



Oldham
Council

Report to COUNCIL – 18th December 2024

Portfolio Report

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Barbara Brownridge
Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to portfolio responsibilities.

Public Health

Breastfeeding Peer Support Service

Oldham, in collaboration with Tameside Council, has recently approved the one-year extension to the Breastfeeding Peer Support Service delivered by Home-Start Oldham, Stockport and Tameside (HOST). This year the service will include additional support on the post-natal wards at Royal Oldham Hospital, to enable more support as soon as possible after birth.

The service supports our system wide approach to ensuring that parents and carers have access to a wide range of breastfeeding support within their community. The service works in partnership with Oldham Family Hubs and with community midwifery services. The service will continue to support the council's commitment to normalise breastfeeding, encourage more women to start and support them to continue.

Winter sickness bugs

It is the time of year where lots of seasonal gastrointestinal illnesses are going around, including norovirus. Norovirus, also known as the winter vomiting bug, causes vomiting and diarrhea. It can be very unpleasant but usually goes away in about 2 days. There are some steps that everyone can take that reduce the spread of illness:

- Wash your hands thoroughly with liquid soap and running warm water.
- Clean hard surfaces regularly with hot soapy water followed by a disinfectant/sanitiser.
- Clean footwear/buggy wheels after visits to animal attractions, farms and muddy areas, and wash your hands after doing so.
- If you or your child has symptoms, it is extremely important to stay away from work and school for the correct length of time. You should not attend school/work for at least 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

Adult Social Care (ASC)

The preventative work at ASC Adult Referral Contact Centre (ARCC) continues to be achieving positive outcomes for residents. The team are seeing an increase in information and advice being provided to support residents to remain independent, healthy, safe and well in the community, without relying on ASC statutory support. Recently 83% of people contacting the service have not needed to access statutory services. The year to date averages each month there are 472 new initial contracts made to ASC completed and closed, thus reducing the demand of case work coming through to the community social

work teams across ASC. The data evidences the continued success of the ASC Operating Model, and that the strengths-based ways of working is being embedded across the directorate.

Despite the success of ARCC, demand for ASC remains high, due to the complexity and acuity of those people who require services. In the last 28 Days the Community social care teams have completed 160 Care Act assessments, 196 Safeguarding enquiries and 227 annual reviews. Adult Social Care continues to experience challenges with demand, however there are mitigations plans in place to manage risk, supported by a rag rating risk stratification tool to ensure safety measures are in place.

Adult Social Care continues to prepare for a Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection, having delivered a series of engagement sessions with the teams and the ongoing process of gathering evidence supported by governance in line with the *Towards Outstanding Board*.

Oldham Total Care:

Continues to stabilise with occupancy of 125 residents this month. Work is ongoing with system partners to achieve full occupancy, and to finalise the business plan with a view to the future operating models across the site. The team are preparing for Christmas with a series of activities planned, and further to recent appointment of a manager, her CQC registration has been confirmed this week which will provide increased assurance and stability at the home.

From a commissioning and market management perspective, we continue to assess the capacity and demand across our in borough provision, with a delivery plan being finalised. The delivery plan presents the current provision and the gaps we have in the commissioned market and will include proposals for investment and development, accommodation for example.

Oldham Integrated Care Partnership (ICP)

Integrated Neighbourhood Health and Care Teams

Oldham's Integrated Care Partnership Committee has this month mandated that all Providers, working in collaboration, will put the development and support of Integrated Neighbourhood Teams at the heart of their strategy. This is not about structural change but about working together better. To realise our ambitions we will need to remove the barriers for integrated working and create the right incentives for change. As a consequence specifically, by March 2025 work will be completed to:

- Shift all programme focus to align with INT development;
- Set out clear resourcing and work plan to address these areas;
- Secure the integrator functions within each Place.

It also means that the enablers that supports the INTs to move across each phase of development will now be aligned and will include:

- Digital and IG, estates, workforce development – with equivalent staged plans set out for each of these areas;
- Clear and transparent processes for moving between phases of development for greater levels of neighbourhood working.

Recommendations: Council is requested to note the report.
