

Local Members' Interest
N/A

Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee – 30 November 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.

Cannock Chase District Council

5. Cannock Chase District Council's Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee met on 17 November 2020 and an update on the matters considered is anticipated to be made at the meeting of Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee.

East Staffordshire Borough Council

6. East Staffordshire Borough Council's Scrutiny Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being Committee met with local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) on 3 November 2020 to discuss the allocation of places at General Practitioner (GP) surgeries and the impact of temporarily closing the Trent Meadows surgery owing to the to Covid-19 outbreak. These discussions also included general enquires on how the pandemic had affected GP surgeries and what contingency plans CCGs had in place to ensure local residents could continue to access health care.

7. The Committee are also in the process of concluding a review on physical activity and the role of the Authority's Sports Development programme in its promotion. Although the work was started in 2019 it was put on hold during the first lockdown. Since that time the review has encompassed a look at the impact of Covid-19 on leisure services and some of the challenges faced in encouraging physical activity at this time.
8. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 16 December 2020.

Lichfield District Council

9. The next meeting of Lichfield District Council's Community Housing and Health (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee is scheduled for 14 January 2021. Therefore, an update on their work will be provided to the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee at their meeting on 1 February 2020.

Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council

10. The next meeting of Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council's Wellbeing & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee is scheduled for 7 December 2020 at which they will consider updates from the Authority's Cabinet on the following issues:-
 - Work undertaken to ensure town centre visitors feel safe with the reopening post lockdown.
 - Homelessness, rough sleeping and temporary accommodation – post lockdown, current position, how the service was managing during winter months and dealing with sub-zero temperatures.
 - Domestic violence services - post lockdown; strategies to reduce Domestic violence; review of the new service; measures to promote sources of help and support (e.g. Members referred to a booklet that they distributed in local places) and; impact and support specifically for young people.
11. An update on their work will be provided to the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee at their meeting on 1 February 2020.

South Staffordshire District Council

12. The next meeting of South Staffordshire District Council's Wellbeing Select Committee is scheduled for 22 December 2020. Therefore, an update on their work will be provided to the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee at their meeting on 1 February 2020.

Stafford Borough Council

13. At their meeting on 12 November 2020, Stafford Borough Council's Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee considered:- (i) a report on the meetings of the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee held on 14 September and 26 October 2020; (ii) An update on the latest COVID-19 situation; (iii) Stafford Borough Air Quality Annual Report 2019/20; (iv) Stafford Borough Food Safety Annual Report 2019/20; (v) Stafford Borough Health and Safety Annual Report 2019/20; (vi) Stafford Borough Council's Fees and Charges for 2021/22; (vii) Stafford Borough Council's Corporate Business Plan Refresh; (viii) a Performance Update/Budget Monitoring Report and; (ix) their Work Programme for forthcoming meetings.

14. The next meeting of their Committee is scheduled for 5 January 2021.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

15. The next meeting of Staffordshire Moorland District Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel is scheduled for 9 December 2020. Therefore, an update on their work will be provided to the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee at their meeting on 1 February 2020.

Tamworth Borough Council

16. Tamworth Borough Council's Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee met on 20 October 2020 at which they considered the following matters:-

- Clinical Commissioning Groups Update on the impact of Covid-19 and on winter preparedness – the meeting was attended by representatives from the local Clinical Commissioning Groups who provided an impact of Covid-19 on planned care, including operation waiting lists and outpatient appointments, cancer treatments (screening, waiting lists and diagnosis) and a brief overview of winter preparedness / plans. Discussion focused on:- (i) The current position in the South East Locality of Staffordshire; (ii) changes to cancer services at both the University Hospitals of Birmingham (UHB) NHS Foundation Trust and the University Hospitals of Derby and Burton (UHDB) NHS Foundation Trust during the initial COVID-19 period; (iii) plans to bring services back to more normal levels from July 2020 and to prepare for winter demands; (iv) increasing primary care capacity; (v) delivery of the extended flu vaccine programme; (vi) managing acute capacity and flow and (vii) discharge planning.
- UHDB – The meeting was attended by a representative from the Trust who provided updates on:- (i) services at the hospital during the initial period of the pandemic; (ii) the Trust's Exceptional Care Together Strategy, which involved more collaborative working to provide the best care possible and to understand the health care needs of the population and (iii) further details on the progress made with regard to delivery of services at Sir Robert Peel Hospital, as well as the impact of Covid-19 on the minor injuries unit, in terms of attendances.
- Draft Housing Strategy – the meeting was attended by the Executive Director Communities, the Assistant Director Partnerships and the Strategic Housing Manager, who introduced the draft Housing Strategy for the Committee's consideration prior to submission to Cabinet. The Committee supported the development of the Strategy notwithstanding there was no statutory duty to produce a Housing Strategy, given that doing so would inform the Council's role in increasing housing supply, place shaping and promoting the role of housing in the creation of safe, thriving and sustainable communities and supporting economic growth. The Committee requested that two additional wards be included as areas where funding / support should be focussed as they contained areas which have historically had high deprivation.

17. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 8 December 2020

Appendices/Background papers

Emails from (i) East Staffordshire Borough Council (Mike Hovers) date 19 November 2020; (ii) Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council (Denise French) dated 28 October 2020; (iii) Stafford Borough Council (Andrew Bailey) dated 28 October 2020; (iv) Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (Sally Hampton) dated 18 November 2020; and; iv) Tamworth Borough Council (Jo Hutchinson) dated 24 November 2020 to Jonathan Lindop, Member and Democratic Services.

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