

## **Public Board Meeting**

Monday 6 February 2023 1100 – 1300hrs, by tele/video conference

## Minutes

Ite	Title	Enc	Who
m			
1	Attendance		JR
	Directors:		
	Jo Ringshall – Chair		
	Martin Gallagher		
	Jane Stanley		
	Chris Byrne		
	John Taylor		
	Simon Adams		
	Co-opted Board Members:		
	St Pauls Hostel represented by Jonathan Sutton		
	David Saunders – Volunteer		
	Sandycroft represented by Lee McKenzie		
	[NB the Co-opted Members attend the Board		
	Meeting as non-voting participants]		
	Apologies:		
	Young Solutions represented by Pete Sugg		
	Swallows Head and Neck Cancer – Co-opted		
	Board Member		
	Families in Partnership - Co-opted Board Member		
	Also Present:		
	Engagement Officers:		
	Suzy James		
	Margaret Reilly		
	Nicola Longworth-Cook		
2	Declaration of Interests		JR
	None declared.		
3	Minutes of Public Board Meeting on 24 November	Enc 1	JR
	2022 and Matters Arising:		
	The Directors unanimously agreed the minutes of		
	the Public Board Meeting on 24 November 2022		
	[Enc 1]		

	Car parking at Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust     SA reported that in response to HWW's enquiries on 19 December 2023 the Trust had confirmed that Blue Badge holders are entitled to free car parking, and that there is some information on the car parking signs.  The Trust also informed HWW that it was in the process of conducting a survey around signage and looking at what improvements were required.  SA reported he had responded to The Trust with a request for the details as to how the concession operates in the Trust's barrier controlled car parks and that a reply was awaited.  The Directors agreed to pursue enquires with the Trust until the outcome of the review was known and has been implemented.  Action: SA		SA
	Care Contribution Minimum Income Guarantee     JT reported that following representation from members of HWW's Reference & Engagement Group about the level of the Minimum Income Guarantee in the context of the increases in the cost of living he had written a letter of enquiry to the CEO of Worcestershire County Council about the future level of the Guarantee.  The Board noted the letter [Enc 2].	Enc 2	JT
4	HWW's Awareness of Minor Injury Units Report JR presented HWW's report on the public's 'Awareness of Minor Injury Units, reporting that following engagement with the members of HWW's Board the report 'Awareness of Minor Injury Units' together with appendices [Encs 3a & 3b] had been published. The Directors gave retrospectively approval to the report, its recommendations, and the letter to the CEO of NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire [Enc 3c] requesting a response.	Encs 3a,3b,3 c	JR

5	The availability of Antibiotics suitable for Children in	JS
	Worcestershire	
	In December 2022 HWW made an enquiry with NHS	
	Herefordshire & Worcestershire following patients	
	reporting difficulty in obtaining antibiotics for	
	children and received a response in January	
	reporting that the shortages of antibiotics in the run	
	up to Christmas was a national issue. NHS	
	Herefordshire & Worcestershire understood that	
	stock availability issues in community pharmacies	
	locally were largely resolved, assisted by the	
	national introduction of the Serious Shortage	
	Protocols_allowing community pharmacies to	
	supply alternative products to that specified on a	
	prescription, in very specific circumstances. NHS	
	Herefordshire and Worcestershire stated that it	
	continued to work with community pharmacies	
	and other system colleagues to try to minimise the impact of stock shortages on patients where it can,	
	and it is aware this is an issue that has attention at	
	a national level too.	
	After discussion during which LM raised concerns	
	about patients reporting shortages of other	
	medications the Directors agreed to monitor the	
	situation.	
6	Worcestershire's Homelessness and Rough Sleeper	JT
	Strategy 2022-2025	
	The Board noted that as the responsible authorities	
	for housing, Worcestershire's District Councils were	
	currently considering Worcestershire's	
	Homelessness and Rough Sleepers Strategy.	
	JT reminded the Board that several recommendations from the Thematic Review of	
	deaths of rough sleepers in Worcestershire that had been undertaken by Worcestershire's	
	Safeguarding Adult Board [WASB] were to have	
	been implemented in the Homelessness and	
	Rough Sleepers Strategy.	
	JS raised concerns that the Strategy did not meet	
	the requirements of the recommendations in the	
	Thematic Review and did not identify	
	accountability structures within the individual	
	Councils.	
	JT proposed that he would seek assurance that the	
	WASB was satisfied that the Strategy properly	
	reflected the recommendations of the Thematic	

	Review through HWW membership of the WASB Assurance Review Panel. After discussion with the Board the Directors agreed this course of action, and that if reassurance could not be provided HWW would make written representation to the WASB Chair and the District Councils.  Action: JT		
7	Business Plan 2021-2023 The Board considered and noted the Business Plan progress report. CB briefed the Board on the process to revise the Business Plan for 2023-2026 which will include horizon scanning, a review of the projects in the current plan, identifying new projects and opportunity to co-produce the new Business Plan with those who use health and social care services. SA reported on experiences of patients with Parkinsons Disease and initial enquires with the NHS. The Directors agreed to add the Parkinsons Disease as a small project whilst the situation was scoped for consideration for inclusion in the new Business Plan. SA to amend existing Business Plan.  Action: SA	Enc 4	CB/S A
8	Mental Health Services in Worcestershire NHS Urgent Mental Health Service and NHS Counselling and Therapy services; the developing role of the Voluntary Community Sector Sarah Dugan, CEO, of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust led a presentation about the provision of urgent mental health services and the Talking Therapies service, which was followed by Board and public participation. View the presentation and participation here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O4bBwWJ8Q 2A During the presentation the Directors agreed to request further information in relation to Talking Therapies from the Trust and the CEO invited HWW to participate in a Peer Review process the Trust was developing. The Directors welcomed the invitation and will decide on participation once further details were known.		JR

	Action: SA	
8	Reference & Engagement Group The Board considered and the Directors approved applications for membership of the Reference and Engagement Group from:  Ovacome [ a VCS organisation]  Bernadette Louise [Expert by Experience]	SA
	Date of Healthwatch Worcestershire's Public Board Meetings in 2023 Thursday 23 March Thursday 25 May Thursday 27 July Thursday 28 September Thursday 30 November [All online unless otherwise notified]	