

Report from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing

Housing Vulnerable people

Councillors and officers visited the site of a new Extra Care Housing scheme at Poppyfields in Saughall Massie. Development of this site has been discussed for a long time and it was fantastic to see the new housing scheme taking shape. The scheme will provide purpose-built accommodation, comprising 78 units, for people with care and housing needs and will support people to live longer in their own homes, without the need for other types of care. The scheme has a light and airy feel, with plans for landscaping and lots of outdoor space.

Quality Improvement

Wirral has coordinated a Registered Managers forum for local care home managers. This links to the national Registered Managers forum. It is a network that supports Registered Managers through peer support across the Wirral network. Supported by the CQC and Wirral's Quality Improvement team, the aim is to improve care home quality through sharing best practice, while exploring key themes and issues affecting the care home sector. The forum is now supported by an electronic web based online forum which is operated and administrated by the Quality Improvement team,

Domestic Abuse Business champions

Under this scheme, care providers identify senior individuals in their organisation to be trained to recognise and support employees who may be suffering Domestic Abuse. They are then trained and supported by the Family Safety Unit's Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) team. It was recognised that the Domiciliary Care workforce would best benefit from this project initially with a plan to roll out across the market.

Commissioning

Commissioners have been working closely with current providers and stakeholders to develop the future service delivery model for intermediate care services. This has been an excellent collaboration between our NHS providers and the independent sector to recommend improvements for future services.

Supporting Independence

Our domiciliary and reablement providers have been actively recruiting and increasing the support they can provide to people in their own homes, helping people to be as independent as possible. We have seen a 12% growth in the volume of support packages since April, which is helping people get home from hospital quickly when needed and helping people stay at home, when their needs change.

Local Plan Health Impact Assessment

To support the development of the Local Plan an independent Health Impact Assessment (HIA) was conducted in October 2019. The recommendations from this assessment will influence how the final plan develops to maximise opportunities for health improvement and mitigate potentially negative health impacts.

Air Quality Audit

The Public Health team recently led an audit of Wirral's air quality interventions using Public Health England's improving outdoor air quality review document. The outcome of

this work was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2019. The recommendations emerging from this audit are being used to inform an Air Quality Plan for Wirral. The audit has been commended as good practice by Public Health England for both, our approach, and for the proactive work to further improve air quality despite being within air quality standards. Wirral Council has been invited to present this work to a national conference on Air Quality in June 2020.

Connect Us service mobilisation and roll out

Following the successful bid to retain the contract to provide the Community Connector Service, Involve North West have worked with the Public Health Team to mobilise the service expansion across Wirral. The service will continue to focus its resources in communities where they are most needed, supporting individuals and communities to increase connectivity. Within these communities, the service will optimise access to information, and nurture community resilience, self-help, health and wellbeing while tackling social isolation.

Healthy Child Programme

On 8 October 2019, the contract for the 0-19s Healthy Child Programme was awarded to Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust, with the service commencing on 1 February 2020. The programme includes a team of Health Visitors, School Nurses and the Family Nurse Partnership. This will allow for greater stability within the service and for the service to develop in line with wider strategic objectives. One of the priorities for the new service is to ensure that there is more integrated provision at a local level. The recommissioning of the service was informed through consultation with key local stakeholders.

Wirral Ways to Recovery

The new Wirral Ways to Recovery (WWtR) service commenced on 1 February 2020. This service has been remodelled to deliver within the available funding and to adapt to best meet the changing needs of the service users. The contract will run for the next 5 years (with an option to extend for another 2 years).