

Local Members' Interest
N/A

Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee – 17 March 2020

District and Borough Health Scrutiny Activity

Recommendation

1. That the report be received, and consideration be given to any matters arising from the Health Scrutiny activity being undertaken by the Staffordshire District and Borough Councils, as necessary.

Report of the Scrutiny and Support Manager

Background

2. The Health and Social Care Act 2001 confers on local authorities with social services functions powers to undertake scrutiny of health matters. The County Council currently have responsibility for social services functions but, to manage health scrutiny more effectively, they have agreed with the eight District/Borough Councils in the County to operate joint working arrangements.
3. Each District/Borough Council has a committee dealing with health scrutiny matters that have a specifically local theme. The Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee will continue to deal with matters that impact on the whole or large parts of the County.
4. The following is a summary of the health scrutiny activity which has been undertaken at the District/Borough Council level since the previous meeting of the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee.

Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council

5. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council's Health, Wellbeing and Partnership's Scrutiny Committee met on 2 March 2020 at which they were updated on matters relating to Bradwell Hospital from those Members who had attended a meeting with North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in January 2020.
6. However, the main item of focus was a discussion about how greater use of parks and open spaces can promote physical and mental wellbeing. Members discussed good practice at existing parks including involving volunteers, how schools and young people could become involved, current provision of outdoor gym equipment and funding opportunities for specific initiatives. The Committee agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to look at the topic and to narrow the focus into a manageable area for scrutiny.
7. A small group of Members is continuing to investigate the impact of initiatives around Domestic Abuse following the introduction of a new service in 2018.

8. The Committee have agreed that future items will include an update on installation of new CCTV cameras that have been part funded by the Business Improvement District (BID) and an update on Purple Flag status which is an initiative being led by the BID.

Stafford Borough Council

9. Stafford Borough Council's Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee met on 3 March 2020 and considered:-
 - **Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee** – a report back on the previous meeting of the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee held on 3 February 2020
 - **Performance Reporting 2019-20** - a detailed analysis of both the performance and financial monitoring of those services within the remit of the Scrutiny Committee for the quarter 3 period ending 31 December 2019. The report also included the performance monitoring report for those services provided by Freedom Leisure covering the same period.
 - **Work Programme** – a report outlining the Committee's Work Programme for meetings up to March 2021.
10. The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is on 16 July 2020.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

11. Staffordshire Moorlands District Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel met on 12 February 2020. Tracy Bullock, Chief Executive, University Hospitals North Staffordshire and Neil Carr, Chief Executive, Midlands Partnership NHS Trust, were in attendance and gave presentations to provide annual updates for their organisations.
12. At the request of the Panel, Mark Doherty Director of Clinical Commissioning and Strategic Development/Executive Nurse, also attended the meeting. He gave an overview of the West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (WMAS), explained that the Rapid Response Vehicles would be removed from the fleet by the end of March 2020 and replaced with conventional ambulance vehicles.
13. Members had the opportunity to raise their concerns and ask questions. The main issue being that no consultation had taken place, and it was felt that the replacement ambulance vehicles wouldn't be able to reach patients located in the rural areas as quickly as the Rapid Response Vehicles. Members wanted assurance that the response times to patients in the Moorlands wouldn't reduce and had previously requested the statistical data on this.
14. The WMAS Officer confirmed that the decision had been made and wouldn't be reviewed.
15. In addition, the Panel considered its work programme and added the following items:-
 - How the Council can empower people to take responsibility of their own health and wellbeing;
 - Provision of defibrillators and;

- Agenda items for the next meeting (22nd April 2020) are still being formalised, and to date, a representative from the County Council has agreed to attend this meeting, in relation to Public Health Initiatives Drugs/alcohol.

Tamworth Borough Council

16. See attached

Appendices/Background papers

Email from (i) Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council (Denise French) 4 March 2020; (ii) Stafford Borough Council (Andrew Bailey) 3 March 2020; (iii) Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (Sally Hampton) on 4 March 2020 and (iv) Tamworth Borough Council (Jo Hutchinson) 5 March 2020

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