

<b>Local Members Interest</b>
-------------------------------

N/A
-----

## **Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 11 April 2022**

### **District and Borough Health Scrutiny Activity**

#### **Recommendation**

I recommend that:

- a. 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.

#### **Summary**

1. The Committee receives updates at each meeting to consider any matters arising from the Health Scrutiny activity being undertaken by the Staffordshire District and Borough Councils.

#### **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 in which holds the remit for health scrutiny matters that have a specifically local theme. The Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee will continue to deal with matters that impact on the whole or large parts of the County and that require wider debate across Staffordshire.
4. District and Borough Councils each have a representative from the County Council Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a member of the relevant committee with remit for health scrutiny matters. The County Councillors will update the District and Borough Councils on matters considered by the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A summary of matters considered by this committee is circulated to District and Borough Councils for information.

5. It is anticipated that the District and Borough Councillors who are members of this committee will present the update of matters considered at the District and Borough committees to the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
6. The following is a summary of the health scrutiny activity which has been undertaken at the District/Borough Council level since the last meeting of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 March 2022.

**7. Cannock Chase District Council**

Cannock Chase's Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee last met on 23 March 2022.

Members were advised by the chair that he had been assured the Cannock MIU was to be reopened in June 2022.

Date next meeting: Programme to be finalised after local elections in May.

**8. East Staffordshire Borough Council**

East Staffordshire Borough Council's Scrutiny Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being Committee met on 24 March 2022.

The Committee received an update from Beat the Cold - an independent charity working to reduce the incidence of cold related illness and fuel poverty.

The Committee plans to undertake two reviews with regards to health in East Staffordshire:

- Impact on Health of GP Access
- Impact of Covid-19 on Health in East Staffordshire.

Date next meeting: To be arranged

**9. Lichfield District Council**

Lichfield District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee last met on 17 March 2022.

Date of next meeting: 26 May 2022

**10. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council**

Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council's Wellbeing & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee met on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

The committee received a verbal update at 15 March 2022 meeting from Councillor Julie Cooper of the following matters:

- Delivery of Newcastle Housing Advice Service – the Committee considered a report on the service since it had returned in-house from April 2021. The benefits included access to one Joint Housing register and housing advice being available at the first point of contact with the council.
- How services have managed with winter pressures – the Committee considered a report on how front line services had managed over winter including the additional pressures caused by the Omicron variant of Covid. Members heard that in the first week of January there was a 30% absence among the Recycling and Waste workforce alongside a 50% increased tonnage of recycling collected and a 30% increase in food waste. The service managed to continue with minimal disruption due to the usual suspension of garden waste collections and support from streetscene and agency staff.
- Space Programme – at its previous meeting on 29 November the Committee had received a presentation from Ben Adams, Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner for Staffordshire, who outlined the key points of his Police and Crime Plan, and Fire & Rescue Plan 2021 – 24; and the Committee was invited to ask questions. One project mentioned by Mr Adams was the Space Programme held over the summer holidays to provide activities for young people. Members considered the Evaluation report and agreed a couple of questions to refer back to Mr Adams relating to provision for people with Special Educational Needs and whether there were any learnings or initiatives that hadn't worked well.
- Walley's Quarry Health Impacts – the Committee has been keeping a watching brief on health impacts arising from odours. Members made the following points:
  - Concern about the unknown long term physical impacts on health
  - The ongoing detrimental impact on mental health
  - Concern over whether hazardous waste is being dumped at Walley's Quarry as raised by the local MP in parliament
  - Whether the Posi-shell capping was effective or was it disintegrating?
  - Impact on the watercourse
  - Residents experiencing 'reporting fatigue' and giving up reporting odours on the official channels.

Members were also concerned about traffic issues at the site from HGVs queuing on the highway and difficulties of reporting obstructions via 101 due to long call wait times and asked whether there could be police presence at the site.

Members asked whether the Director of Public Health is aware of any studies looking at the long term impact of odours on health.

Members also noted that supporting the permit variation could be seen as supporting the operation whereas the view of the Council is that the

Quarry operation should be shut down and the permit withdrawn immediately.

- Meeting with the Clinical Commissioning Group – the Committee received notes from the regular meeting between the Chair & Vice Chair, officers and Tracey Shewan of the CCG. The meeting had discussed the current situation with Covid; pressures at Royal Stoke Hospital and the 111 online system.
- Reports from recent meetings of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel
- The Digests outlining the work of recent meetings of the County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- The Work Programme was discussed and the Committee proposed items for the next meeting on 23 June relating to dementia, safeguarding and emergency planning – impact of climate change/flooding plus the usual item on health impacts from Walley’s Quarry.

Cllr Ian Wilkes, Chair

Date of next meeting: 23 June 2022.

#### 11. **South Staffordshire District Council**

South Staffordshire Council’s Wellbeing Select Committee last met on 8th February 2022 and provided an update to the last meeting.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th April 2022

#### 12. **Stafford Borough Council**

Stafford Borough Council’s Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee met on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022, where the following items were considered:-

- Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee - a report back on previous meetings of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 25 October, 29 November and 13 December 2021 and 31 January 2022.
- A Members’ Item relating to NHS Dentistry provision within Stafford Borough.
- Performance Update Report - a detailed analysis of the performance monitoring of those services within the remit of the Scrutiny Committee for the quarter 3 period ending 31 December 2021.
- Work Programme – a report outlining the Committee’s Work Programme for meetings up to March 2023.

Date of next meeting: To be arranged

### 13. **Staffordshire Moorlands District Council**

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel met on 17 March 2022.

Items for consideration included:-

- NHS's Approach to Climate Change.
- A members item in relation to the length of time patients were currently waiting for an ambulance to arrive. The Panel decided that a letter would be sent to the Chair of the Health and Care O & S Committee for the matter to be given further consideration.

Date of next meeting: To be confirmed.

### 14. **Tamworth Borough Council**

Tamworth Borough Council's Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee was held on 29 March 2022 - link to [Agenda for Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday, 29th March, 2022, 6.00 pm :: Tamworth Borough Council](#)

Date of next meeting: 21 June 2022 (provisional)

#### **Link to Strategic Plan**

Scrutiny work programmes are aligned to the ambitions and delivery of the principles, priorities, and outcomes of the Staffordshire Corporate Plan.

#### **Link to Other Overview and Scrutiny Activity**

The update reports provide overview of scrutiny activity across Borough and Districts, shares good practice, and highlights emerging concerns which inform work programmes for Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committees across Staffordshire.

#### **List of Background Documents/Appendices:**

<b>Council</b>	<b>District/ Borough Representative on CC</b>	<b>County Council Representative on DC/BC</b>
<b>Cannock Chase</b>	Cllr Martyn Buttery	Cllr Phil Hewitt
<b>East Staffordshire</b>	Cllr Colin Wileman	Cllr Philip Atkins
<b>Lichfield</b>	Cllr David Leytham	Cllr Janice Sylvester-Hall
<b>Newcastle</b>	Cllr Ian Wilkes	Cllr Ian Wilkes
<b>South Staffordshire</b>	Cllr Janet Johnson	Cllr Jak Abrahams
<b>Stafford BC</b>	Cllr Jill Hood	Cllr Anne Edgeller
<b>Staffordshire Moorlands</b>	Cllr Barbara Hughes	Cllr Keith Flunder
<b>Tamworth</b>	Cllr Rosey Claymore	Cllr Thomas Jay

## Contact Details

<b>Report Author:</b>	Deb Breedon
<b>Job Title:</b>	Scrutiny and Support Officer
<b>Telephone No.:</b>	01785 276061
<b>E-Mail Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:Deborah.breedon@staffordshire.gov.uk">Deborah.breedon@staffordshire.gov.uk</a>

