

Halton & St Helens VCA

MINUTES OF HEALTHWATCH ST HELENS DIRECTORS MEETING

Friday 21st April 2023

Beacon Building, St Helens

PRESENT: Pam Meredith (PM)
Dilys Quinlan (DQ)
Tom Hughes (TH)
Justin Hill (JH)

IN ATTENDANCE: Jayne Parkinson Loftus (JPL), Sally Yeoman (SY), Debbie Morris (DM) minute taker

Meeting started at 9.36am.

Chair: Tom Hughes

1. Apologies

None

2. Declaration of conflict of interest

None

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of 27th January 2023 agreed as a correct record and signed by Chair.

4. Matters arising – not on the agenda

- Rob Huntington, Assistant Chief Exec at St Helens Council has still not issued the extension contract which is now overdue, SY will follow this up with Rachel Cleal and update Directors. Had an email response but need a formal agreement.
- Working on the Patient experiences form Fairfield Hospital includes referral and pathway information. Will continue to update Directors.
- Promotional material ordered.

5. Manager's update

Written report emailed, report presented by JPL

- Continuing to provide performance monitoring and currently sending it over to Rachel Cleal.
- Cheshire & Merseyside ICP need to give more notice on meeting dates struggle to attend at short notice sending a representative from one of the Healthwatch. Engagement Strategy has been signed off, SY updated on progress of the ICP to date.
- Draft Cost of Living report to be presented at the Inequalities Commission Meeting and once feedback provided and added updates from other organisations will send final report out.
- Advisory Forum have resumed meetings, would like to recruit new members.

6. Monitoring report Quarter 4

Monitoring report presented by JPL reviewed by Directors, noted that it is the draft copy due to delay in accessing data from system will resend updated version.

- Carrying out more outreach work
- Will continue to look at mental health services with contacts at Merseycare.
- Technical issue with Civi awaiting outcome and fix.
- Fairfield Hospital reports will be incorporated into monitoring report on a regular basis.

7. Finance report

Report provided by SY

- Small underspend but need to check on current expenditure to make sure it is included.
- Accounts to be submitted to Companies House.
- Review training opportunities for staff.
- Next meeting to look at new contract applications.
- JPL provided a leaflet on the new providers for advocacy services taken over from NCompass. Healthwatch will continue with health related issues but other areas refer to Advocacy Focus. Had a positive meeting with the organisation and hope it will be a good working relationship. Will monitor how it is working and will be included in outcomes.

8. AOB

None

Date of next meeting

Friday 21st July 9.30am will be a face to face meeting.

Meeting finished 10.48am