

Healthwatch Kingston Board Meeting (Part A)	Date: Tuesday 26 November 2019
Report Title: Report on NCVO Conference and CACE meeting	Author: Nigel Spalding, Board Member (NS)
PART A Agenda Item: 10	Appendix: No

FOR INFORMATION

1. NCVO Conference 4 November 2019

In the morning keynote session, a panel and the audience debated the view that there now needs to be some new models for trusteeship because it has become a “burden too great” - the Charity Commission and others are making ever greater and unrealistic demands of trustees and it is “dishonest to say that (some) managers are not acting as trustees as well”.

A ‘Unitary Governance Model’ was suggested (suitable for some organisations) made up non-executive directors and the chief officers (like NHS Boards it seems to me) with the potential for some trustees to be paid. In addition, to acknowledge the importance of the voluntary principle, such organisations could also have a ‘Voluntary Assurance Board’, not with legal responsibilities but providing support and guidance to the executive but also with powers to appoint and remove trustees (a bit like Foundation Trust governing bodies I think).

After the break, I attended a workshop on ‘Purpose, power and participation: Developing the right strategy process for your charity’. We heard from managers in several larger organisations on how they had started afresh to develop a new strategy focusing on issues like mission, purpose, involvement and engagement, securing buy-in and ownership.

In the afternoon, I attended a more structured workshop on ‘Volunteers and the law: Trustee masterclass’ with a lawyer and a very well-informed practitioner. A hand-out with all the slides was provided on which I have made notes. I am thinking that this information may be of use to staff and to Nike.

The final, plenary, session looked at the development of Citizens UK and the challenges and opportunities of running a broad-based, decentralized, campaigning organization. Very interesting but not of much relevance to HWK.

I also collected material from some of the many stalls at the event, including information on DPOs, property advice, IT support, performance reporting software, safeguarding and the services provided by NCVO. We are a member of NCVO and I now have a better appreciation of the huge range of tools, templates and resources that they can provide, some of which might be useful to HWK in the future.

2. RBK Children's and Adults' Care and Education Committee 12 November 2019

<https://moderngov.kingston.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=662&MIId=8758>

Of the 6 substantive items, 4 were of relevance to the remit of HWK

Dementia Care Home

A progress report on the development of a specialist dementia nursing home for older people to be built by the council in Brown's Road, Surbiton, KT5 8SP (formerly Newent House Care Home). Total cost for design and construction will be £13.34m - less than the £13.4m originally budgeted. The committee resolved that the Director of Adult Services be authorized to implement the construction stage of the project. Building handover for operational commissioning is scheduled for July 2021.

Commissioning Children's Services

The council's initial contract with Achieving for Children ends on 31 March 2021. The report provided further details as to the proposed options appraisal methodology and recommended reducing the number of options in scope for future development. The committee agreed that just two of the options now be pursued (a) recommissioning with changes to ensure Kingston and Richmond's ambitions for service quality can be accommodated and (b) the possibility of bringing the service in house, either stand alone or shared with Richmond. It was noted that there is "not currently a diverse or sufficient market of alternative providers delivering the range of Children's Services provided by Achieving for Children".

Mental Health Champion: report back to the Committee

Cllr Anita Shaper provided a report on the substantial amount of work that she has undertaken as the Mental Health Champion for this committee in collaboration with Public Health, including visits to 5 schools. Cllr Shaper reported that she has been

"liaising with Persephone Pickering (Time to Change Hub Coordinator) from Kingston HealthWatch. Persephone has been helpful in providing us with links to the national "Time to Change" website for school leaders, for teachers and for students, plus information and links to the Employer's Pledge, World Mental Health Day (10th October 2019), Champions' Funding and information and promotional material on "Time to Change" Community Champions."

Performance Report for Strategic Committees

This report set out performance data for Q1 2019/20 relating to the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) contained in Kingston's Corporate Plan, 'Making Kingston Better, Together'.

Data relevant to the remit of HWK included:

- Delayed Transfers of Care from Hospital - Green RAG rated
- No. of people in care homes aged 65+ (excluding people with Learning Disabilities) - Amber
- % of Adult Safeguarding cases with risks reduced or remove - Green
- Number of looked After Children - Tracker only (no RAG rating)
- Looked After Children placed more than 20 miles from home - Red
- Education, Health & Care Plans (EHCPs) completed within 20 weeks - Green

The associated risks were rated as follows:

- SEND Placement Costs - Red
- Looked After Children Placement Costs - Red
- Support for children with SEND & their families - Amber
- Risk of serious safeguarding failure - Green