

Out and about with SAVS



Every day I am attending meetings to represent the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Southend. In order to keep our members up to date with what is going on I am producing a monthly report which gives information about which meetings I have attended, their purpose and key points of note to the VCS. Some of the information will be relevant to you and I hope it will all be of interest. If you want further information about any of the meetings or have something to contribute please contact me on 01702 356001 or asemmence@savs-southend.co.uk. I would love to hear from you.

Unless stated otherwise all the meetings are attended by me. However some meetings are attended by other members of staff. If you are attending any strategic meetings to represent the VCS it would be great if you could share this with us so we can include in this report.

Meetings attended February

CCG Governing Body

Purpose

The meeting of the Governing Body is held in public every two months - members of the public are welcome. I am not part of the meeting but sit in the public gallery.

Points to note

Essex Success Regime - comprising Southend, Basildon and Chelmsford hospitals - the aim is to improve health and care where these systems are managing financial deficits or issues of service quality. The first briefing in January makes a clear commitment to involve local people and stakeholders in this work.

CQC Hospital Inspection - positive comments about the staff giving 'care with compassion,' describing them as 'professional and phenomenal'. Concerns re number of staff compared to beds.

Co commissioning - 71% of GP practices are in favour of the CCG moving towards co-commissioning - Southend CCG are working towards 1 April 16 share commissioning of GP services in Southend with NHS England which will bring about many benefits to Southend, for example transparency and quality control.

Minors Pathway - a new model has been devised for walk in patients at the front door of A&E which will see relevant patients redirected to appropriate care organisations if they don't clinically need A&E services.

The agenda with papers for the meeting can be found on the CCG website.

Next steps

The next meeting in public will be on 31 March 2016.

Health and Wellbeing Board

Purpose

The Health and Wellbeing Board was set up as a result of the Health and Social Care Act 2012; it is made up of local statutory organisations and health related partners who are working in partnership to improve health and wellbeing for Southend's residents. The ambition is that everyone living in Southend-on-Sea has the best possible opportunity to live long, fulfilling, healthy lives.

Southend's Health and Wellbeing Board is made up of representatives from:
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

- NHS Southend Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Southend Healthwatch
- Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (SEPT)
- Southend Association of Voluntary Services (SAVS)
- Pre-School Learning Alliance

The meetings are held in public and anyone is welcome to sit in the audience - questions can be asked in writing in advance of the meeting.

Points to note

Items discussed - Essex Success Regime (as above at Southend CCG meeting)
Public Health Annual Report, Safeguarding Annual Reports, Transforming Care Partnership Draft Plan.

All the papers and minutes from this and other H&WB board meetings can be found on the council website:

<http://democracy.southend.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=144&Year=0>

Next steps

Next meeting will be on 7 April at 5 pm

SHIP Content Group

Purpose

This meeting is an operational meeting to make sure that the SHIP website which is owned by Southend Borough Council is working. The SHIP website is a directory of service in Southend. The group is made up of various council departments and SAVS.

Points to note

- The SHIP Branding will be looked into as SBC Councillors don't like the name.
- The information worker currently managing SHIP will not be in post after April.
- Great tool for VCS organisations to promote services they offer.

Next steps

Meetings are monthly. SAVS to encourage our members to update entry on the SHIP website.

Attended by Dan Turpin

Early Help Governance Group

Purpose

22nd Feb 2016

Initial meeting of this new multi-agency group to oversee the direction and governance of Phase 2 (re-fresh) of delivering early help services. The group will meet every 4-6 weeks for the next 18 months. Organisations round the table include SBC (Children, public health, adult housing, etc.), health commissioners and specialist health professionals, schools, Pre School Learning Alliance (delivering the Better Start for early years) probation, etc.

The new more flexible criteria is aimed at not just those high risk highly dependent resource intensive families that are already known to services but those who are potentially at risk of slipping into greater difficulties.

SBC have just completed a wide ranging consultation with staff teams and will now bring family support, youth offending, etc. into one integrated team under one line manager. This process has taken nearly 18 months to achieve and whilst the structure is now in place there is still lots of work to be done to get this team to be working effectively within the new remit. There needs also to be evidence of delivering more services with less money.

Plan is to have 'one front door' to accept and manage referrals but that interventions can (and should) be delivered by a diverse range of organisations.

Points to note

SBC is likely to be subject to an inspection of this provision very soon so is anxious that this governance group becomes established quickly and shows some results that can be shared with others.

This first meeting highlighted how difficult integration and collaborative working is when there is no really common understanding of issues such as: - what is considered normal development at each age/stage of childhood. What, if any, time limits should be in place to keep interventions focused and reduce dependency. Capacity issues and professional differences can be challenging. There are huge differences in the language used across professions so getting some of this right is crucial.

Potentially has great opportunities for voluntary sector organisations to get involved but it will be difficult to get statutory bodies to see this positively.

Group will need to decide on some specific areas of focus otherwise it will not achieve anything productive as the range of issues is huge.

Next Steps

Next meeting is on 23rd March in Civic Centre room 3. Unfortunately I am unable to attend.

Once there is a better idea of the areas of focus it would be good to look at which organisations in the voluntary sector could be involved.

Attended by Maureen Longley (SAVS Chair)