

People Scrutiny Committee – 10th July 2018

Public Questions

Question from Mr Webb to the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities & Wellbeing – Cllr Lesley Salter

Question 1

*“Recently obesity in children was signalled as one of the most threatening to children. **What is Southend Council and NHS CCG tackling the issue of obesity and what schemes and policy is addressing this issue and how do you know it is successful?**”*

Answer

Childhood Obesity has immediate and long-term effects on physical, social and emotional health. Long-term, sustainable change will only be achieved through the active engagement of schools, communities, families and individuals.

The National Child Measurement Programme provides the data on the level of excess weight, and is used to support our approach to tackling childhood obesity and in gauging whether we are making an impact locally by initially slowing down the rate of increase and eventually starting to reduce this rate. Southend-on-Sea’s childhood obesity rate of 17.9% is lower than the England rate of 20% and the previous rise has slowed down with no change in the two previous years.

Southend Borough Council has proactively been working with schools, communities and key partners to put a number of evidence-based programmes in place and these are regularly reviewed:

- Morelife Tier 2 service – targeted intervention for weight management (for 10 weeks)
- Healthy eating for children and active travel to schools
- Daily Mile in schools and diverse activity as before or after-school clubs
- Cook for life – upskilling parents to prepare healthier food
- Change for Life clubs – diet and physical activity
- Healthy Schools – food provision in the canteen and menus
- Healthy Schools – healthy lunchbox sessions with parents
- Change for Life Assembly - Sugar swap awareness and after-school club
- New 5-week pilot programme to reduce weight

In collaboration with A Better Start Southend, the Council have implemented a Diet and Nutrition Strategy aimed at supporting and

skilling families with young children, in our most disadvantaged communities, to make healthier choices. These include:

- Breastfeeding 1:1 and Group Support; and
- an additional Health Visitor 1:1 appointment on the topic of 'introducing nutritious foods' - at 3-4 months, ready for introducing solids at 6 months.

We are also developing new pathways on early identification and support for young people, with weight management issues.

With only one school still to join the Healthy Schools programme, we now have a good approach in changing local food menus, encouraging more parents to learn cooking skills, supporting more parents to make healthier lunchboxes, increasing the level of physical activity during school time as well as after school and educating young people and parents to think 'healthy'.

Question from Mr Webb to the Cabinet Member for Children & Learning – Cllr Helen Boyd

Question 2

*"In the 6 week summer holiday many children will need a place to play safe that does not cost too much. **What schemes and places could children, teenagers in Westborough and other children go?"***

Answer

We offer activities for young people age 8-14 years during August (4 weeks) on Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday across the borough, targeting the following areas St. Lukes/Shoebury/Warrior Square (leaflet attached), and there is also youth provision held every Thursday afternoon/evening at St. Cedds, Mendip Crescent, Eastwood. Activities include sports/team games/art and crafts and computer games.

Also, all activities for 13+ young people continue in Shoebury, St. Lukes and in the High Street/Forum area, on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Some Community Centres and voluntary organisation that we know of running holiday activities are:

Trinity Family Centre/Balmoral Community Centre/Milton Community Partnership – all advertise their services on the website 'SHIP'.

Full details of all of these activities can be found on SBC website.

I believe also that many schools in the area organise various activities over the summer period, and also Westcliff Library.

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There is additionally ‘The Biz’ summer programme which offers events for young people aged 8 – 14 years in our Leisure Centres. Details can be found on the SBC website or by calling 01702 534300.

Question from Mr Ali to the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities & Wellbeing – Cllr Lesley Salter

Question 3

“SWIFT Service - Can you let me know who commissions this service and runs this service, the predicted benefits to patients and the NHS and how many patients have been involved with the service?”

Answer

The service is commissioned by Southend and Castle Point & Rochford CCGs which cover south east Essex. The service will help people stay at home when they are experiencing sudden episode of acute ill health, rather than be transferred to hospital. The SWIFT service is designed with a 'home first' ethos and will provide specialist, nurse-led care in people's own homes – this avoids the risk of hospital-borne infections

and deconditioning which can be associated with inpatient admissions. The most recent figure we have (10th June) indicates that 84 patients have so far been involved.

The SWIFT team visit patients within two-hours of receiving a referral from a GP practice, district nurse or community long-term conditions team and the EEAST ambulance team to stabilise their immediate health need. It provides an alternative to long waits in the emergency department and frees up ambulances to attend to people experiencing a serious injury or episode in need of emergency care.

The team will support patients to recover by visiting them at home to provide the necessary medication, interventions and care within five days. If at any point the patient deteriorates and can no longer be safely managed at home, the SWIFT team will coordinate safe transfer to the hospital for an inpatient admission.

Question from Mr Ali to the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities & Wellbeing – Cllr Lesley Salter

Question 4

“SWIFT Service - Was a trial undertaken for the service to demonstrate the service has been effective and may we see the results of the trial and if so how long did it run for? Are there any patient stories that can be shared?”

Answer

The SWIFT service had a limited service from 16 April in the Southend West and Canvey localities, ahead of a full roll-out to all localities in Castle Point, Rochford and Southend on 1 June 2018.

The service reports over 70 per cent of cases are successfully stabilised at home and managed back to usual care. Where this has not been possible, SWIFT have seamlessly co-ordinated the safe transfer of care to Southend Hospital via the medical navigator.

Testimonials:

‘I would like to thank the SWIFT team for the care they provided me, I didn’t want to go into hospital when the GP advised this as an option, the SWIFT team were able to give me the treatment that I required at home’

SWIFT patient

'I have no one to look after my dog if I go into hospital, the SWIFT team came into me at home so it meant that I did not have to go into hospital and I could stay at home with my dog where I want to be'

SWIFT patient

'Being able to refer patients to SWIFT that we would normally send into hospital gives us the peace of mind that patients are staying at home safely'

Community Respiratory Nurse

Question from Mr Smith to the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities & Wellbeing – Cllr Lesley Salter

Question 5

"Do the councillors feel that the appalling STP engagement of 0.3% of the population requires another attempt and should comply with the Gunning Principles?"

Answer

Southend Borough Council (SBC) has sought assurance from the CCG Joint Committee that the public consultation process regarding the proposals for the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) complied with the Gunning Principles, namely; (i) Consultation must take place when the proposal is still at a formative stage; (ii) Sufficient reasons must be put forward for the proposal to allow for intelligent consideration and response; (iii) Adequate time must be given for consideration and response; and (iv) The product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account.

The Joint Committee have confirmed that the Committee and its constituent Clinical Commissioning Groups have met their statutory duties and ensured an effective and robust public consultation. The compliance with best practice for consultation is also referred to in the independent analysis of the public consultation, recently published.

The Council is disappointed about the response rate from the public consultation.

The Council formally responded to the consultation and will continue to express concerns regarding stroke services and transport plans. I am very pleased to see that the concerns we raised regarding transport, investment in primary and community care and Locality development have been listened to with plans developed to address.