

Public questions from Healthwatch Rochdale Board Meeting.

Thursday 11th June 2020, 2pm - 4pm.

The following questions were submitted in advance:

| | Questions |
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| 1. | <p>The new Walk In Testing Centre at Packer Street is excellent. The process is efficient and well organised by enthusiastic and supportive volunteers. I got my negative test back in less than 48 hrs so can now return to work.</p> <p>My question is: What provision locally is available for walk in testing for those with no internet access or mobile phones since these are necessary to both book a test & get the results back?</p> <p>I am thinking here of homeless people, rough sleepers & those digitally excluded, with sight issues or mobility issues. I have only seen online adverts so far for the testing centre. Will it be advertised in other formats such as Local paper, radio, posters?</p> |
| 2. | <p>What is the percentage of local care homes where staff & residents have been tested for Covid - 19?</p> |
| 3. | <p>What is the percentage of local homeless hostels, where residents, volunteers & staff have been tested for Covid - 19?</p> <p>Additionally, Broadfield Park Hotel has been used as an ' Everybody In ' emergency hostel during the crisis. Who is responsible, if anyone, for ensuring the residents, volunteers & staff at that site are tested for Covid - 19?</p> |
| 4. | <p>Who is taking overall local responsibility for ensuring testing of residents & frontline workers in the care homes, social care, and homeless Sector and who are they ultimately accountable to?</p> |
| 5. | <p>How does the Track & Trace system enable local agencies to be aware of how people from all of the above are dispersed across the community into care homes, hostels hotels & the wider community?</p> |
| 6. | <p>We have seen in this pandemic that locally there were issues with having vital health information translated into community languages.</p> |

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| | Will Services be ensuring their information for local health services is more accessible and inclusive in the future? |
| 7. | 5. Will a report into the local response to the pandemic examining local provision of health services & support agencies be commissioned by Healthwatch post Covid - 19 crisis so lessons can be learned and best practice shared , cascaded & adopted to meet the challenges of any future pandemics ? |
| 8. | <p>Particularly how the epidemic had impacted most significantly on BAME communities and appears to have a higher incidence in the areas of higher density, poorer quality and overcrowded housing & increased incidence of child poverty & unemployment. For example, the ONS data shows Milkstone & Deeplish to be one of the most impacted wards in the borough. It also has higher levels of overcrowding, poorer quality housing & child poverty.</p> <p>Will Healthwatch be advocating for more local investment in services to improve health outcomes in the ward?</p> |
| 9. | <p>Will Rochdale Healthwatch / Healthwatch England be able to put pressure on Local / Central Government to ensure food vouchers are made available throughout the six week holiday to ensure local children are able to have access to nutritious meals during the six week holiday ?</p> <p>I understand that there are existing plans by the Westminster government to cut this vital lifeline to vulnerable children from poorer households this summer despite the pandemic.</p> |

Answers to these questions will be provided and updated on the website.