



Councillor Andrea Robinson
Edenthorpe and Kirk Sandall Ward

Date: 31st July 2019
Call: 01302 882625
Email: andrea.robinson@doncaster.gov.uk

Mayor Ros Jones
Doncaster Council
Civic Office
Waterdale
Doncaster
DN1 3BU

Dear Ros,

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel 4th July, 2019

At the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 4th July, Members made a number of recommendations relating to the issues set out below for your consideration.

I would like to highlight that Members wished to inform you that the Panel's discussion on all the areas addressed was meaningful and informative. The minutes, detailing full discussion will also be made available shortly.

Areas the Panel considered are:

1. 2019 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – State of Health and 2019-20 JNSA Work Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a) That consideration be given to data being sought from the immediate areas around schools, relating to the physical environment, with a view to it being shared with partners and ultimately the Department of Health.

REASON:

This will draw attention to and aim to improve the environmental living areas for children and young people. Members highlighted child obesity, and whilst noting that the Doncaster position was not significantly different to the national picture it was an issue that Team Doncaster and the NHS were addressing to improve individuals health.

Part of the discussion addressed living in healthy environments, particularly the temptation of children who regularly use corner shops and takeaways when they were sited close to residential areas and schools. Concern was also expressed that children and young people were buying energy drinks and crisps for breakfast on the way to school. Members were therefore of the opinion that it was a contributing factor towards child obesity.

The Panel was aware of the work being undertaken by Team Doncaster but additional to this, suggested that there was an urgent need for schools to also address the living environment within their immediate vicinity.

Members also expressed the wish to learn if the levy on high sugar drinks had made an impact but recognised that it may be too early and that further data would be required before a report could be made.

- b) That the Executive investigate the possibilities of developing an Information Sharing Agreement similar to that established in other authorities within the region.

REASON:

Members raised the possible benefits of an Information Sharing Mechanism between Local Authorities and GP Practices that enables them to extract data from clinical systems, to assist with understanding health of the local population.

- c) That the Executive consider if the data and supporting information gathered through the JNSA be shared with schools, particularly in relation to LGBTQ bullying and childhood obesity.

REASON:

The Doncaster pupil Lifestyle Survey revealed that in Doncaster there were higher levels of bullying against the LGBTQ community and young people found it more difficult to find people they felt confident to talk to. Members stressed that this was disturbing and concerning, therefore sought assurances that this group was being supported and asked that data and supporting information, including any hotspots, be shared with schools. It was suggested that if not being undertaken, schools be requested to address the issues as part of the school learning opportunities or curriculum.

2. Care Quality Commission Inspection and Regulation of Adult Social Care

RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive be asked to investigate whether providers could promote health and social care careers with the opportunity to undertake voluntary

and paid sessional work through 6th Form education establishments and report back to a future meeting of the Panel.

REASON:

Members learnt that young people were showing initiative by volunteering in the care field, including 6th form students who were being encouraged to pursue care as a vocational career. It was recognised that there was a need to expose care work to younger people through schools as early as practicable.

3. Your Life Doncaster Transformation Programme – Panel update

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive be asked to investigate whether a more generic advertising culture across South Yorkshire could be undertaken ensuring every opportunity for collaboration with partners.

REASON:

During discussion it was noted that advertisements for the service were aimed only the Local Authority's region but Members wished if there was mileage in advertising across a wider field, reaching a broader audience, ensuring a more joined up voice and workforce.

I would be grateful if I could receive a response to the recommendations by Friday 30th August, 2019.

To conclude, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the officers copied into this letter for attending the Panel and for the passion they showed towards the work they undertake.

With kind regards,

Councillor Andrea Robinson
Chair of Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel

cc:

Phil Holmes Director Adult Health and Wellbeing
Dr. Victor Joseph, Consultant in Public Health
Karen Johnson, Assistant Director Adult Social Care and Safeguarding
Laurie Mott, Senior Strategy and Performance Manager
Jon Gleek, Head of Service Strategy and Performance