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| Local Members Interest |
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Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 30 January 2023

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

- 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 and wellbeing scrutiny matters and 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 28 November 2022.

7. Cannock Chase District Council

Cannock Chase's Health, Wellbeing & The Community Scrutiny Committee last met on 5 December 2022. The following matters were considered:

Presentation on the Environmental Health & Public Protection Service

Food and Safety Team: The Environmental Health and Public Protection Manager provided an overview of the service that included the Food and Safety Team, snapshot of food safety 2020-2022, case studies that included premises visited and outcomes of meat manufacturers visited, health and safety/public health and an overview of the priorities, and the challenges ahead.

Environmental Protection: Members were provided with information that covered environmental protection. This included fly tipping, littering, animal welfare etc. Slides were shown that covered who was in the Team, key achievements and challenges, environmental awareness, future actions, stats and figures for environmental crime and also prosecution figures. Case studies were also discussed concerning fly tipping and animal welfare, and the outcomes of these. Members discussed the current issues with the Poplars Land fill site, Norton Canes. Advertising of prices/services and what the site would accept was discussed along with licence limits for pollution. The Officer discussed the levels of pollution and advised that many businesses fell under the threshold. He advised that the permits would provide the threshold of what would be considered the correct level. The Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles confirmed that the Poplars Landfill site was run by the County Council along with other sites.

A Member discussed the revocation of the **Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)** and the plan to move forward. He expressed some concern that this needed to be more open. The Member also discussed the number of developments planned around the Heath Hayes area and the impact on local health of traffic around the five-ways island. He questioned

whether the (AQMA) should be removed particularly when stats would not be known on the impact for several years.

The Officer reported that monitors would remain in place and a decision was made by Defra that levels were below a certain level, and they would not remove the AQMAs too early. A consultation would be undertaken; however, it was likely that if there were no concerns, the AQMAs would be revoked.

Private Sector Housing Standards Team: Members were provided with information that covered housing standards, information about the team, key achievements and challenges, key action and priorities, case studies relating to an unlicensed House of Multiple Occupation (HMO) and information around the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) Project. In response to Members questions concerning landlords' duty of care to declare the type of residency to the Council, and properties not deemed suitable for a resident. The Officer advised that in terms of landlords and their duty of care, the Council would deal with the licensing of more than 5 people in a property, however there was no requirement for assisted living providers to inform the Council. The Officer also advised that those people residing in unsuitable properties would continue to be engaged and re-assured, and it was hoped that access could be gained to the property for Officers to make an assessment.

Adaptations and Assistance Service ("The DFG Team"): Members were provided with information about the team, the adaptation of homes and reasons for adaptations, key challenges, key actions, key achievements, case studies and visual images of an accessible bathroom and wheelchair accessible ramp. Members asked questions about security for visually impaired people and referrals to the service be it by family members or self-referral. The Officer provided information and advised that safety was a consideration. He gave an example of a person living alone who had a door entry system installed which allowed family members access to his home, given that family members were unsure about who was entering his property given certain illness/conditions he was suffering from. The Officer also explained the assessment route regarding referrals, and it was highly unlikely with a low take up of referrals being made by other people as the assessment would identify any need first.

Environmental Health Admin and Licensing Unit: Members were provided with slides that gave information on the team, the work of the team, partnership working, compliance and enforcement, achievements and challenges, the impact of the service on public safety and examples of helping to ensure public safety.

Statutory Health Scrutiny Items: Update – Staffordshire County Council’s Health & Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Chair reported on the recent meeting she had attended last week that covered numerous items including the public health dashboard and primary care access updates. She reported that comments were made on how well the Committee at Cannock worked, and other Districts and Boroughs were encouraged to do the same. The Chair reported that recent meetings of the County’s Health and Care and Overview Scrutiny Committee could be accessed through their website.

Date of next meeting: 14 March 2023

8. East Staffordshire Borough Council

East Staffordshire Borough Council’s Scrutiny Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being Committee met on 15 December 2022.

ESBC have recently concluded a review of our Homelessness Service and have focused on the provision for Rough Sleepers. The subsequent report has advocated additional training for officers to increase awareness of those individuals experiencing difficulties within their lives that could lead to them becoming homeless or lead to rough sleeping.

Date next meeting: 25 January 2023

9. Lichfield District Council

Lichfield District Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 19 January 2023.

Date of next meeting: 16 March 2023

10. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council

The Health, Wellbeing & Environment Scrutiny Committee last met on 28 November 2022.

Date of next meeting: 6 March 2023

11. South Staffordshire District Council

South Staffordshire Council’s Wellbeing Select Committee met on Tuesday 6 December 2022.

The session was facilitated by Healthwatch Staffordshire and involved a joint workshop on future priorities for the committee regarding health and social care.

Three areas were identified that will be looked at in more depth over the next twelve months.

1. Accessing Primary Care face to face (“When I want to and when I need to”)
2. Being a Seldom Heard underrepresented South Staffordshire group / resident in the health and care system.
3. Root causes of good and poor mental wellbeing and health outcomes.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 7th February 2023.

12. Stafford Borough Council

The last meeting of Stafford Borough Council’s Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee was due to be held on Tuesday 10 January 2023, where the following items were considered:-

- Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee - a report back on a previous meeting of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 3 and 17 October 2022.
- Air Quality Annual Status Report 2022 – a report the work that has been undertaken by the Council to monitor the air quality of the Borough to ensure that there was a good and healthy air quality environment
- Food Safety Annual Report 2021-2022
- Food Safety Service Plan 2022-2025
- Health and Safety Annual Report 2021-2022

The next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee is due to be held on Thursday 23 March 2023.

13. Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council’s Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel met on 14 December 2022.

Members considered a presentation given by Mark Docherty, Executive Director of Nursing and Clinical Commissioning, WMAS.

Date of next meeting: 8 March 2023. Vicky Rowley, Commissioning Manager, Public Health and Prevention, SCC will be in attendance to update members on the Loneliness Reduction Plan

14. **Tamworth Borough Council**

Tamworth Borough Council's Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee met on 29 November 2022.

Date of next meeting: 24 January 2023

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:

| Council | District/ Borough Representative on CC | County Council Representative on DC/BC |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Cannock Chase | Cllr Philippa Haden | Cllr Phil Hewitt |
| East Staffordshire | Cllr Mrs Patricia Ackroyd | Cllr Philip Atkins |
| Lichfield | Cllr Michael Wilcox | Cllr Janice Sylvester-Hall |
| Newcastle | Cllr Ian Wilkes | Cllr Ian Wilkes |
| South Staffordshire | Cllr Lin Hingley | Cllr Jak Abrahams |
| Stafford BC | Cllr Jill Hood | Cllr Anne Edgeller |
| Staffordshire Moorlands | Cllr Barbara Hughes | Cllr Keith Flunder |
| Tamworth | Cllr Daniel Maycock | Cllr Thomas Jay |

Contact Details

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