

Public Document Pack
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Health & Wellbeing Board

Date: Wednesday, 9th June, 2021

Time: 5.00 pm

Place: Council Chamber - Civic Suite

Contact: Robert Harris

Email: committeesection@southend.gov.uk

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**
- 3 Public Questions**
- 4 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th March 2021** (Pages 1 - 4)
Minutes attached
- 5 Covid-19 Pandemic Updates (Health Protection Board and Local Outbreak Plan Oversight and Engagement Board)** (Pages 5 - 10)
Report from Director of Public Health attached
- 6 A Better Start Progress Update** (Pages 11 - 24)
Report from ABSS Chair and ABSS Director attached
- 7 ICS Boundary Review Update**
Verbal report (no papers)
- 8 Southend Healthwatch Strategic Priorities** (Pages 25 - 26)
Report from Strategic Manager, Healthwatch Southend attached
- 9 Future Dates 2021/22**

Wednesday 8th September 2021 at 5pm

Thursday 2nd December 2021 at 5pm

Monday 7th March 2022 at 5pm

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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Health & Wellbeing Board

Date: Monday, 8th March, 2021
Place: Virtual Meeting - MS Teams

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Present: Councillor T Harp (Chair)
Councillors M Davidson, I Gilbert, A Jones and Mulroney.

Y Blucher, T'Dorsi, K Ramhelawon, T Forster, M Marks, A Green,
O Richards and P Hill

In Attendance: Councillor L Salter (observer – People Scrutiny Committee Chair)
S Dolling, B Leigh, J Banks, A Khaldi, J Pennycott, K Read, S Baker
and R Harris

Start/End Time: 5.00 - 7.07 pm

878 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jarvis, K Jackson (SAVS), J. Gardner (Deputy EPFCC), C Panniker (Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust), A Griffin (SBC), P Scott (Essex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust), Dr J. Garcia (Chair – CCG Governing Body) and M Atkinson (safeguarding).

879 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made:

(a) Cllr Salter – Minute 883 (Covid-19 Pandemic updates), Minute 885 (Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Southend) and Minute 886 (Primary Care Strategy) – Non-pecuniary interest: Husband is consultant surgeon at Southend Hospital; daughter is a consultant at Basildon Hospital; son-in-law is GP in the Borough;

(b) Cllr Harp – Minute 888 (A Better Start Progress Update) – Non-pecuniary interest wife is employed in senior role at SAVS and he is a volunteer with SAVS;

(c) O Richards – Minute 888 (A Better Start Progress Update) – Non-pecuniary interest: Employed by Family Action to run Healthwatch Southend, Family Action also run children's centres within the Borough;

880 Questions from members of the public

There were no public questions at this meeting.

881 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday , 2 December 2020

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd December 2020, subject to the addition of T D'orsi to the list of apologies and the following interest declared by Councillor Salter, be confirmed as a correct record and signed:

'Cllr Salter – Minute 644 (Covid-19 Pandemic Update) and Minute 654 (Integrated Care System Approach) -pecuniary interest: Husband is consultant surgeon at Southend Hospital; daughter is a consultant at Basildon Hospital; son-in-law is GP in the Borough.'

882 Health and Wellbeing Board Revised Terms of Reference

The Board considered a report from the Principal Democratic Services Officer presenting the revised and updated Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference.

Resolved:

1. That the revised Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be recommended to Council for approval.
2. That the Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board be reviewed annually.

883 Covid-19 Pandemic Updates (Health Protection Board and Local Outbreak Plan Oversight and Engagement Board)

The Board considered a report from the Director of Public Health providing an update on the Covid-19 Local Outbreak Control Plan implementation of the national Test, Trace, Contain and Enable (TTCE) programme.

The Director of Public Health also provided an overview of recent developments since the publication of the report which included an accelerated programme of school children testing, the changes to Test and Trace to a wider Pandemic Management Plan.

The Board asked a number of questions which were responded to by officers.

Resolved:

1. That the progress and ongoing implementation of the Local Outbreak Control Plan by the Local Health Protection Board and the Outbreak Control Oversight and Engagement Board, be noted.
2. That it be noted that the Local Outbreak Control Plan will be reviewed and published as the Local Outbreak Management Plan, in line with the national refresh of the Contain Framework in support of the Roadmap to exit lockdown by the 31st March 2021.
3. That the Board's deep felt thanks appreciation be extended to all partners staff/employees and volunteers for their exemplary support and work during the pandemic and their delivery of the vaccination programme in the Borough.

884 Schools Wellbeing Programme

The Board considered a report of the Leisure Contracts and Development Manager providing an update on the recent progress made through working with both School Sports Partnerships on the Schools Wellbeing Programme, including successes, challenges and future opportunities.

The Board also received a brief overview of a number of the Schools Wellbeing Programme projects and initiatives. The Board asked a number of questions which were responded to by officers.

Resolved:

That the update on the Schools Wellbeing Programme, including successes, challenges and future opportunities, be noted.

885 Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Southend

The Board considered a report of the Director of Public Health presenting the updated Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Southend. The Board also received a PowerPoint presentation providing a snapshot and overview of the outcomes of the recent consultation carried out regarding the Strategy.

The Board discussed the report and noted that a further detailed analysis of the consultation results was taking place and the Strategy would be brought back to the Board in June 2021.

The Board also made the following comments:

- Mental health is a significant priority area and needs to be highlighted more in the Strategy;
- In terms of prevention hidden need should be a key priority (how to reach the most vulnerable – unpaid/informal carers, rough sleepers, etc);
- Ensuring future planning builds in health and wellbeing – referred to the ‘Building for a Healthy Life Design’ document which has strong link to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
- The Strategy needs to reflect the needs of our whole population such as older people with dementia and adults with learning disabilities who would be impacted by health and wellbeing inequalities.

Resolved:

1. That the update on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Southend, including successes, challenges and future opportunities, be noted.

2. That the next iteration of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Southend be presented to the Board at its meeting in June 2021.

886 Primary Care Strategy

The Board considered a report from the NHS Alliance Director providing an update on the progress of the refreshed and revised Mid and South Essex Primary Care Strategy (PCS).

The Board noted that the current version of the PCS was undergoing a re-edit and further engagement with partners will take place to ensure it meets the requirements of the partnership.

Resolved:

1. That the update report, be noted.
2. That it be noted that the final refreshed and revised Primary Care Strategy would be presented to the Board at its meeting in June 2021.

887 Drug and Alcohol Management Report

The Board considered a report of the Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Team presenting the latest available performance of commissioned services and the latest available financial performance.

The report also sets out the work undertaken using the additional funding made available by Public Health England in January 2021 and the additional funding being made available to enhance the interface between the criminal justice system and drug and alcohol treatment.

Resolved:

That the current performance be noted and the management actions in place be endorsed.

888 A Better Start Progress Update

The Board considered a report from the ABSS Chair and ABSS Director providing an update on key developments since the last meeting of the Board.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

889 Provisional Dates 2021/22

Resolved:

That the following provisional dates for 2021/22, be noted:

Wednesday 9th June 2021 – 5pm
Wednesday 8th September 2021 – 5pm
Thursday 2nd December 2021 – 5pm
Monday 7th March 2022 – 5pm

Chair: _____

Southend Health & Wellbeing Board

Agenda
Item No.

5

Report of the Director of Public Health

To
Health & Wellbeing Board

on
9th June 2021

Report prepared by: Krishna Ramkhelawon,
Director of Public Health

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| For information only | X | For discussion | Approval required |
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Coronavirus Pandemic Management Updates from the Health Protection Board and the Oversight and Engagement Board

Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)

Purpose

This is to provide an update on the COVID-19 Local Outbreak Control Plan implementation of the national Pandemic Management programme.

Background

The programme is a central part of UK government's COVID-19 recovery strategy. The primary objectives are to control the COVID-19 rate of reproduction (R), reduce the spread of infection and save lives, and in doing so help return life to as normal as possible, for as many people as possible, in a way that is safe, protects our health and care systems and releases our economy.

Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP)

Local planning and response is essential. Response includes a local containment strategy, the implementation of which is expected to be achieved within the existing legal framework and by appealing to the public's sense of civic duty and working with local community leaders.

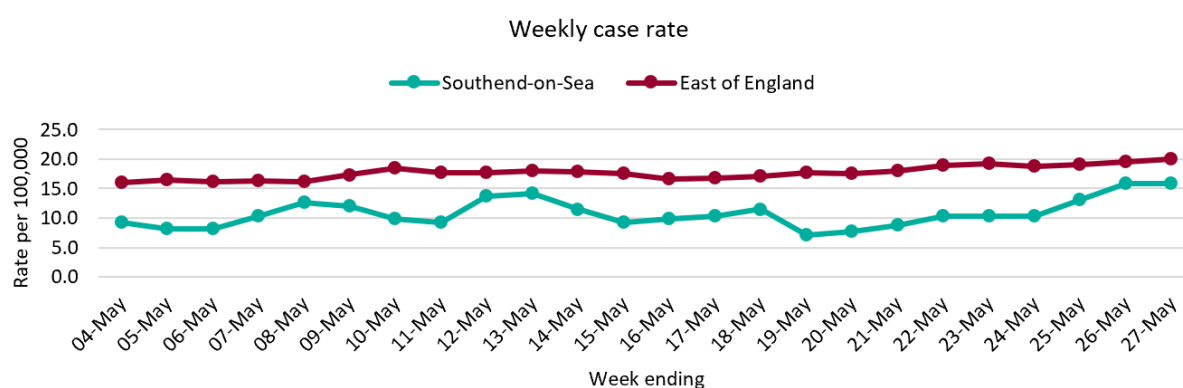
The [first version](#) of the Southend LOMP was published on the 26th March 2021, replacing the Local Outbreak Control Plan (LOCP) and will remain a dynamic document. The national Contain Framework was revised in April 2021. Good practice and lessons learnt have informed the LOMP with key additions around enhanced contact tracing, more community testing and alignment with the vaccination programme – this will support the Roadmap in exiting lockdown restrictions (see **Appendix 1**)

Local Boards & Pandemic Management

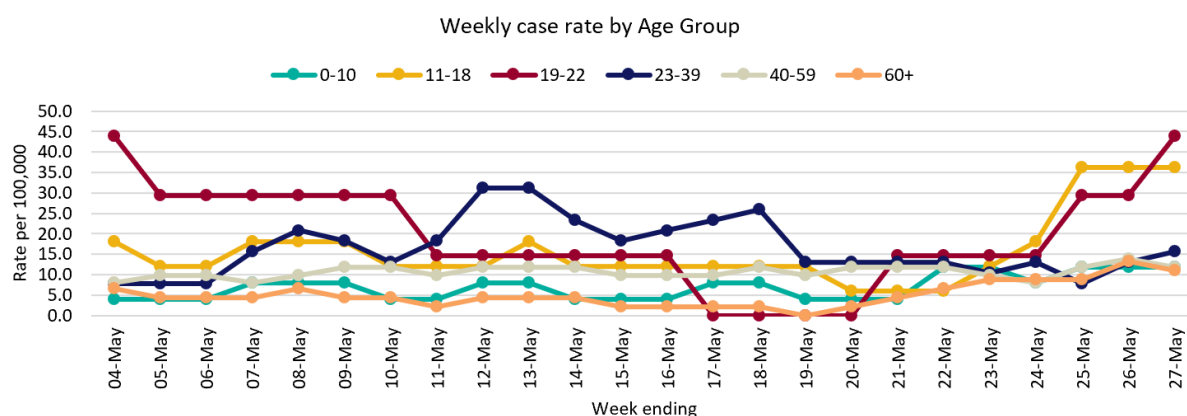
The Health Protection Board (HPB) is currently meeting on a fortnightly basis and receives the local Surveillance Report monitoring of our testing capabilities, infection rate, mortality rate, positivity rate, level of contact tracing, progress with vaccination and any report and case reviews of local outbreaks, as well as new variants. We also review our joint approach with Essex Police on compliance and enforcement.

All our key pandemic indicators are currently green, although we are dealing with a number of confirmed and suspected VAMs (Variants and Mutations), all of which have been contained. The incidence rate during this lockdown has declined rapidly in recent weeks, whilst we have seen an increase in cases of the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant across the East of England and nationally.

Our overall rate was 15.8/100,000 (2nd June 2021), and we are now seeing a gradual increase in incidence at par with the rest of the East of England.



We are seeing some differences in virus transmission in age groups, especially younger people aged between 11-22 years.



The HPB has reviewed and approved:

- Revised Testing Strategy, including the closure of all LFD testing sites
- A new VAM Response Plan, including surge capacity planning

- Mortality Review in Care Homes and recommendation for action
- The development of a Southend Contact Tracing service

The vaccination programme is running effectively across Southend with over 66% having received their first dose and 42% the second dose. We are working with our NHS partners to identify and engage local sub-groups to help reduce vaccination hesitancy locally. A specialist mobile vaccination unit has been deployed by the Health and Care Partnership to cover some targeted areas in Southend as well.

The Outbreak Control Oversight and Engagement Board continues to lead on a number of communication and engagement activities, including refreshing our messaging to the public and local businesses – now meeting monthly. We continue to promote our key messages of maintaining social distancing, hand hygiene and using face covering in the appropriate settings. We have been holding regular community engagement events to provide reassurance, respond to local concerns and gain more insight to support our local response. Further messaging is planned as we mark the stepped changes with the national Roadmap to exit this lockdown.

All our actions and local interventions are reviewed and shared with the Regional Partnership Team.

Cabinet Office Visit

On the 2nd June 2021, the Cabinet Office COVID-19 Task Force paid a day visit to Southend as a key coastal town. They gathered information about our successes, potential challenges and key messages back to the national government to help inform the next stages of easing restrictions, given the rise in VAM cases. They also discussed how we were implementing the Local Outbreak Management Plan and our key lessons to date.

They met with key HPB members, the Oversight and Engagement Board members as well as key business leaders and conducted a number of site visits.

Recommendation

1. For the HWB Board to note progress and ongoing implementation of the Local Outbreak Management Plan by the Local Health Protection Board and the Outbreak Control Oversight and Engagement Board.
2. For the HWB Board to note the key documents endorsed by the Health Protection Board

Roadmap out of Lockdown

From 8 March, people in England will see restrictions start to lift and the government's four-step roadmap offer a route back to a more normal life.

While we must all remain vigilant - in particular against the threat from new COVID-19 variants - and continue to protect the NHS, a safe exit from lockdown can begin. It will take place in four steps; and at each step, we plan to lift restrictions across the whole of England at the same time.

2. Four steps

Step 1a – 8 March

- All children and students return safely to face-to-face education in schools and colleges
- Childcare and children's supervised activities can also resume where necessary
- Twice-weekly rapid testing for secondary and college pupils - in addition to regular testing for all teachers - to reduce the chance of the virus spreading in schools
- People allowed to leave home for recreation and exercise outdoors with their household or support bubble, or with one person from outside their household
- Care home residents will also be allowed one regular visitor.

Council issues/challenges/comms

- Stay at home except for permitted reasons remains key message
- Testing strategy for schools – new site at Garon Park
- Return to school with confidence campaign and comms
- Car parking announcement ahead of 29 March and managing stay at home message until then
- Liaising and supporting care home sector re visits

Step 1b – 29 March

- outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either 6 people (the Rule of 6) or 2 households will also be allowed, making it easier for friends and families to meet outside
- Outdoor sports facilities such as tennis and basketball courts will also be allowed to reopen
- formally organised outdoor sports return
- The 'stay at home' rule will end on 29 March
- Many restrictions will remain in place
- People should continue to work from home where they can and minimise the number of journeys they make where possible, avoiding travel at the busiest times and routes
- Car parks open on seafront – please still act with caution, don't drop your guard

Council issues/challenges/comms

- Managing message from Stay at home to stay local
- Complaints about 'over-sized' groups meeting up
- People meeting up in parks – litter/overflowing bins/alcohol related ASB
- Summer season starts early for seafront, parks and open spaces
- Managing crowds/toilets/car parking etc
- Visit Southend safely
- Internal staff comms re work from home – reiterate workplace measures (done last week)

Step 2 - no earlier than 12 April

- Opening of non-essential retail, personal care premises such as hairdressers and nail salons; and public buildings, including libraries and community centres
- Indoor leisure facilities such as gyms will also reopen (but only for use by people on their own or in household groups); as will most outdoor attractions and settings including theme parks
- Hospitality venues will be allowed to serve people outdoors
- No need for customers to order a substantial meal with alcoholic drinks and no curfew, although customers must order, eat and drink while seated ('table service').
- Wider social contact rules apply in all these settings to prevent indoor mixing between different households.

Council issues/challenges/comms

- Managing outdoor hospitality and ensuing issues such as ASB/litter/social distancing in busy areas/compliance
- Visit Southend safely
- Shop Local, Shop Safe
- Managing crowds/toilets/car parking etc
- Theatres and libraries reopen?
- Pier reopens?
- Civic Centre?
- Maintaining compliance and encouragement on hands, face, space messaging

Step 3 - no earlier than 17 May

- Moving towards people deciding on the appropriate level of risk for their circumstances
- Most legal restrictions on meeting others outdoors will be lifted - although gatherings of over 30 people will remain illegal
- Indoors, the Rule of 6 or 2 households will apply
- Updated advice on social distancing between friends and family, including hugging
- Until this point, people should continue to keep their distance from anyone not in their household or support bubble
- Most businesses in all but the highest risk sectors will be able to reopen
- Indoor hospitality will reopen, with COVID secure measure still in place

- Indoor entertainment venues such as cinemas and children's play areas; the rest of the accommodation sector, including hotels, hostels and B&Bs; and indoor adult group sports and exercise classes to reopen.
- The government will also allow some larger performances and sporting events in indoor venues, outdoor venues and outdoor seated venues
- Up to 30 people still for weddings, receptions and wakes, as well as funerals.

Council issues/challenges/comms

- Managing messages around 'own level of risk'
- COVID secure compliance re indoor hospitality
- Visit Southend safely
- Managing visitors – summer comms – toilets/litter/ASB/parking enforcement
- 'Staycation' sector re-opens

Before Step 4 begins - the government will complete a review of social distancing and other long-term measures that have been put in place to cut transmission. This will inform decisions on the timing and circumstances under which the rules on 1 metre plus, the wearing of face coverings and other measures may be lifted. This will also inform guidance on working from home – which should continue wherever possible until this review is complete.

Step 4 - no earlier than 21 June - the government hopes to be in a position to remove all legal limits on social contact.

- remaining premises reopen, including nightclubs
- ease the restrictions on large events and performances that apply in Step 3.

Council issues/challenges/comms

- Night time economy fully open again
- COVID secure compliance re indoor hospitality
- Visit Southend safely/sensibly
- Managing visitors – summer comms – toilets/litter/ASB/parking enforcement
- End of social distancing/face covering measures potentially – we may want to encourage this as a 'social norm' still, even though not a legal requirement

General Government key messages throughout

- COVID-19 remains a part of our lives
- We are going to have to keep living our lives differently to keep ourselves and others safe
- We must carry on with 'hands, face, space'.
- Comply with the COVID-Secure measures that remain in place.
- Meet outdoors when we can and keep letting fresh air in.
- Get tested when needed
- Get vaccinated when offered
- If we all continue to play our part, we will be that bit closer to a future that is more familiar.

Southend Health and Wellbeing Board

Report by

Alex Khaldi, Independent Chair, A Better Start Southend

to

Health & Wellbeing Board on 9th June 2021

Report prepared by:

Jeff Banks, Director, A Better Start Southend

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| | For discussion | X | For information only | | Approval required |
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A Better Start Southend - update

Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)

1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update from the Chair of A Better Start Southend (ABSS) on key developments since the last meeting.

2 Recommendations

HWB are asked to:

1. Note the contents of the report and raise issues and opportunities with Jeff Banks, ABSS Director, who will be presenting on behalf of Alex Khaldi, Independent Chair of A Better Start Southend (ABSS).

3 Governance

The ABSS Legacy and Sustainability Strategy will be presented to the ABSS Partnership Board at their meeting on Monday 14th June 2021. This will set out the key objectives and the work plan required over the next 18-24 months required to secure maximum long-term benefit for residents in Southend for The National Lottery Community Fund investments from 2015-2025.

The ABSS Programme continues to benefit from strong Partnership engagement, with positive participation at a range of levels for all core Partners, including:

- Early Years Alliance
- Southend Borough Council
- Essex Police
- Mid and South Essex Hospital Trust
- Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT)
- NHS Southend CCG
- University of Essex
- Family Action
- SAVS
- Catherine Rushforth and Associates
- Kate Cairns Associates

On 12th May 2021, the Mid & South Essex Health & Care Partnership agreed to a proposal from ABSS to support the Mid and South Essex Children and Young Peoples Growing Well Programme Board with the development of a Children's Care Partnership Plan. ABSS will be working with Partners from the University of Essex and Dartington Service Design Lab to take this work forward over the coming months. Supporting the development of integrated policy development at this level is seen as being a central part of the ABSS legacy.

As a reminder, the ABSS Programme Governance structure comprises the following Groups:

- Partnership Board - Chair, Alex Khaldi
- Executive Consultative Board - Chair, Alex Khaldi
- Programme Group - Chair, Krishna Ramkhalawon, SBC
- Insight and Analysis Group - Chair, Michael Freeston, EYA
- Finance and Risk Group - Chair, Paul Grout, SBC
- Parents' Group - Rolling Parent Champion Chairs

Engagement of Parent Champions at governance level

It should be noted that all committees and groups include the active participation of engaged parents, with Terms of Reference stating that no meeting is quorate unless two or more ABSS *Partners* and two or more ABSS *parents* are in attendance.

ABSS Action Against Racial Inequality Steering Group

In addition, ABSS convenes an Action Against Racial Inequality Steering Group to help ensure ABSS projects and programmes reach all of Southend's diverse communities. ABSS has recently appointed Ade Sawyerr and Maxine James from Equinox Consulting to support this group in developing the Group's plans and priorities.

The National Lottery Community Fund (TNLCF)

A successful Quarterly Review meeting was held with TNLCF on 12th May 2021. TNLCF expressed a high level of confidence with the performance of the ABSS Programme in terms of outputs and outcomes, legacy strategy planning and financial performance. The Annual Review Meeting will be taking place on 10th June 2021 and will include representation from a number of Partners and Parent Champions.

Coronavirus/COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery and Renewal

Plans for Recovery and Renewal (R&R) for the short, medium and long-term period during and post the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic have continued to be reviewed and refined through regular meetings with separate workstreams, focusing on research and engagement, partnerships, established programmes, pipeline programmes, legacy planning and arrangements for access to physical space. At its meeting of 1st June 2021, the Executive Consultative Board agreed to scale back these meetings as the Programme and Delivery Partners return to 'business as usual' and meet in a combined format on a regular but adhoc basis, based on need.

4 Evidence Project

Programme Evaluation Partnership

The University of Essex (UofE) Research and Evaluation team have submitted the 2020/21 Quarter 4 Project Evaluation reports to ABSS. Following the Partnership Board's decision to offer participants an incentive for participating in qualitative evaluation interviews, there was a marked improvement in the response rate of participants.

The University team are commissioned to recruit and train a team of *Peer Researchers* to support programme evaluation and the team are working closely with both the **ABSS Work Skills** project and **SAVS** team on identifying potential participants for the Peer Researcher training programme. A number of successful discussions have taken place with interested parents about the offer of training in research skills. The first taster sessions are due to be held at the end of May and throughout June 2021.

The University have worked with Southend Borough Council on the outcomes and outputs dashboards and researchers have approached all local Delivery Partners to offer 'in-house' data collection and evaluation tools. A number of Delivery Partners are already using the survey software to conduct their evaluations, which are used as secondary data by the University research team. As a result of these conversations, the Specialist Home Visiting for Perinatal Mental Health team have agreed with the University to transfer their evaluations online. It is hoped that, with direct access to participant data, the University research teams will be able to conduct more rapid analysis of data.

A case study is attached for reference - see Appendix One

Independent Programme-wide Summative Evaluation

Planning for the independent Summative Evaluation continues for RSM and their partners, the University of Essex. A panel of parents, Delivery Partners, ABSS core staff and other community organisations and individuals has been recruited to join a Co-Design Group to help form the evaluation design and key questioning. Information about ABSS, its projects and Partners is being collated, with systems now in place to securely share data and potentially commercially sensitive documentation. RSM was given virtual tours of the ABSS Data Dashboards and the SmartSouthend website to introduce them to a range of data available for their use.

Outcomes Framework

The ABSS Insight and Analysis Group has been supporting the development of project-level outcomes dashboards, which will present data on progress by projects against their project-level outcomes. The group agreed criteria for which projects would receive these dashboards, based on the contract value, strategic importance and novel nature of the project design, and discussed common elements that could be compared across different projects. A test version of a Project Outcomes Dashboard is being developed for the **Family Nurse Partnership (FNP)** project and will be used as a model for future dashboards.

The group has also been reviewing the programme-wide Outcomes Framework. The measures listed against each outcome were reviewed and identified measures with missing data, particularly the EYSFP data which was not collected in 2020 and will not be collected in 2021 due to the pandemic. The group are exploring using large population-level datasets developed for other studies, such as the Understanding Society study (led by the Economic and Social Research Council, and The Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of Essex) as this has been running for ten years and includes a module on child development. The team are now exploring whether this dataset has a large enough sample to provide useful insight at a local level. Other opportunities included adding child development perception-based questions to Southend Borough Council's annual survey and adding a small number of specific questions to the evaluation surveys being planned by RSM for the Summative Evaluation. The group also discussed the need to develop defined outcomes and measures for Systems Change and Community Resilience, and this work is ongoing.

Outcomes Reporting

The ABSS Outcomes Framework is a fixed document that requires some degree of experience to navigate. There is an interactive Outcomes Framework, which charts progress against all measures, but again, this requires some time and experience to use. The team are looking at how outcomes and measures are presented and reported in a more accessible way, and are developing *Stories of Impact* for the ABSS Programme, combining outcomes data with project and case study data and case studies, to provide a more rounded picture accompanied by a narrative text.

An extract of the ABSS Data Dashboard is attached for reference - see Appendix Two.

5 Sustainability and Legacy Planning

As mentioned previously, The ABSS Legacy and Sustainability Strategy will be presented to the ABSS Partnership Board at their meeting on Monday 14th June 2021.

YourFamily

Central to the ABSS Legacy and Sustainability Strategy is the development of the new YourFamily model, forming the 'golden thread' which will align services from pregnancy through to school, in a new community led service. Whilst it was expected that this new programme would go live from June 2021, delays in recruitment has postponed the launch to the end of the summer.

SBC Children's Centre Review

Members of the ABSS Senior Programme Team joined the First Steps to Re-Modelling the Children's Centres summit. This well attended session commenced the process of engaging stakeholders in the new 'hybrid' approach, which is being developed, and it is anticipated that the ABSS YourFamily approach will be a central feature.

6 Programme Activity

The ABSS commissioned Delivery Partners have continued to offer a blended approach to service delivery as the lockdown restrictions have eased. Delivery Partners are gradually increasing their face-to-face provision whilst being mindful of concerns parents have around groups mixing and social distancing. The majority of Delivery Partners will continue with some virtual delivery as this offers a more inclusive and accessible approach for families, and this also gives consideration to the flexibility of services for father's attendance (e.g. via evening delivery).

The latest key updates include:

HENRY Healthy Families have commenced delivery of their first face-to-face group session since the easing of lockdown restrictions. This is being well received with both parents and facilitators feeling safe and comfortable. A further four on-line sessions are being delivered. Referrals to **HENRY Preparation for Parenthood** have increased since the information sharing agreement with Maternity Services was formalised. There are currently three online courses in delivery and two families receiving 1 to 1 support. The first face-to-face group is planned for June 2021.

The **Bump to Breast Support Group** is offering face-to-face support in small groups and booked 1 to 1 sessions. Their online presence continues to expand with live streams and ante-natal sessions which are run in conjunction with the **1 to 1 Breastfeeding Support** service. ABSS is working with Maternity Services to look at extending the **1 to 1 Breastfeeding Support** offer across the whole ABSS area.

The **Volunteer Home Visiting** programme is gradually returning to face-to-face support, seeing families in mainly outside spaces. Analysis of their data has identified that every family they supported last quarter lived in one of the 30% most deprived areas.

The **Family, Parent and Community Hub** situated within the **SAVS** building has opened to the public, aligned to COVID safe restrictions. The ABSS Creche is operating to allow Parent Champions to attend governance meetings and a range of small group sessions are being facilitated.

The **Talking Transitions** initiative has moved into a second phase, working with a range of new settings with the intention of improving the transition experience of children and families from their Early Years Settings into school.

There are a number of projects in the mobilisation phase, including the **3-4 Month Contact, Infant Feeding Specialist Lead** and **Specialist Public Health Midwife**.

As a direct response to the increasing need for help with family's mental health during the pandemic, ABSS are commissioning two specific projects: **'Families Growing Together'** and the **Early Years IDVA** project.

The **'Families Growing Together'** project is provided by **Trust Links**, a local charity that supports mental health and wellbeing through horticultural projects. The project will provide families access to two purpose-built gardens offering them a range of horticultural opportunities in a nurturing and safe space with staff and volunteers trained in mental health and wellbeing.

The **Early Years Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA)** project will provide direct support to families with young children experiencing domestic abuse in a range of family friendly settings. In addition, they will raise awareness and provide training on domestic abuse to a range of staff who work with families with young children (e.g. Children Centre staff, **YourFamily** and **ABSS Parent, Family and Community Hub** staff and GP's).

The remaining ABSS projects continue to provide a blended and adaptable model of service delivery that are responsive to the needs of local families and the COVID-19 roadmap.

Details of all ABSS programmes in delivery are attached for reference - see Appendix Three

Community Resilience

Through the agreement of the ABSS Programme Group and TNLCF, the extension to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 response Engagement Fund was approved to 30th September 2021, in view of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic environment. This will continue to allow both voluntary sector organisations and parents the opportunity to obtain funding to deliver engagement events/activities to local families.

7 Programme Management Office

The Programme Management Office (PMO) operates in the following sub-teams: Business Support (including Creche and Parent, Family and Community Hub Co-ordinators), Project Management, Communications and Marketing, and Research and Evaluation, and the leads for these teams, together with the Director and Assistant Director, make up the Senior Programme Team. The PMO team continues to provide excellent support for the ABSS Programme.

Finances

There continues to be a reduction in Programme expenditure and associated TNLCF claims, due to the impact of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic on costs related to face-to-face delivery and mobilisation of new projects and programmes. However, members of the ABSS Finance and Risk Group are continuously and rigorously reviewing the ABSS Programme underspend as part of its risk management strategy.

At present, core governance, management, administration, and overhead costs are 32% of the total Programme costs. Whilst this remains above the ABSS target (<30%) mainly due to reduced project costs resulting from the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, it meets expectations of TNLCF.

The revised 10-year budget profile for the remaining years of the ABSS Programme was approved at the Finance and Risk Group held on 28th April 2021. This will be formally presented to and approved by the ABSS Partnership Board on 14th June 2021.

The Q4 2020/2021 Management Accounts are attached for reference - see Appendix Four

8 Reasons for Recommendations

8.1 ABSS Governance have reviewed and approved activities at the appropriate level. The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the contents of the report.

9 Financial / Resource Implications

9.1 There are not financial/resource implications for this report.

10 Legal Implications

10.1 None at this stage.

11 Equality & Diversity

11.1 None at this stage.

12 Appendices

12.1 Appendix One - Case Study

Appendix Two - Data Dashboard Extract since last meeting.

Appendix Three - ABSS Project Names and Workstreams.

Appendix Four - Q4 2020/2021 Summary Management Accounts since last meeting.

Jeff Banks, Director, ABSS

1st June 2021

Appendix One - Case Study

ABSS Project: Home-Start Essex Home Visiting

Case Study Title: Supporting parental capacity during lockdown

Background: Mum was referred to Home Start Essex in July 2020 by her Health Visitor. Mum is a single parent of a then 2-year-old boy. The Health Visitor referred the family to us as mum was finding her son's behaviour challenging and had asked for some support around strategies and techniques to respond to his behaviours in a more positive way. The little boy has long term medical conditions which are managed well with medication. Mum is unsure whether the behaviours he displays are typical for a two-year-old and finds that her family are quick to make judgements which she doesn't always find helpful. Mum works part time, and her son attends childcare on the days that mum works.

Intervention: We matched mum to a volunteer who originally offered her phone support, which she was hesitant to engage with but said she would give it a try. We found that she didn't respond well to the phone calls and it was very hit and miss as to whether she would answer the phone, despite having arranged suitable times with the volunteer. We persisted for a few weeks and then the coordinator discussed the option of face-to-face meet-ups with both the volunteer and the parent. Both were happy to meet in a local park and agreed to follow the necessary Covid-safe guidance and complete risk assessments.

Mum and son met with the volunteer on a weekly basis, which everyone found much more helpful than the phone calls. Mum was keen for the volunteer to meet her son and it allowed the volunteer to really get to know them as a family. The volunteer made a great bond with the little boy, who was always keen to chat to her and play in the park with her. It also enabled the volunteer to model behaviour strategies to mum in 'real' situations. The volunteer loaned the family some timers and encouraged mum to use them with her son to help with transition from one activity to another or to warn him about activities ending. She also supported mum to offer choice to her son as a way of reducing tantrums during the course of the day.

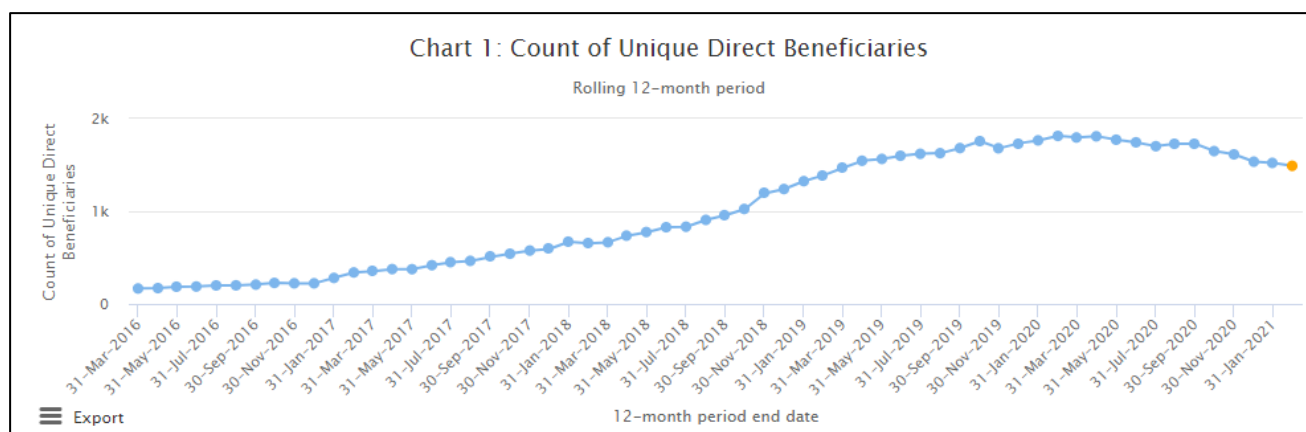
Outcomes and benefits: The family definitely found the support beneficial. The volunteer was very proactive in providing resources to mum and encouraging her in taking the next steps with her son's development. There were times when support had to return to phone calls as the family had to self-isolate. This was particularly challenging for mum as the intensity of being at home with her son for 10 days was very difficult. She found it helpful to be able to message her volunteer to 'offload' when she needed to. Mum reports that she feels that she is able to respond to her son's needs in a much more positive way now and she feels a lot calmer in her parenting than she did previously.

"I always feel a bit calmer after seeing my volunteer, she let me have a moan and didn't judge me. Sometimes family members are too judgmental, so it was good to talk to someone else. I have realised that my son is a strong-willed child and I sometimes need to let him get on with that. I feel more able to stay calm and follow his lead on things."

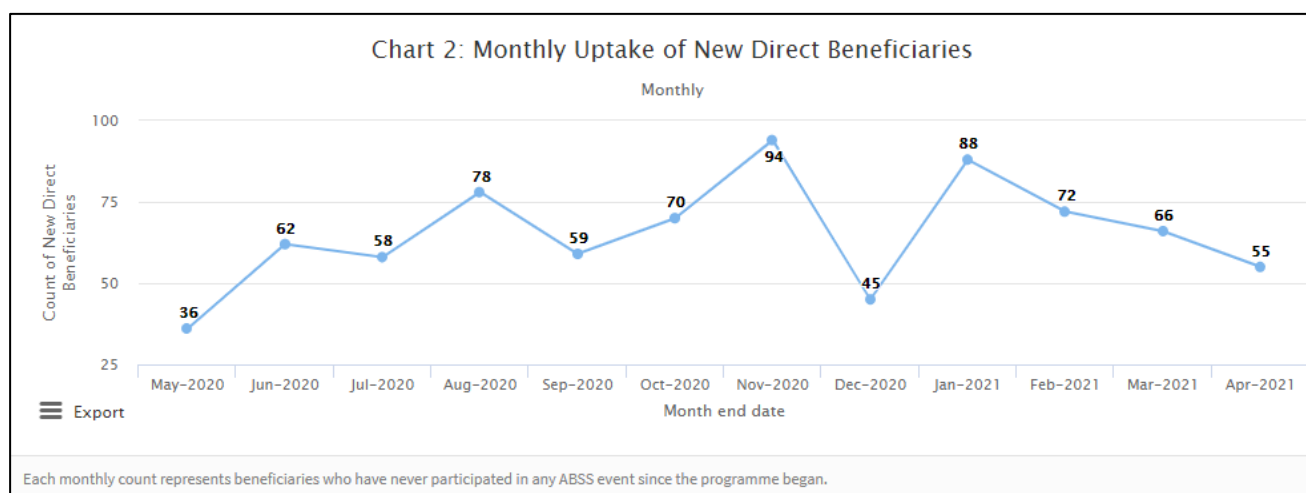
The family support finished in February 2021, having been extended slightly due to the impact of lockdown and self-isolation on the parent's emotional wellbeing.

Appendix Two - Programme Activity Data Dashboard Extract

The total number of direct beneficiaries served by the ABSS Programme in the 12-month period ending 30th April 2021 was 1,594 which represents **33.1%** of all potential beneficiaries. This continues the show downward trend since February 2020 when the effects of COVID-19 became apparent.

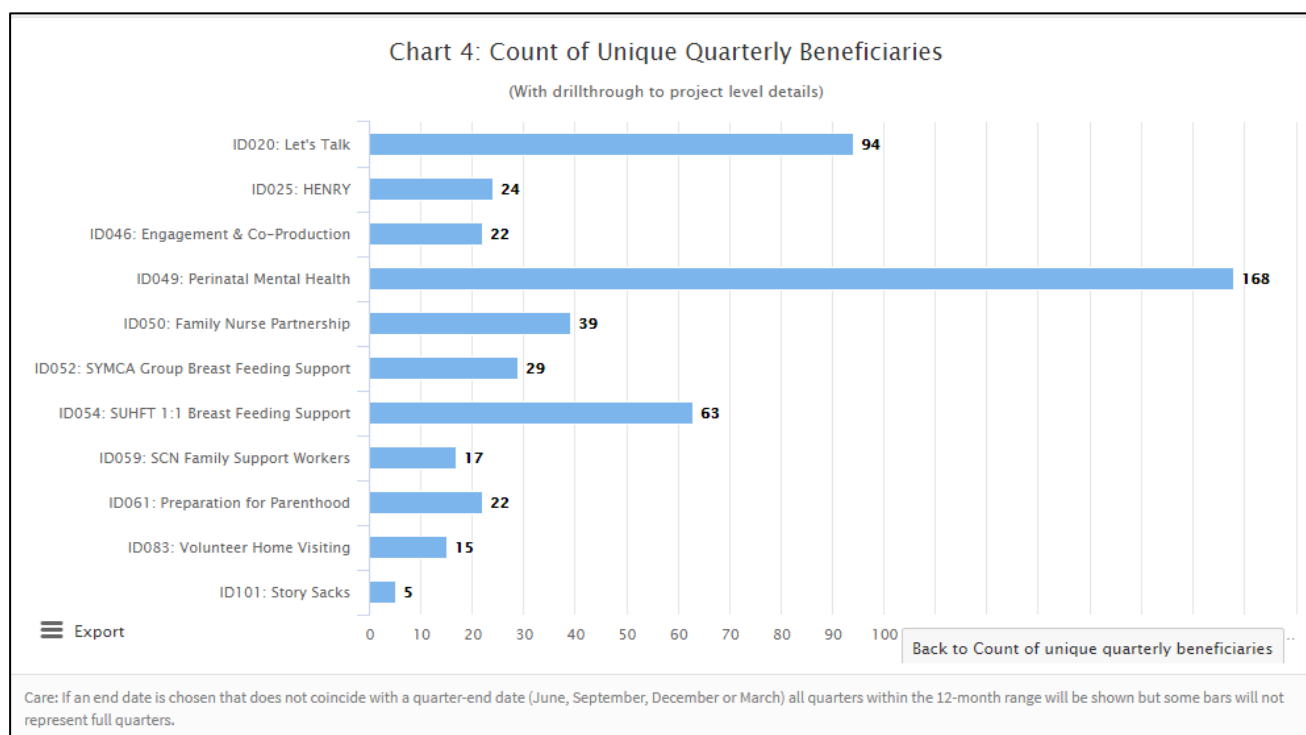


New families continue to be introduced to the ABSS Programme although the number of new monthly beneficiaries in early 2021 has fallen in a similar way to those in 2020, during the winter and early spring months.

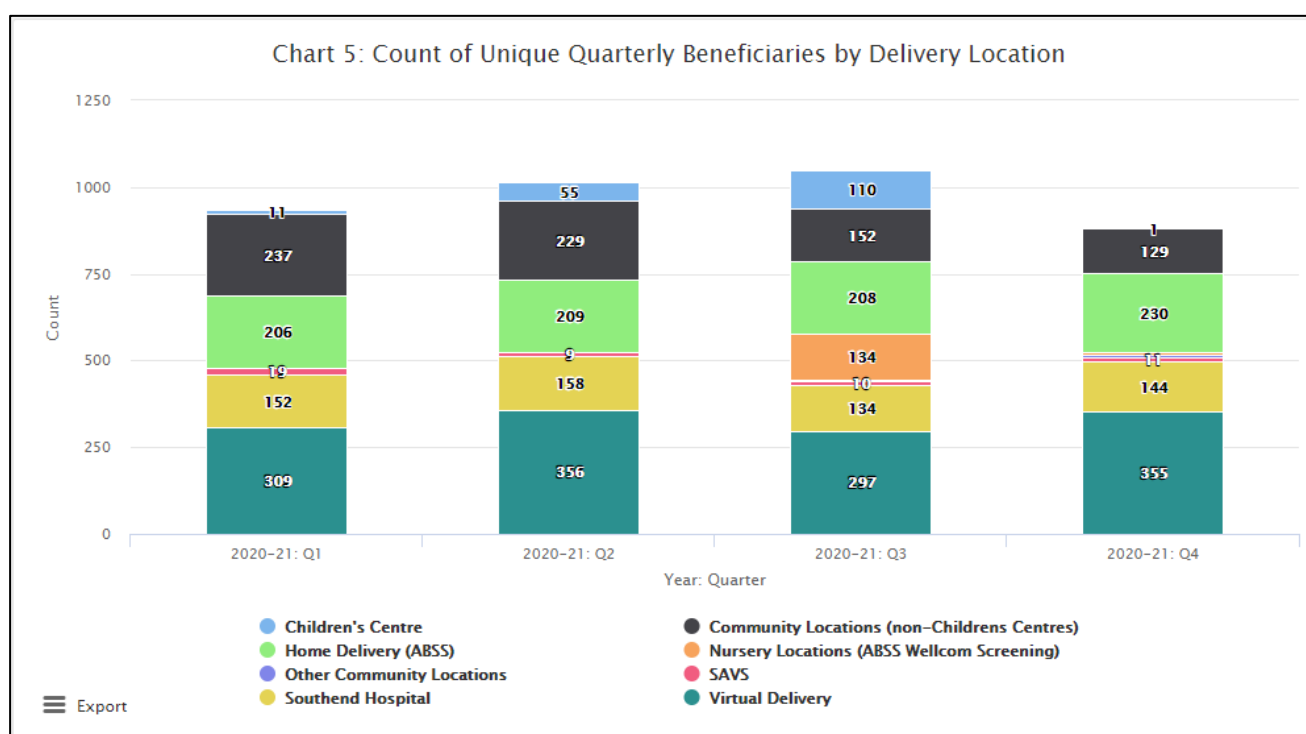


When looking at all beneficiaries from the start of the Programme in 2015, the proportion of those that were recruited in the 2020-2021 financial year has risen to 20.4% (from 16.9% when last reported in February), demonstrating that the Programme continues to draw in new beneficiaries in addition to working with families who were recruited in previous years.

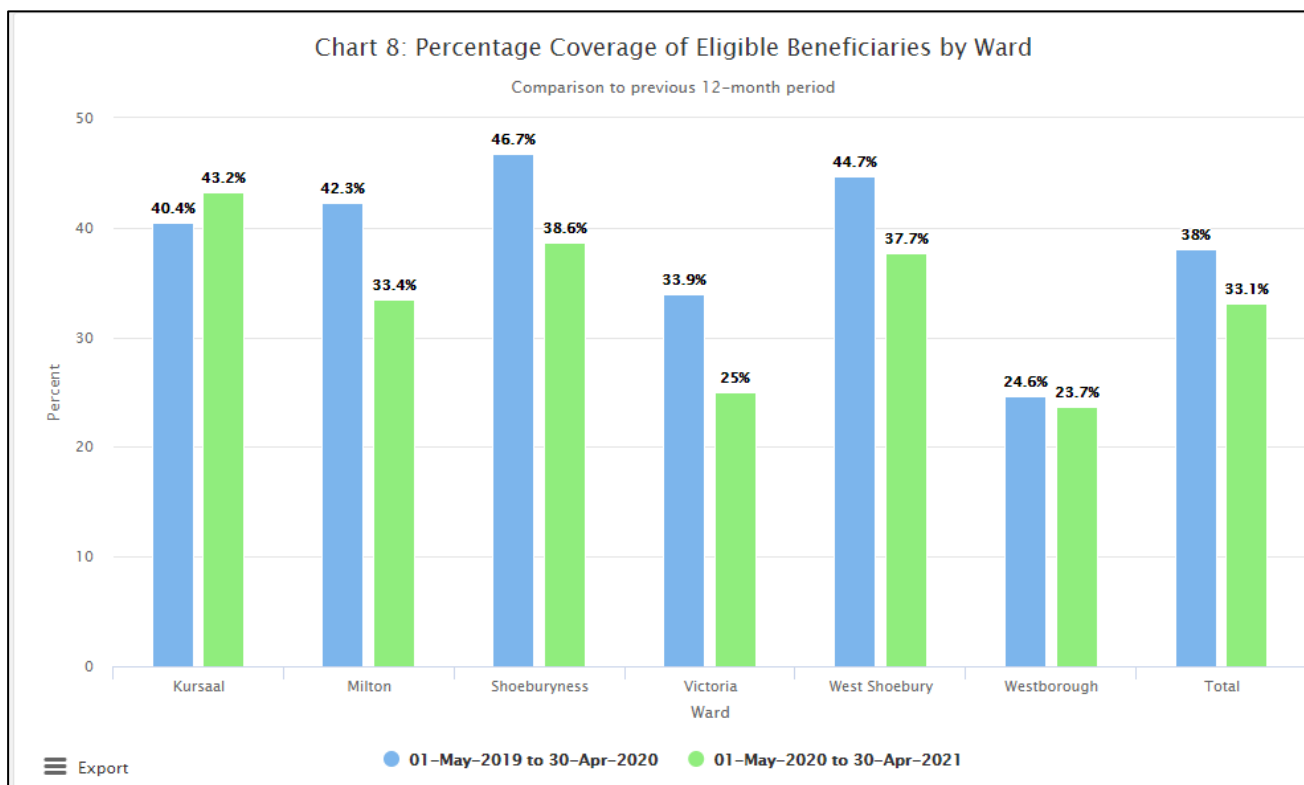
During Quarter 1 of 2021-2022 the most active projects were **'Let's Talk'**, **'Perinatal Mental Health'** and **'1:1 Breastfeeding Support'**, in terms of the numbers of beneficiaries worked with during that period. The new project **'Story Sacks'** is now in active delivery and reporting beneficiaries.



Data for the full 2020-2021 financial year shows the extent to which projects moved to both virtual and home delivery in order to mitigate the effects of lockdown.

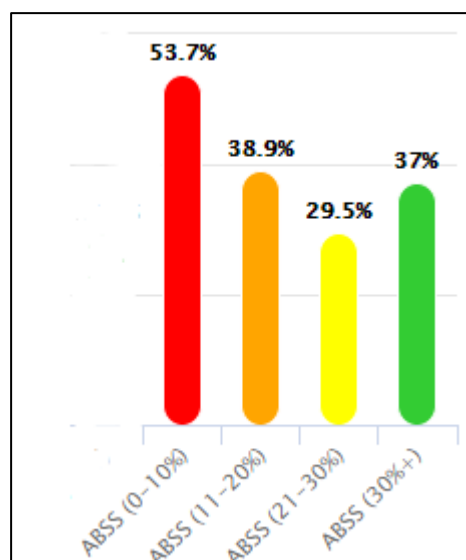


A comparison of delivery by ward within the previous 12-month period reveals there was an increase in the proportion of beneficiaries served in Kursaal for the period ending April 2021. The delivery across the ABSS area has fallen, however from 38% to 33.1% in the most recent year, largely due to the decreased coverage in Milton, Victoria, Shoeburyness and West Shoebury.

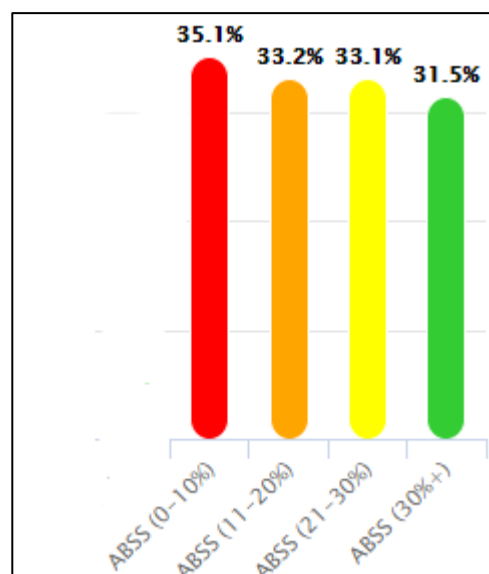


When looking at coverage by deprivation it can be seen that the reduction in numbers of beneficiaries has had a different effect at each of the deprivation levels. The proportion of families from areas in the top 10% of deprivation has fallen from just over one half in the 12-month period ending April 2020 to just over a third for the period ending April 2021. A similar proportion of beneficiaries is now apparent from each of the deprivation areas.

12-month period ending April 2020



12-month period ending February 2021



Appendix Three - Project Names and Workstreams

| Project Title | Work Stream | Delivery Status | Delivery Partner |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 121 Breastfeeding | D & N | In Delivery | MSE Hospital Trust (previously SUHFT) |
| Group Breastfeeding | D & N | In Delivery | YMCA |
| 3 - 4 Month Contact | D & N | Service Design | SBC |
| HENRY | D & N | In Delivery | HENRY |
| Southend Supports Breastfeeding | D & N | In Delivery | SBC & EYA |
| Infant Feeding Supervisor Lead | D & N | Service Design | TBD |
| Maternal Healthy Weight | D & N | Service Design | TBD |
| Public Health Midwife | D & N | Service Design | TBD |
| The Food and Growing Project | D & N | Closed | Family Action |
| Starting Solids Workshop | | | |
| Food 4 Life | | | |
| Family Nurse Partnership | S & E | In Delivery | EPUT |
| Perinatal Mental Health | S & E | In Delivery | EPUT |
| EPEC (Being a Parent) | S & E | Project Closed | SLAM |
| EPEC (Baby and Us) | | | |
| FSW SCN | S & E | In Delivery | SBC & EYA |
| Your Family | S & E | Service Design | TBD |
| Preparation for Parenthood | S & E | In Delivery | HENRY |
| EPEC Coordinator | S & E | Closed | PACEY |
| Volunteer Home Visiting Service | S & E | In Delivery | Home Start |
| IDVA | S & E | Service Design | TBC |
| Let's Talk | C & L | In Delivery | EPUT |
| 23 Month Screening | C & L | | |
| Attention ABS | C & L | | |
| Chatting Children | C & L | | |
| Follow Up Sessions | C & L | | |
| Project Home and Early Years Setting | C & L | | |
| Babbling Babies | C & L | | |
| Little Listeners | C & L | | |
| Super Sounds | C & L | | |
| Talking Tiddlers | C & L | | |
| Talking Toddlers | C & L | | |

| | | | |
|---|-------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Talking Walk Ins | C & L | | |
| Wellcomm Screening | C & L | In Delivery | EYA |
| First and Foremost | C & L | In Delivery | EYA |
| Talking Transitions | C & L | In Delivery | EYA |
| Engagement | CR | In Delivery | SAVS |
| Engagement Fund | CR | In Delivery | SAVS |
| Community, Ideas and Development Fund | CR | In Delivery | SAVS |
| Story Sacks | CR | In Delivery | SAVS |
| Umbilical Chords | CR | Service Design | YMCA |
| Coproduction Champion | CR | In Delivery | SAVS, EYA, SBC |
| ABSS Parent, Family and Community Hub | CR | Service Design | ABSS/SAVS |
| Work Skills | CR | In Delivery | SBC |
| Community Vehicle | CR | Closed | TBD |
| Welcome to the UK | SC | In Delivery | Welcome to the UK |
| Data Input - ESTART | SC | In Delivery | Family Action |
| First and Foremost | SC | In Delivery | EYA |
| The Dartington Service Design (0-19 mapping) | SC | In Delivery | Dartington |
| SBC Data Analysis | SC | In Delivery | SBC |
| Joint Paediatric Clinic | SC | Paused | Southend CCG |
| Programme Evaluation Partnership | SC | In Delivery | UofE |
| Information Governance Specialist Consultant | SC | In Delivery | K8 Data Protection Consultant |
| RSM Summative Evaluation | SC | Service Design | RSM |

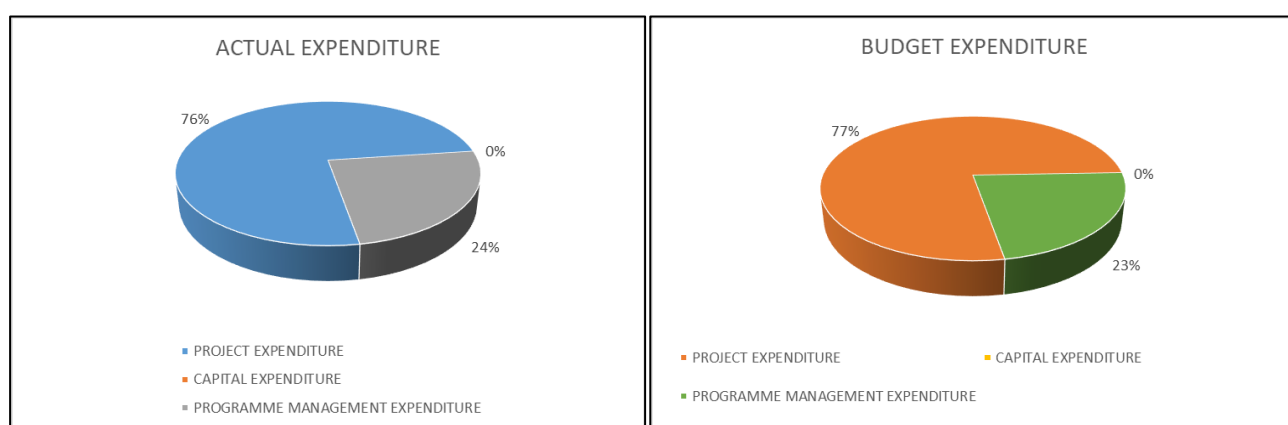
Appendix Four - Q4 2020/2021 Management Accounts

SUMMARY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS – CONFIDENTIAL

YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2021

The management accounts for the A Better Start Southend (ABSS) programme show income received, and expenditure incurred during this financial year. Management accounts are presented to the ABSS Partnership Board quarterly, coinciding with the submission of returns to the National Lottery Community Fund. More detailed monthly accounts are reviewed by the ABSS Finance and Risk Group.

The accounts for the financial period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 show project expenditure of £2,332,000, capital expenditure of £0 and programme management (PMO) expenditure of £750,000. These are represented as a percentage of total spend in the first chart.



Underspend against budget for all project workstreams total £977,000. ABSS pays for delivery based on actual expenditure, and this has been lower during the COVID-19 pandemic for a number of reasons:

- slower mobilisation and pauses of key ABSS projects relying on health delivery partners;
- some delivery partners experiencing vacancy and recruitment challenges;
- significant savings on existing projects that have had to adopt different delivery models leading to cost savings, for example on irrecoverable VAT, travel, room bookings, physical resources and creche.

Summary Management Accounts - Confidential

Period: QUARTER FOUR 2020-21

Period: APRIL to MARCH 2021

| | Actual | Budget | Variance (adverse) or favourable |
|---|-------------------|------------------|--|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| INCOME | | | |
| REVENUE FUNDING RECEIVED FROM BIG LOTTERY FUND | 2,685,000 | 4,287,000 | (1,602,000) |
| CAPITAL FUNDING RECEIVED FROM BIG LOTTERY FUND | - | - | - |
| LEVERAGED INCOME | 295,000 | - | 295,000 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 2,980,000 | 4,287,000 | (1,307,000) |
| EXPENDITURE | | | |
| PROJECTS | | | |
| SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL | 729,000 | 982,000 | 253,000 |
| COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE | 388,000 | 471,000 | 83,000 |
| DIET AND NUTRITION | 437,000 | 745,000 | 308,000 |
| SYSTEM CHANGE | 199,000 | 367,000 | 168,000 |
| COMMUNITY RESILIENCE | 446,000 | 581,000 | 135,000 |
| SUSTAINABILITY AND LEGACY PLAN | 16,000 | 75,000 | 59,000 |
| CRECHE SERVICES | 77,000 | 88,000 | 11,000 |
| MONITORING & EVALUATION | 40,000 | - | (40,000) |
| PROJECT EXPENDITURE | 2,332,000 | 3,309,000 | 977,000 |
| SALARIES AND SECONDMENTS | 392,000 | 692,000 | 300,000 |
| OTHER PMO COSTS | 358,000 | 285,000 | (73,000) |
| PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT EXPENDITURE | 750,000 | 977,000 | 227,000 |
| TOTAL REVENUE EXPENDITURE | 3,082,000 | 4,286,000 | 1,204,000 |
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURE | - | - | - |
| LEVERAGED COSTS | 295,000 | - | (295,000) |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 3,377,000 | 4,286,000 | 909,000 |
| NET FUNDING IN ADVANCE/(OWED) | (397,000) | 1,000 | (398,000) |
| CUMULATIVE FIGURES FROM START UP TO DATE | £ | | |
| INCOME | 16,558,000 | | |
| PROJECT EXPENDITURE | 8,960,000 | | |
| PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT EXPENDITURE | 5,917,000 | | |
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURE | 542,000 | | |
| LEVERAGED | 992,000 | | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 16,411,000 | | |
| NET FUNDING IN ADVANCE/(OWED) | 147,000 | | |

CONVENTION: Brackets around a number signify either an amount owed by the Big Lottery or an adverse variance (ie income less than budget or expenditure greater than budget)

Healthwatch Southend Strategic Direction

8

Background

Each top tier local authority is required under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to commission a local Healthwatch from a charity or social enterprise. Their function is to act as the independent voice of local residents who use, or may use, publically-funded health or social care services. Each local Healthwatch covers residents from birth to end of life services. We are not a single issue organisation.

Introduction

Key activities for a local Healthwatch include signposting residents to local services, capturing feedback about experience of local care to inform the commissioning and provision of health and care services, and holding key players to account. This latter role is through membership of the Health & Wellbeing Board and co-option to the People Scrutiny Committee, but also via a direct link to the Care Quality Commission.

Current priorities

Our last Annual Report included the following key areas of work:

- Looking at the impact of Covid-19
- Vulnerable people
- Improving how we reach local people
- Special educational needs and/or disabilities
- Working with partners
- Strengthening Healthwatch Southend

Feedback mechanisms

As an independent local and public service, we set our own strategic priorities to inform our engagement and feedback activities for the coming period. One way of capturing feedback is through our legal power to “Enter and View” premises, speaking to patients, service users, carers and staff. The other is through meeting local residents at community events, surveys or questionnaires, or focus groups.

Some of our engagement work can be informed by partners across Southend or the SE Essex Place – can we capture local people’s experience to feed in to a new service, for example. However, we are also anxious to offer the community the opportunity to contribute to our priority setting process.

Decision-making process

Because our scope is so wide, Healthwatch Southend uses some principles to prioritise its work

- Does the issue impact on a large number of people or have a very significant impact on a smaller number of people.
- Has the issue has been raised by a large number of people.
- Is there the potential for Healthwatch Southend to make a significant difference to the issue in question.
- Does the issue fit with Healthwatch Southend’s priorities or the priorities and timescales of other strategic local commissioners, providers and organisations.

- Has the issue been raised and evidenced by a representative organisation with specialist knowledge of concerns or views of local people, such as Healthwatch England or the Care Quality Commission (CQC).
- Does the issue highlight gaps, such as gaps in service delivery or where the voice of local people is not being considered.
- Does the issue affect people who find public services hard to access.
- Do we have sufficient resources and capacity.

Conclusion

Members of the Health & Wellbeing Board are invited to contribute suggestions for consideration by Healthwatch Southend.