

Committee minutes – approved

27 May 2021 – 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Online via Zoom

Committee members present

Michael Brown (MB)	Independent (Chair)
Lyn Boyle (LB)	Independent
Jane Quilty (JQ)	Independent

Apologies

Shamshad Shah (SS)	Independent
Mairi Cox (MC)	Independent

In attendance

Siobhan O’Neil (SO)	Chief Executive Officer, HWN & HWG
Kate Beattie (KB)	Finance and Administration Officer, HWN & HWG

1. Welcome and introductions

1.1. MB led the welcome and introductions.

2. Apologies for absence

2.1 Apologies were noted for Shamshad Shah (SS) and Mairi Cox (MC).

3. Minutes of previous meetings and matters arising

3.1 The minutes for the meeting were agreed as a true record.

3.2 No actions.

3.3 MB informed the members present that Michael Peacock and Rachel Smith have resigned for personal reasons. Therefore, we currently need to recruit for new members. MB asked the members present to ask around if anyone is interested in joining who have experience in health and social care and knowledge about Gateshead. Deborah Hall is going to advertise recruitment in the newsletter.

3.4 Staff changes:

Jacqui Thompson is leaving on Thursday 3rd June.

We have appointed an Operations Manager who will start on Monday 7th June, this is a one-year fixed term contract.

We are in the process of recruiting a Project & Engagement Officer and will update the committee members.

4. Priority setting

4.1 Introduction

As attendance is low, no final decisions on the priorities can be made today. The Chair has made arrangements for individual conversations with members not in attendance to facilitate and complete the decision-making process.

Context:

- Each priority area will cost around £10,000, regardless of whether this is delivered internally, by associates or in partnership.
- We need to consider which projects we decide to prioritise, and which need more work on.
- We need to grow relationships with other organisations.
- In making decisions we need to be mindful of the impact we can have.

4.2 Scoping papers overview and questions

Committee members received an overview of each of the scoping papers which had been circulated in advance:

- Access to decision making for children and young people (CYP).
- Resilient Communities - to better understand how the Covid pandemic has impacted on the health and wellbeing of different communities across Gateshead
- Mental Health needs
- Access to GP services for Refugees with leave to remain. This replaced the original topic looking at the impact on disadvantaged communities of access to health and care literacy and information in an increasingly digitised world. This change was in response to work being done by others that will report later in the summer

Following each summary committee members had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the merits and issues for each potential priority area.

4.3 Priority Setting Decision

4.4 Committee members shared their views on each of the priority proposals that had been scoped. Following discussions members present took the following decisions:

Agreed Priorities:

- Resilient Communities
- Access to GP services for Refugees with leave to remain.

4.5 The priority around mental health will remain on a watch list which may be picked up if we can have impact around a particular theme.

4.6 SO introduced two additional options for discussion. These were:

- Keeping resources in reserve to enable us to be flexible and responsive to issues that arise throughout the year.
- How providers of social care services can best engage with their communities (including patients, users, families / carers, staff) on the question of covid vaccinations for staff.

Committee members discussed these and agreed to keeping some resource in reserve and to undertaking further conversations with colleagues across the Gateshead system on the priority around vaccinations.

Actions: MB to seek contributions from those members not present before final priorities are agreed.

5. AOB

Members agreed that they would continue to be involved in delivering on the priorities.

All members to consider providing content for the next newsletter, particularly a 'day in the life' of a committee member to go alongside an advert for new members. [Kate can you put in the date of when needed].

6 Next steps

Actions

- Circulate minutes
- Undertake actions identified

6. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 13 July, 1.30pm - 3.30pm.

No other business.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm