

# Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Public Forum

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023



# Questions from members of the Public

## Question 1

### • **Gay Lee, Lambeth Keep Our NHS Public:**

Do you have any further information about the privatisation of NHS Services? For example, the NHS Dialysis Service in Camberwell is likely to move to Lambeth and the concern is with it now being privately run, will there be a loss in expertise from the NHS Staff?

There has also been a recent announcement that an American company running two general practices in Streatham are in the process of being sold off, does anyone know the implications involved?

## Answers

### • **Cllr Jim Dickson (Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Co-Chair – Lambeth Council)**

We are very close partners with AT Medics in Streatham. We will be having a dialog around the effects of wider ownership; they are valued partners and so the dialog will be ongoing around your concerns and how likely it will affect the public and they will be followed up.

### • **Andrew Eyres, Strategic Director for Integrated Health & Care, Lambeth**

Thanked Gay for her questions and explained that the question around moving that service wasn't something he had heard of and so asked her to share any further information with them. Anna Clough, Site Chief Operating Officer, Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust agreed to investigate further and confirm back to Andrew.

Regarding the question around AT Medica, Andrew explained that they were very important to Lambeth as they had provided a lot of primary care leadership and in fact their birthplace was Streatham. One of their partners has recently been appointed to one of our clinical lead roles, so there is a commitment to Lambeth and providing care to Lambeth residents. In terms of ownership, unless that impacts on the contract, we hold with the practice, then it wouldn't be a huge role for us to play in that. SEL are coordinating conversations across the boroughs with AT Medics. The practice haven't said anything is changing in terms of the practice and how it is run. Some of the work they have done has been around reducing inequalities in hypertension across different ethnic groups, showing how practices can be proactive.



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### *Answers to Gay Lee's question continued:*

- **Di Aitken, Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Co-Chair** added that they viewed them as real allies in tackling disparities in our health and care outcomes. They trialed an 18-month programme to upskill staff in building trust with people with high blood pressure and not to give up after 3 attempts at a blood pressure review. They have the best blood pressure control in the country. Gay then asked if hypertension info could be published on the Lambeth Together website.
- **Update after the meeting:**
- Anna Clough confirmed the Camberwell dialysis unit remains an NHS provision via GSTT. Planning is underway for new dialysis capacity in Lambeth which will also be an NHS provision.



# Questions from members of the Public

## Question 2

- **Odilon Couzin:**

Is there a plan to roll out Naloxone to all frontline police and emergency staff?

## Answer

- **Ruth Hutt, Director of Public Health, Lambeth:**

We do have a substantive agenda item on substance misuse later today so please stay if you can. We are working with the Police to ensure they get the training to be able to carry Naloxone as usually the police are the first on the scene. Public Health services have offered that training and we have asked Lambeth to be the trial for that. It is not in place at the moment, but we are committed to making this happen.



## Question 3

### **Sue Gallagher, Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Lay Member:**

This question is on behalf of the residents local to me regarding the recent fire in Shakespeare Road. The waste disposal site produced nasty smoky fumes that lasted many days. Residents were perplexed that there has been no information from the Council or Public Health. We know that Jim Dickson was aware, he had mentioned it on Twitter with advice but during a heatwave, it was hard to have all the windows shut and so therefore hard to comply. This situation has raised a lot of questions such as, who would communicate in these circumstances. Also, no one has further clarified about the fire and the toxic risks so, on reflection, I wonder does Ruth have any comments on behalf of Public Health?

## Answers:

### • **Ruth Hutt, Director of Public Health, Lambeth**

Sympathised that it must have been concerning for residents at the time. She agreed that there were lessons to be learned, which included getting the communication right and that there was to be a wash-up event with all the agencies involved. The UK Health Security Agency were involved with the incident but were not concerned with the smoke or any elements of it being toxic. Usually, Public Health advice comes from the air quality specialists who will liaise with the Public Health team if they need it. A lot of the agencies almost stood down at one point as they thought it had gone out, but it had reignited.

### • **Cllr Jim Dickson, Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Co-Chair – Lambeth Council**

Explained (as ward councillor for the area) it was officially a silver incident, which is also known as a major incident. The London Fire Brigade, the Police, the Council all liaised and agreed actions. The comms were not good, relying on social media. I was putting letters through residents' doors on the Sunday and the Council had set up a respite facility at the Town Hall for those who needed a break and were finding it difficult to remain at home. We do need to look at protocols regarding communication going forward but, in the meantime, 2000 residents around the site have been written to, explaining what happened and the next steps.



# Questions from members of the Public

## Question 4

- **Rich Wiltshire, Lambeth Together Patient and Public Voice Member:**

Speaking to acquaintances, in particular one friend who was hospitalised with respiratory issues during the Shakespeare Road fire, will there be monitoring on those who were seriously affected?

## Answers:

- **Ruth Hutt, Director of Public Health, Lambeth**

Explained that they won't know everyone who has been affected by this incident and therefore have to rely on our intel from the Trust, to see if there was an increase of people coming in at that time. If you are aware of people that have been affected and that have issues, I am happy for them to contact me, we need the feedback.

- **Andrew Eyres, Strategic Director for Integrated Health & Care, Lambeth:**

As Ruth explained, they did check if there were increases in admissions to Kings at the time but there wasn't but that doesn't rule out who attended so will try and follow up with the Hospital.



## Question 5

### • **Sue Gallagher, Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Lay Member:**

Now the Covid Vaccines have re-started, I am finding it hard to find an available appointment for one. Will there be a range of appointments ongoing?

## Answer

### • **Cllr Jim Dickson, Lambeth Together Care Partnership Board Co-Chair – Lambeth Council:**

All will be covered in the Covid Update later in the meeting.

## Updates later in the meeting were.....

**Andrew Eyres, Strategic Director for Integrated Health & Care, Lambeth:** explained we are seeing an increase in the numbers of Covid being reported, however, there is little evidence as there is not a lot of testing going on. An outbreak was first identified at a care home in the east of England which demonstrates this variant must be transmissible, although we are not seeing a big change in admissions to hospital. As a preventative measure, they had asked to bring forward the roll out of the vaccine programme and move forward at pace for those most at risk. The roll out started 11<sup>th</sup> September, with 34 pharmacies, 3 primary care networks and Guy's and St Thomas' offering vaccines. Andrew noted there should be sufficient capacity across the system but would take Sue Gallagher's (SG) point about being unable to book a vaccine appointment and review if there are any capacity issues (please note, SG was able to book a vaccination appointment during the meeting, using the NHS app). Dr Raj Mitra (RM) explained his surgery is getting more calls from patients catching Covid so highlighted the need to get the vaccines programme going. AE also explained that GPs are responsible for administering vaccines to those who are housebound.



## Question 6

- **Gay Lee, Lambeth Keep Our NHS Public:**

Are GPs responsible for vaccinating housebound people?

## Answer

- **Andrew Eyres, Strategic Director for Integrated Health & Care, Lambeth:**

Yes they are and the practice or PCN will organise those.

