the Board if the decision to support the council's position to advise schools to close was based on this information.