

**Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee – Monday 26 October 2020
District/Borough Digest**

Under the Health Scrutiny Code of Joint Working with District and Borough Councils, Authorities have undertaken to keep relevant Partners informed of their consideration of health matters having regard to the general working principle of co-operation and the need to ensure a co-ordinated Staffordshire approach. Therefore, the following is a summary of the business transacted at the meeting of the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee held on Monday 26 October 2020 - link to Agenda and reports pack:

<http://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=871&MId=11771&Ver=4>

Agenda Item	District(s)/Borough(s)
<p>Adult Learning Disability Community Offer: Update on Learning Disability Services Directly Provided by Staffordshire County Council</p> <p>The Committee considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing (Staffordshire County Council) giving details of his forthcoming recommendations to Cabinet at their meeting on 18 November 2020 to review their decisions made in 2019 in respect of (i) transition of Greenfield House, Leek and Horninglow Bungalows, Burton-upon-Trent to the independent supported living market; (ii) capital investment for the relocation of directly provided residential care services currently situated at Hawthorne House, Lichfield to the Scotch Orchard site; (iii) capital investment for the relocation of the respite services currently provided at Douglas Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme to Wilmott Drive and; (iv) commissioning of residential replacement care services in Cannock Chase District and East Staffordshire Borough from the independent sector. This was to ensure that they remained appropriate in light of the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>In addition, he informed them that following the suspension of a review of Specialist Day Care Opportunities in March 2020 owing to the above-mentioned outbreak, it was his intention to recommend Cabinet that the review be restarted, to include:- (i) the current building-based provision; (ii) alternative methods of supporting people in their own homes (eg Outreach and Virtual) which had been developed following the outbreak and need to comply with social distancing guidelines; (iii) staffing and; (iv) the exploration of a business case for development of a Single Integrated Service.</p> <p>In response to a request by the Cabinet Member for their views on the above-mentioned developments/proposals the Committee scrutinised the report, asking questions and seeking clarification where necessary. They expressed support for the changes to Learning Disability Services Directly Provided by the Authority. However, they expressed concern regarding increased costs of developing the Scotch Orchard and Wilmot Drive sites and requested the Cabinet Member provide them with additional information to also include an indication of timescales and confirmation that the Care Quality Commission had given their support to their dual use for Residential Replacement Care and Specialist Day Opportunities.</p>	<p>All Districts and Boroughs</p>

Covid-19 Changes to Service Delivery

The Committee also considered a report and PowerPoint Presentation from Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups' (CCGs) Accountable Officer updating them on the restoration and recovery of services following the 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic including:- (i) The Impact of the Virus; (ii) Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Restoration and Recovery and Financial Plans; (iii) Key Risks and Challenges; (iv) Temporary Service Changes implemented following the outbreak; (v) Locally Driven Changes; (vi) Communications and Engagement; (vii) Next Steps and; (viii) Updates by specific service areas. Members then scrutinised and held the CCGs to account. In the full and wide-ranging discussion which ensued the Committee emphasised Health's statutory duty to consult on substantial variations in service provision, notwithstanding the implications of the pandemic. They were particularly concerned about the implementation of the extended Flu vaccination programme and any shortages of vaccine with might arise. However, they received assurances that current stocks of vaccine were adequate to meet the needs of Phases 1 (over 65-year olds) and 2 (over 50-year olds) in Staffordshire. However, they undertook to notify the CCGs of any difficulties which arose in this respect, in individual localities going forward. In addition, they encouraged Health to build on the lessons learned so far during the pandemic with regard to mental health services, virtual appointments and engagement with local communities and their representatives. They undertook to encourage local residents to present at GP surgeries in their divisions, as necessary and asked for benchmarking data relating to face to face and virtual appointments by practice so that areas of concern could be scrutinised further. They were re-assured that critical services such as cancer care had successfully been restored and went onto seek clarification of the status of various other local health facilities in the County which had been temporarily closed since the outbreak, highlighting the health inequalities which would have arisen as a result.

All Districts and
Boroughs

Their next meeting will be held on Monday 30 November 2020 at 10.00 am, Virtual/on-line.