

# JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL FOR PENNINE CARE (MENTAL HEALTH) TRUST

## MINUTES OF MEETING Tuesday 17 October 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor McLaren (Chair, Oldham MBC); Councillors Dale (Rochdale MBC), Davies (Stockport MBC), Grimshaw (Bury MBC), Moores (Oldham MBC), Rashid (Rochdale MBC) and Whitby (Bury MBC)

**OFFICERS:** K. Davies (Committee Services, Rochdale MBC) and A. Hassall (Chief Executive - Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust)

### 8 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Christine Adams (Oldham MBC), Councillor Dan Costello (Tameside MBC) and Councillor Angela Smith (Rochdale MBC).

### 9 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 10 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2023/24**

#### **Resolved:**

That Councillor Eddie Moores (Oldham MBC) be appointed as Vice Chair of the Joint Scrutiny Committee for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust for the 2023/24 municipal year.

### 11 **MINUTES - 29 MARCH 2023**

#### **Resolved:**

That the Minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust meeting held on 29 March 2023 be approved as a correct record.

### 12 **MINUTES - 18 JULY 2023**

The Chair highlighted the importance of distributing the minutes of Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust meetings to each local authority - Rochdale, Oldham, Bury, Stockport and Tameside - once they had been approved.

The minutes would be 'to note' at meetings of each authority, such as those of Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Any anomalies identified could be dealt with as 'Matters arising from Minutes' at future meetings of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust.

#### **Resolved:**

1. That the minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust meeting held on 18 July 2023 be approved as a correct record;
2. That Committee Services (Rochdale BC) circulate the minutes of future meetings of Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust to each local authority on behalf of the Chair once approved.

### 13 **PENNINE CARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST PRESENTATION**

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and invited the Chief Executive of Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, Anthony Hassall, to begin the presentation.

The Chief Executive firstly commented that Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust was ahead of last year's statistics in respect of the number of staff that had received a flu jab and/or Covid-19 vaccination. There had been a lower intake for Covid-19 vaccines, however 45% of staff had received a flu jab to date. A target of 70-80% was hoped to be achieved. It was also noted that there were increased staff absence levels every year during the winter period, with absence levels generally rising from 4% to 7%.

#### Winter Plan

It was reported by the Chief Executive that this year's Winter Plan would focus on reducing Out of Area Placement (OAPs) and maintaining safe services, as well as joint work on Greater Manchester schemes such as Mental Health Urgent Treatment and 111. If the funding was to become available, alternative schemes to hospital admissions such as crisis beds and cafés would be progressed.

In relation to OAPs, it was highlighted that there were ongoing issues following the closure of the Edenfield Centre. The Edenfield Centre was one of the biggest mental health hospitals in the UK, however 60 beds were now unavailable in Greater Manchester following the BBC Panorama investigation in 2022. OAPs could currently be as far away as Essex, though this remained an indirect cost to the Trust.

In response to a query raised by the Chair, Members were informed that crisis cafés were supportive community spaces available in each borough for anyone that was experiencing a mental health crisis. The service aimed to prevent long waits in emergency departments and was ran by volunteers in partnership with qualified Mental Health Practitioners. To help secure funding for crisis cafés, it was suggested by the Chair that a letter be sent to the Chair of the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (ICB) on behalf of the committee. It would be beneficial to also circulate the letter to representatives of Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), Greater Manchester local authority leaders and the relevant portfolio holders.

#### Children and Young People Mental Health Services

The Panel was informed that Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust provided Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Rochdale, Stockport, Bury, Oldham and Tameside. The services were well established with multi-disciplinary teams that delivered a range of clinical pathways.

The Chief Executive reported that recent data analysis had identified a significant increase in demand for community CAMHS services since January 2020. It was noted that there were CAMHS in-patient facilities situated within

Fairfield Hospital in Bury, however the increase in demand had led to a 523% increase in the number of young people waiting. Of these, 82% were awaiting support or assessment for neurodevelopment needs.

As the current demand of the service was greater than the available capacity in all Greater Manchester areas, Pennine Care had committed to work with commissioners and system partners to develop robust, equitable, system-wide offers that delivered the best possible outcomes for children and young people. A parent and carer reference group would oversee the local implementation plan and would identify improvement opportunities from a lived experience perspective.

Concerns were raised by Members in relation to mental health practitioners only being assigned to a third of the schools within the five Greater Manchester boroughs. It was noted by the Chief Executive that mental health practitioners were assigned to schools that had been identified as having a greater need for the service.

The Chair proposed that a conference between Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, members of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust, and the relevant representatives of local authorities, be arranged for January 2024 to further discuss Children and Young People Mental Health Services.

#### Volunteering in Pennine Care

The Chief Executive reported that the number of volunteers across health and social care had declined both during and post Covid-19 pandemic. 73 volunteers (75%) chose not to return to Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust during the pandemic.

41 volunteers were currently recruited and offered assistance with day-to-day activities such as chaperoning to appointments, meeting and greeting, directing patients to wards and manning reception desks. A further 47 volunteers were in the recruitment process to help rebuild on capacity.

Volunteers had opportunities to progress to PEER support workers and Trainee Nurse Associates roles. The launch of the National Volunteer Certificate would support volunteers to develop further skills and knowledge.

It was noted by the Chief Executive that the minimum age to volunteer was 18 and that work was being carried out with organisations such as The Prince's Trust to introduce younger people to volunteering and offer pathways to NHS apprenticeships.

#### Performance and Accountability

New framework was implemented in autumn 2023 in line with Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust's values of kindness, fairness, ingenuity and determination. The framework:

- Formalised the Trust's performance and accountability systems, processes and reporting flows;
- Clarified roles and responsibilities in relation to performance management at all levels of the organisation and;
- Provided an overview of the key performance governance meetings.

Members raised queries in relation to staff and performance reviews and highlighted the regular need for such reviews to prevent potential issues in future. The Chief Executive reassured Members that performance reviews were monitored closely and that 86% of staff had currently had an appraisal.

**Resolved:**

1. That the presentation be noted;
2. That, on behalf of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust, the Chief Executive of Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust send a letter to the Chair of the Greater Manchester ICB to highlight a lack of funding for crisis cafés;
3. That on behalf of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust, the Chair be requested to arrange a Children and Young People Mental Health Services themed conference for January 2024.

**14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chief Executive, Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, raised concerns in regards to the way that some committee meetings were being structured in local authorities and the pressures on Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust officers to attend such meetings. Members agreed that it would be advantageous for each authority to be informed of what topics were raised at the meetings of Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust to avoid duplicating discussions and to ensure efficient time management of officers and members.

The Chair thanked the Chief Executive for the invaluable time that had been committed to the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust.

Further concerns were raised by Members in relation to a lack of representation from some authorities at Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust meetings. It was noted by the Chair that the meetings were an essential forum for the five Greater Manchester boroughs to collaborate and connect.

**Resolved:**

1. That the Minutes of future Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust meetings be circulated to the five Greater Manchester local authorities upon publication;
2. That the Clerk be requested to contact the relevant local authority to arrange two additional appointments to the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust in line with the terms of reference;
3. That the Chair be requested to circulate a letter to Oldham, Rochdale, Stockport, Bury and Tameside Council to highlight concern in relation

to a lack of representation at Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust meetings.

**15 MEETING DATES FOR 2023/24**

**Resolved:**

That the next meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust in January 2024 focus on Children and Young People's Mental Health Services.