

# East Berkshire Advisory Group Minutes

Wednesday 18th September 2024 6.30pm

Location- Teams

## Attendance:

**DOB** Dermot O'Brien – AG

**CE** Charlotte Evans – AG

**UA** Umar Ansari – AG

**KB** Kevin Barry – AG

**JS** Jaspreet Singha – AG

**PB** Paul Beal – AG

**JD** Jo Dixon – HW

**AB** Ann Brosnan – HW Minutes

**Apologies:** Kathryn Loughnan, Neil Bolton-Heaton

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

JD welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Jaspreet and Paul.

## 2. July Minutes and actions

The July minutes were approved.

Outstanding action from May and Kevin suggested Jaspreet may also have some input:

**KB and UA to meet to discuss carers' forums further, in the context of Slough and helping KB get the best out of them.**

## 3. Quarterly Reports and Workplan

Jo asked for feedback on the reports and explained that only the commissioners from the three areas, see the Quarterly Reports and how they influence the work we do and that Healthwatch often give direct feedback when issues come to our attention.

Kevin mentioned that he is involved in a local PPG and that a number of PPGs are meeting up and he is happy to feed back to Healthwatch.

**Action: KB to attend PPG meetings and notify JD once an 'All Slough PPG meeting is scheduled.**

Umar asked about the difference in engagement between Bracknell Forest and the other two areas and Jo explained that the Local Authority (LA) and voluntary and community sector hold more regular health related groups in contrast to Slough that tends to hold one-off events. It is also affected by the Workplan and what Healthwatch is focusing on. The next two quarters won't be as skewed as the Women's Health Project will run across all three Healthwatch.

Jo spoke about the Dementia Carers/GP Access project and the challenges that came out of that and Umar suggested that more time is given to GPs to come back with suggestions for improvement.

#### **4. Women's Health Project update**

Jo mentioned that there will be surveys and in-person groups and that the feedback from a national survey is that it is Asian and Black women of Asian and Black ethnicity were under represented in the research

The aim is to feed our responses from these cohorts into the service delivery and get some women's health champions in all three Healthwatch areas.

Jo asked for the AG if they could provide contacts for the next phase of the project which will start in three weeks.

**Action: ALL to give JD any contacts that will be helpful in reaching women of Asian and Black ethnicity.**

#### **5. Enter and View Update**

One more will be done in RBWM in October and then the team will revisit and make any changes before starting again in the Spring. Dermot asked how much time is spent in total on Enter and View and this is something that will be looked at as part of the review process.

**Action Ann: January Agenda will feature a further update on Enter and View.**

#### **6. Volunteers**

Jo explained the challenges faced in terms of resources around managing volunteers. A new App is being trialled in Help and Care and 'Volunteero' will then be rolled out by the Volunteer Lead across the Healthwatch and volunteers will

be given training on how to use it. This is aimed at making it easier to contact volunteers regarding potential projects.

Healthwatch are always happy to consider new volunteers and especially people who would be able to attend regular meetings in the community and give feedback as this is a different way of working for our volunteers. Such as for the Frimley Hospital rebuild.

**Action: ALL to send any information about events to Ann so volunteers can be contacted to attend.**

## **7. AOB**

Jo agreed that she would speak to Neil regarding the in person meeting in November and ensure that a plan for the day is circulated in advance.

**Action: JD to speak to Neil regarding the November meeting and produce a 'plan' for the group.**

Jo mentioned that she will send Ann a role profile for the Chair of the Advisory Group to send out with the minutes and if anyone is interested to send Jo an email with a paragraph outlining why they feel they would be suitable for this role.

**Action: JD to send AB the role profile and AB to send out with the minutes.**

Paul mentioned he is happy to shadow meetings to increase his knowledge and is available to do so on Thursdays and Fridays.

**Action: ALL to let Paul know of any meetings that he would benefit from attending.**

### **Action Summary:**

**KB to attend PPG meetings and notify JD once an 'All Slough PPG meeting is scheduled.**

**ALL to give JD any contacts that will be helpful in reaching women of Asian and Black ethnicity.**

**AB: January Agenda will feature a further update on Enter and View.**

**ALL to send any information about events to Ann so volunteers can be contacted to attend.**

**JD: to speak to Neil regarding the November meeting and produce a 'plan' for the group.**

**JD: to send AB the role profile and AB to send out with the minutes.**

**ALL: to let Paul know of any meetings that he would benefit from attending.**

**DONM Wednesday 20th<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm**