

If you are reading this electronically, the Council has saved **£0.28** on printing. For more information on the Modern.gov paperless app, contact Democratic Services

Merton Council

Health and Wellbeing Board - Community sub-group Agenda

Membership

Councillors:

Rob Clarke
Mark Creelman
Dave Curtis
Abi Fafolu
Dr Vasa Gnanapragam
Rebecca Lanning (Chair)
Martin Miranda
Oonagh Moulton
Kalu Obuka
Mohan Sekeram
Eleanor Stringer
Dr Dagmar Zeuner

Date: Tuesday 14 September 2021

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: This will be a virtual meeting and therefore not held in a physical location

This is a public meeting and can be viewed by following this link
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MertonCouncil>

Electronic Agendas, Reports and Minutes

Copies of agendas, reports and minutes for council meetings can also be found on our website. To access this, click <https://www.merton.gov.uk/council-and-local-democracy> and search for the relevant committee and meeting date.

Agendas can also be viewed on the Mod.gov paperless app for iPads, Android and Windows devices.

For more information about the agenda please contact

democratic.services@merton.gov.uk or telephone 020 8545 3357.

All Press contacts: communications@merton.gov.uk or 020 8545 3181

Health and Wellbeing Board - Community sub-group Agenda

14 September 2021

- | | | |
|---|---|--------|
| 1 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 2 | Declarations of Pecuniary Interest | |
| 3 | Minutes of the previous meeting | 1 - 4 |
| 4 | Covid Update | 5 - 8 |
| | 4a) Situation Assessment Report (SAR) | |
| | 4b) Summary of voluntary sector funding support for practical support and CEV (clinically extremely vulnerable) residents | |
| 5 | Vaccination Update - focus on action on equity | |
| 6 | Health and Wellbeing Board Community Subgroup Extension | 9 - 10 |
| 7 | Engagement and insight work: Children and Young People - Presentation and discussion | |

Note on declarations of interest

Members are advised to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared they should withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter. For further advice please speak with the Managing Director, South London Legal Partnership.

Agenda Item 3

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - COMMUNITY SUB-GROUP
27 JULY 2021
(5.00 pm - 6.55 pm)

PRESENT: Councillor Rebecca Lanning (in the Chair),
Councillor Oonagh Moulton, Councillor Eleanor Stringer, Rob
Clarke, Dr Vasa Gnanapragam, Martin Miranda, Kalu Obuka,
Dr Mohan Sekeram and Dr Dagmar Zeuner

**IN
ATTENDANCE:** Barry Causer (Public Health Commissioning Manager),
Hetty Crist (Communications Manager, Amy Dumitrescu (Interim
Democracy Services Manager), Julia Groom (Public Health
Consultant), Phil Howell (Assistant Director, Communities and
Housing), Jo Malyon (Dementia Friendly Development Manager
(South) Alzheimer's Society), Mike Procter (South West London
NHS) and Kate Symons (Deputy Director of Primary Care)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies for absence was received on behalf of Mark Creelman and Abi Fafolu. An apology for lateness was received from Dr Mohan Sekeram.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There was no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2021, were agreed as a correct record.

4 COVID 19 UPDATE (Agenda Item 4)

The Director of Public Health provided an update on Covid-19 in Merton, in line with the Situational Awareness report. The update contained the latest data on Covid-19.

Government guidance for testing outlined that all secondary school staff and pupils should take twice-weekly home LFD tests until end of September, when this would be reviewed. All frontline workers were also encouraged to carry out regular testing.

Kate Symons (Deputy Director of Primary Care) and Dr Vasa Gnanapragam provided an update on the vaccination programme. This included the mass sites at Wimbledon FC and Centre Court, supported by the Wilson, the Nelson plus a large number of community outreach sites including pop ups as part of the targeted push or 'Sprint' to 19th July 2021. This effort had been further supported by a rapidly organised two week programme of door knocking in areas of low take up. There was also a call and

recall programme being run by Merton Federation. All supported by a joint targeted communications programme. The effort was not as successful as originally hoped but the programme continued, including planned joint work with community groups and champions. Plans included a booster jab from September 2021 to January 2022 and under 18s who could now be vaccinated.

It was agreed that JVC guidance advises a gap of eight weeks between the first and second vaccinations, so this should be adhered to, even though there had been incidences of smaller gaps.

Phi Howell (Assistant Director, Communities and Housing) gave a brief update of vaccination among both residents and staff in Merton care homes. Though targets had been achieved, work continued with those homes where vaccinations were still outstanding (towards the 11th November 2021 requirement), as well as working through any challenges to resilience of staff numbers. A stocktake of vaccination within domiciliary care was planned to determine first and second vaccine update.

5 ENGAGEMENT AND INSIGHT WORK (Agenda Item 5)

Barry Causer introduced the presentations on the ongoing programme of community engagement work, to gain insight into the impact of the pandemic and inform communications to support take up of testing and vaccination.

Members received a presentation by Rob Clarke (Chief Executive of Age UK Merton) regarding the impact of COVID-19 on older people and Jo Malyon (Dementia Friendly Development Manager, Alzheimer's Society).

The Subgroup then discussed both presentations and the following key points were made:

More awareness and diagnosis of dementia was needed following lockdown. This was something that this forum, focused on equity rather than 'counting', could help to take forward.

Mental health issues and anxiety were affecting both older people and children and young people. During Covid, intergenerational distance opened up at times so there was some healing to do. There were opportunities for more intergenerational work e.g. the Alzheimer's Society committed to raise this with the Merton Dementia Friendly Communities Coordinator.

The impact of the demands of the pandemic on staff, following the creativity and energy of the initial response, had led to real fatigue.

The importance of rebuilding connections within the community where they had been broken down by Covid. Community engagement was really important in fostering good relationships, including doing things together repeatedly, until the trust would be established.

The opportunity to amplify the insight the group, to help build a culture and ethos for recovery planning of the type of place we want Merton to be. Community voices need to be ongoing partners in the recovery process.

Our social infrastructure, had in some ways, been repurposed to support vaccination; it could now be used more widely to help address issues like dementia, deprivation and mental health as well as continuing with vaccination. Community Champions had a role in helping facilitate this.

The concept of being person-centred in our approach, was key to understanding what was important to individuals. This Subgroup could reflect on the experiences that our communities have had during Covid and promote them priorities for recovery.

This page is intentionally left blank

Briefing note: Covid19 Grant Funding

1. The Community & Housing Directorate Management Team have agreed proposals for allocating funding from two Covid19 grant funding streams and a brief summary of how the funding is being allocated is set out below for your information.
2. The two funding streams to which this note relates are the final tranche of the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) support grant; and the Practical Support for Self-Isolation grant.

CEV Support Grant

3. The final tranche of the CEV support grant was announced and distributed early in the current financial year and is to be used during 2021/22. The value of the grant is **£357,919**. The agreed uses of this grant funding are summarised below.
4. This paper proposes that these grants are spent on the following services:

Organisation	Details of planned use	Timescale	Amount
Age Uk Merton (in partnership with Wimbledon Guild)	Befriending and Volunteering Services have significantly increased the number of volunteers to support residents with befriending and practical support who are clinically extremely vulnerable and residents who are self-isolating. This grant will provide additional capacity to the service.	2021-2022 (6 months funding)	£21,932
Age UK Merton, Wimbledon Guild and Merton Connected	The Merton Community Hub is the key contact for tiered level of support including information, advice and practical support for CEV residents who are self-isolating in Merton.	Jan 2021- March 2021	£49,548
Wimbledon Foodbank	To provide the necessary infrastructure support to continue to deliver emergency food parcels and supplies across the borough.	2021-2022 (6 months funding)	£11,000
Libraries 'Connecting Merton' Scheme	IT equipment loan scheme. This project aims to get vulnerable and isolated people in Merton develop their digital skills and will prioritise residents who are identified as clinically extremely vulnerable.	April 2021	20,000
Carers Support Merton	Additional fixed term capacity of 2 carer assessor posts and additional resources for workshops and activities for carers and their loved ones who have experienced significant impact on their wellbeing as a result of the pandemic. This is in recognition	2021-2022	£89,475

	of the significant increase in support needed by carers during the pandemic.		
Carers Support Merton	Funding to cover the doubling of the value of the Carers Discretionary Grants as announced during Carers Week 2021.	2021-2022	£30,000
Domiciliary Care Providers	Working with our commissioned social care providers to provide additional support to service users who have been particularly isolated during the pandemic period to support them to rebuild confidence and to re-engage with their local community and support networks. Carers could, for example, support individuals to access community facilities or clubs or similar that they used to access before the pandemic.	2021-2022	£50,000
(LBM Community and Housing)	Funding to cover the ongoing costs during 2021/22 of providing information and advice to residents previously classified as CEV, including letters and other marketing activity.	2021-2022	£15,000
TOTAL:			£286,955

5. The balance of £70,964 is being retained whilst a review identifies what type of ongoing support our most vulnerable CEV residents require over the coming months. In addition LBM will retain some funds to maintain the Helping Hands database of people identified as CEV.

Practical Support for Self-Isolation grant

6. This grant is intended to fund practical, social or emotional support (broadly understood as additional support needs arising from following self-isolation requirements that go beyond any pre-existing met or unmet social care needs) and help people access tailored support where needed, whilst ensuring that short term support does not create a need for ongoing dependency. This support could include:
- Wellbeing: social contact, providing reassurance, check-ins, welfare calls.
 - Social and digital inclusion: supporting people to access services online, for example supermarket deliveries
 - Mental health support
 - Food access support
 - Practical support

- Helping with caring responsibilities

7. To date, LBM has been allocated £216,261.45 Practical Support Grant to cover the period April to August 2021 and we expect to receive £50,169.01 in September 2021. This will be a total grant of **£266,430.46** for practical support.

8. The agreed uses of this grant funding are summarised below:

Organisation	Details of funding	Timescale	Amount
Age Uk Merton (in partnership with Wimbledon Guild)	Befriending and Volunteering Service have significantly increased the number of volunteers to support residents with befriending and practical support who are clinically extremely vulnerable and residents who are self-isolating. This grant will provide additional capacity to the service.	2021-2022 6 months funding	£21,932
Wimbledon Foodbank	To provide the necessary infrastructure support to continue to deliver emergency food parcels and supplies across the borough.	2021-2022 6 months funding	£11,000
Age UK Merton, Wimbledon Guild and Merton Connected	The Merton Community Hub is the key contact for tiered level of support including information, advice and practical support for CEV residents who are self-isolating in Merton.	April 2021-September 2021	£99,096
Merton Connected	Additional funding for the existing Merton Giving programme, supporting local voluntary and community organisations that are providing practical Covid19 related support to harder to reach, seldom heard, vulnerable and marginalised communities in the borough.	Sept 2021-2022	£50,000
Merton Connected	To enable Merton Connected to continue to employ an accountant to support local organisations to build up their capacity to bid for funding and ensure that Merton Connected have sufficient capacity to monitor expenditure and outcomes funded by grants from the Merton Giving programme. Merton Connected were successful in receiving funding to cover this community accounting function for three months and the agreed allocation allows them to extend for a further nine months.	Sept 2021-2022	£40,275
Citizens Advice Merton and	To provide additional resources to increase the capacity of Merton's Adviceline to meet rising demand from those impacted as a result of	Aug 2021-July 2022	£30,000

Lambeth	Covid, including those self-isolating. Merton's Adviceline service is a dedicated free-phone and online query support service for Merton residents, providing information, support, and advice on a range of issues including welfare benefits, debt, housing and relationships. The Adviceline can support residents with the completion of the Test and Trace support payment scheme for people that are on a low income.		
Food Support	Currently the key providers supporting with food security and food poverty across the Borough have sufficient funds, or can access funds via Merton Giving for the next financial year to support with emergency assistance relating to food. However, we are proposing an additional amount be held in reserve as a contingency in the event that demand increases as a result of the furlough and Universal Credit top up schemes ending.	2021-2022	£14,127.46
TOTAL:			£266,430.46

Committee: Health and Wellbeing Board Community Subgroup

Date: 14 September 2021

Wards: All

Subject: Health and Wellbeing Board Community Subgroup Extension

Lead officer: Dr Dagmar Zeuner, Director of Public Health

Lead member: Councillor Rebecca Lanning, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

Contact officer: Clarissa Larsen, Health and Wellbeing Board Partnership Manager

Recommendations:

- A. To agree to an extension of the Health and Wellbeing Board Community Subgroup to 1st March 2022.
-

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To propose to members that the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) Community Subgroup extend meeting to 1st March 2022.

2 BACKGROUND

In September 2020, Merton Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to establish a time limited Community Subgroup in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Subgroup focus was on those experiencing a disproportionate impact of COVID-19 and work in partnership to both understand and help address this inequality.

3 DETAILS

- 3.1. The Community Subgroup met for the first time, in public, on 4 August 2020, originally planned as fixed term to end in April 2021. However, the Subgroup agreed to continue to meet until August 2021 with renewed focus on vaccination equity.
- 3.2. It is now proposed that the Subgroup continues for a further three meetings to March 2022 with a dual focus on:
- (i) The ongoing vaccination programme, including children and young people, the booster and flu vaccines, and helping to identify those not yet vaccinated and how they can be engaged, encouraged and supported.
 - (ii) Post Covid Syndrome (previously referred to as long Covid) and specifically its link to wider inequalities, to help identify opportunities for engagement and action to address this and promote wider health equity and wellbeing across all communities.

3.3 Taking account of LB Merton's existing Corporate Calendar and core HWBB meetings, the planned additional dates for future Community Subgroup meetings are:

- Tuesday 19 October 5.00 – 6.30pm
- Tuesday 14 December 5.00 – 6.30pm
- Tuesday 1 March 5.00 – 6.30pm

All Subgroup meetings are currently planned to be virtual via Zoom and will be live streamed to the public.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The alternative option is for the Subgroup to have its final meeting on 14 September. This would not allow for the continued partnership work to help support the ongoing vaccination programme and impacts of Post Covid Syndrome.

5 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

Subject to the view of Subgroup, members the core HWBB will be consulted, and asked to agree to the extension, when it meets on 28 September.

6 TIMETABLE

The Community Subgroup will meet for an extended period up to March 2022 at dates included in this report.

7 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The Community Subgroup will report to the statutory Merton Health and Wellbeing Board.

9 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

The focus of the Community Subgroup is on promoting health and wider equity across Merton's communities.

10 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

N/A

11 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

12 APPENDICES

None