

**Healthwatch Walsall Advisory Board (HAB) Public Meeting
Wednesday 21 February 2024
Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Walsall WS3 1LZ**

Present:

Ross Nicklin (RN)	HW Walsall Advisory Board (Chair)
Dianne Beddows (DB)	HAB Member
Andrew Green (AG)	HAB Member
Simon Fogell (SF)	ECS Chief Executive
Aileen Farrer (AF)	HW Walsall Manager

Apologies:

Hamamah Sulemana	HAB Member
Marie-Claire Kofi (MCK)	HAB member

Item		Actions
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>Members were welcomed to the public HAB Meeting and apologies were received as noted above. There were no members of the public in attendance.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Declaration of Interests</u></p> <p>Declarations of Interests noted as:</p> <p><u>Andrew Green</u> – interest in 8C, Chair of Walsall Council Internal Audit Committee and member of Walsall Council Standards Committee.</p> <p><u>Dianne Beddows</u> – PPLG Chair</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes and Action Log from Public Board Meeting held on 18 July 2023</u></p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes 18 July 2023</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2023 were approved as a true record and proposed by Andy Green and seconded by Dianne Beddows.</p> <p><u>Action Points 18 July 2023</u></p> <p>No actions from the 18 July 2023 meeting.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Work Programme Project 2023/2024</u></p> <p>Aileen Farrer outlined the progress on the work programme for 2023/2024 in full detail as outlined in the paper Enc. 2.</p>	

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	<p>Following detailed discussion, the following points were noted:</p> <p><u>Maternity Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has concluded with the final report published and circulated. It has been well received by partners who are working on actions based on the recommendations. <p><u>Accessible Information Standard</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is now complete, and the draft report will be circulated to HAB members by the end of February. <p><u>Dentistry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report has been published and circulated. <p><u>Long Covid</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project engagement and analysis is complete, and the report is currently being written. <p><u>NHS III</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project engagement and analysis is complete, and the report is currently being written. <p><u>New Emergency Care Centre</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project engagement and analysis is complete and the report is currently being written. 	
5.	<p><u>Escalations to HW England/CQC</u></p> <p>No escalations were made to Healthwatch England or the CQC.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Publish a report</u></p> <p>The following reports have been published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences of Black and Asian Women of Maternity Services Access to Dental Services Homeless and Rough Sleepers Report on Planned and Urgent Care Enter & View Report- Swan House Enter & View Report- The Willows Enter & View Report- Palfrey Health Centre Enter & View Report- Gorway House Enter & View Report- Cedar Falls 	
7.	<p><u>Core Connector 20+ Programme</u></p> <p>Simon Fogell advised Board members that the programme has now ended. The volunteer connectors are being approached to see if they are interested in</p>	

Item		Actions
	becoming Healthwatch Walsall volunteers meaning that for Healthwatch Walsall the legacy of the project will be an increased number of volunteers.	
8a.	<p><u>Request information from commissioners/providers</u></p> <p>No requests made.</p>	
8b.	<p><u>Enter and View</u></p> <p>Forward plan of proposed visits for approval to be sent to Board outside this meeting.</p> <p>AG raised his objection about the lack of transparency about the rationale for undertaking Enter & View visits. It was noted that information from a multi-agency meeting which is not in the public domain informs the visit schedule.</p>	
8c.	<p><u>Decision about sub-contracting/commissioned work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro grant was awarded from the ICB to undertake engagement work with homeless/rough sleepers re: urgent and planned care. Due to the very short timescales, this had received Chair's approval. Board noted this decision. 	
8d.	<p><u>Whether to report a matter concerning your activities to another person- e.g. CCG, Voluntary Sector, another Healthwatch, Advocacy services</u></p> <p>No reports made.</p>	
8e.	<p><u>Which health and social care services HW is looking at for priority project</u></p> <p>Four potential projects have been identified for the work programme 2024/2025. HAB members discussed the proposed projects and are to inform Aileen Farrer of 2 preferred projects for the year as well as one additional 'reserve' project.</p>	HAB members to inform AF of preferred priority projects.
8f.	<p><u>Refer a matter to Overview and Scrutiny Committee</u></p> <p>No matters referred.</p>	
8g.	<p><u>Breach/s of the decision-making process</u></p> <p>No breaches to report.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Health and Social Care Issues from the public</u></p> <p>No members of the public present.</p>	

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10.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p><u>Royal Wolverhampton Trust and Walsall Manor</u></p> <p>AG asked if Healthwatch Walsall would expect to be notified formally about proposal for the two Trusts coming together. AF said discussion had been held with HWW and at that point in time they were currently proposals, and they already have shared directors. Liaison has taken place with Unions and there have been no issues raised.</p> <p>SF said that he did not think Healthwatch Walsall had any role unless they say that they are merging and moving patient services. The greater risk to services for patients is how the ICB commission service in the future.</p>	
11.	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meetings</u></p> <p>TBC</p>	