

Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Public Forum Questions and Responses

Thursday 18th May 2023



Question from Rosemary Merricks regarding learning disability health checks.

- **Is there a health plan that covers the quality of the health checks being completed and quality assurance?**
- *Jane Bowie, Director of Integrated Commissioning (Adults) Lambeth Council and ICB* explained that the focus is now on work being carried out by our all-age learning disability and autism group, making sure that the critical information is being used from the health checks, making sure that the individuals have then got that personalised support and services in place to make sure that we have the appropriate responses.
- *Di Aitken, GP, Co-Chair for Care Partnership Board* gave a GP perspective and how she viewed the health checks as an opportunity. Reflecting on what her practice does, she wondered if there should be a script in place for consistency and quality purposes.
- *Raj Mitra, GP* detailed the process at his practice and what was involved but admitted that the follow up part was probably the weakness.



Question from Mairead Healy, Healthwatch Lambeth, regarding recent residents' issues

- **Acknowledging there is a national issue with GP access, waiting lists, and access to Dentists, is there anything we could put in place locally to help?**
- **Being Mental Health Week, can you share some of the initiatives on the market?**
- *Andrew Eyres, Strategic Director for Integrated Health & Care, Lambeth* talked of the work Lambeth Council have done and the events put in place, from getting people to talk to one another to supportive lectures on bereavement and helping with anxiety, etc.
- *Raj Mitra, GP* explained that in Primary Care, mental health is a regular topic, checking in with staff, ensuring they are getting their breaks, etc. For patients, it was a daily focus. Regarding dental access, many patients were coming forward in distress as they cannot get appointments. GPs are no longer able to prescribe antibiotics for dental issues either. Andrew explained that whilst we have taken on a delegate responsibility for dentists now, the contracts have yet to be updated and that there is definitely an opportunity, and the issue has not gone unrecognised.
- *Oge Chesa, Director for Primary Care and Transformation* added that the transformation of dental commissioning is a priority for us and will be looking at how we can do dentistry differently going forward.



Cont. Mairead's question regarding recent residents' issues

- *Ruth Hutt, Director for Public Health* detailed the dental survey that is done across SE London. Ruth explained that momentum has been lost due to covid, being closed for long periods of time and that there is a lot of recovery to do, leaving the reality of, depending on where you live, your access to an NHS dentist, highly variable, but for children, those early habits are quite important. There is a lot of work that goes on in schools and children's centres around early brushing, teeth friendly weaning, etc, but provision and access is still a major challenge.



Question from Nicola Taylor from the MS Teams Chat, regarding mental health.

- **I would like to discuss the idea of introducing a 4th emergency service for Mental Health, like the mental health triage teams that run through LAS but to be funded on its own budget. There are many benefits to introducing this and I would like the opportunity to discuss this with someone away from the meeting please.**
- *Jane Bowie, Director of Integrated Commissioning (Adults) Lambeth Council and ICB* responded by offering to meet Nicola offline to discuss the opportunity further. A meeting was scheduled between Jane Bowie and Nicola Taylor for Wednesday 21st June 2023.
- *Andrew Eyres, Strategic Director for Integrated Health & Care, Lambeth* added that it was essential that the offer for residents remained a joint one, not just a response at the point of crisis, but supporting people throughout. We try to work in an integrated way across our services, and working through the Lambeth Living Well Network Alliance, we would coordinate that.
- **Having read the Joint Forward Plan for Lambeth, and signed up for the ICB Webinars, will I be able to listen to the discussions later?**
- *Andrew Eyres, Strategic Director for Integrated Health & Care, Lambeth* detailed that everyone was welcome to join the public meeting and can listen in and are also welcome to make comments on any of the documents we publish.