



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
HELD ON 8th DECEMBER 2020**

PRESENT: Councillor R Ford (Chair), Councillors P Brindley, D Box, J Faulkner, M J Greatorex, M Oates, S Peale, S Pritchard and R Rogers

County Councillor T Clements

CABINET Councillor Stephen Doyle

The following officers were present: Joanne Sands (Assistant Director Partnerships), Stephanie Ivey (Partnership Vulnerability Officer), Tracey Pointon (Legal Admin & Democratic Services Manager) and Jo Hutchison (Democratic Services, Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

31 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on 20th October 2020 were approved as a true record.

(Moved by Councillor S Peale and seconded by Councillor M Greatorex)

32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

33 UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair reported that Reset and Recovery meeting had been agreed by Cabinet at its meeting in October 2020, and that the membership included the Chair and another member of this Committee, Councillor S Peale.

The Chair reminded members that he was aiming to form a working group on the Green Agenda, which he hoped would hold its first meeting before Christmas, and invited members to notify him of topics for inclusion.

34 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADULTS AT RISK OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The Chair welcomed Councillor S Doyle, the Portfolio Holder for Regulatory and Community Safety, Ms J Sands, the Assistant Director, Partnerships and Ms S Ivey, the Partnership Vulnerability Officer to the meeting who were to provide the first of two biannual safeguarding updates to the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Doyle introduced Ms Ivey who took the Committee through the Report and highlighted the following:

1. The safeguarding service had continued to operate throughout the pandemic, and the Partnership Vulnerability Officer had been a point of contact, for staff, as well as statutory and voluntary sector colleagues who required support in relation to safeguarding and vulnerability within the community.
2. In terms of referrals made through the Council's reporting procedures, in addition to those set out in the report, since September 2020 there had been a further 8 referrals in respect of adults and 2 in respect of children.
3. It was confirmed that the planned amalgamation of the Stoke-On-Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Boards had not proceeded and they remained two separate boards. However, the Stoke-On-Trent and Staffordshire Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board remained a joint board. It was reported that the peer-to-peer audit workshop which had been planned had been deferred to the new year due to the pandemic.
4. In terms of safeguarding training, a significant amount of work had gone into the development of new online e-Learning modules, which were tailored to the Council's procedures and were expected to support staff and members in making referrals. Staff roles which required additional training, as well as for the Safeguarding Champions, were being identified and appropriate training would be sourced. Work was underway to review the delivery of taxi driver training in light of Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards published by the Department for Transport July 2020.
5. The work of the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Panel had been broadened and the partnership team worked with other agencies to identify children at risk of exploitation and to have robust processes in place around those identified children. The Tamworth Vulnerability Partnership continued to meet during the pandemic and continued to work to provide help at the earliest opportunity to improve outcomes for vulnerable people.
6. It was reported that the Suicide Prevention Procedure was aimed to support staff if they were dealing with a case where a person is threatening suicide and that consultation with staff was underway on its implementation.

The Assistant Director, Partnerships reported that further guidance had recently been issued on the PREVENT agenda which aimed to prevent and safeguard children from being radicalised. She reported that she would continue to work with the police on this agenda and also to review our procedures to ensure they

fully addressed the new guidance and would welcome the opportunity to bring this stream of work to the Committee in the new year.

The Committee thanked the Officers for their work and sought clarifications in the following areas:

1. The overall picture in terms of vulnerability within Tamworth – it was highlighted that reporting through the Council's procedures was only one element of the picture and that Staffordshire County Council were a further source. Any referrals made by schools in the Tamworth area would be made directly to county.
2. The potential for there to be significant unreported cases due to the pandemic, including lockdown periods and when schools were closed to most pupils – unseen cases was a concern and a matter which was regularly reviewed by strategic boards, and which had led to the campaigns to encourage communities to raise concerns with the local authority.
3. The role of safeguarding champions – it was reported that these were designed to be a first point of contact where staff could discuss concerns they may have and could assist in referring onwards. It was also designed to ensure that each appropriate service area had a member of staff with additional expertise and training. Councillor Doyle confirmed that a similar safeguarding champion role had been established for councillors and Councillor M Bailey and himself were undertaking this role to promote awareness amongst members and to be available as a first point of contact. It was confirmed that the safeguarding champion role was intended to be in addition to the reporting procedures which existed including, where necessary, making direct referrals to Staffordshire County Council's First Response Service (regarding children), the Vulnerable Adult Service at Staffordshire County Council or to the Police.

The Officers and Councillor Doyle left the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk of Abuse and Neglect be endorsed.

(Moved by Councillor J Faulkner and seconded by Councillor R Ford)

35 RESPONSES TO REPORTS OF THE HEALTH & WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Chair reported that he had attended Cabinet to provide observations on the Homelessness Strategy report including a suggestion to seek to minimise the use of acronyms and abbreviations to ensure that all reports were accessible. He further reported that Democratic Services had forwarded to all members a copy of the Council's Housing Solutions Rough Sleeping delivery plan which had been submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in November.

36 UPDATE ON HEALTH RELATED MATTERS CONSIDERED BY STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Chair invited County Councillor T Clements to provide an update to the Committee on the most recent Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee meeting held on 30th November 2020.

County Councillor Clements reported that this meeting had focussed on a presentation from West Midlands Ambulance Service in respect of Community First Responders. It was reported that some reconfiguration of the Community First Responders had been considered which would impact on their ability to use emergency blue lights, to administer drugs and to use liveried vehicles. County Councillor Clements reported that West Midlands Ambulance Service agreed that it would consult with the Community First Responders on the changes and that additionally County Councillors would also feed into that with the work undertaken in local areas by the Community First Responders.

County Councillor also reported that the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee had looked at digital inclusion and exclusion and how to roll out the better broadband speeds across the county.

Councillor Faulkner asked whether County Councillor Clements could provide an update on the anticipated net effect of the proposals on the Adult Learning Disability Community Offer referenced in the Digest from the October Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee.

37 INTERIM UPDATE ON WORKING GROUP ON YOUNG PEOPLE

The Vice-Chair, Councillor P Brindley updated the Committee on the activities of and next steps for the Working Group on Young People comprising himself and Councillors S Peale and M Greatorex.

He reported that the working group:

1. would focus on the 11-18 year old age group
2. had identified three issues on which to focus
3. had engaged with external stakeholders in the voluntary sector, Staffordshire Police and at Staffordshire County Council
4. aimed to present a report to the January committee meeting outlining the next steps.

The Chair reported that he had attended a meeting with the headteacher of Tamworth Enterprise College and discussed the possibility of inviting the headteacher to attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss attainment.

38 FORWARD PLAN

There were no items identified from the Forward Plan for consideration by this Committee.

39 HEALTH & WELLBEING SCRUTINY WORK PLAN - 2020/21

The Committee considered the Work Plan and agreed to update it as follows:

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Work Plan

| Work Plan 2020 - 2021 | |
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| DATE | SUBJECT |
| Each meeting | Update on Staffordshire County Council matters |
| Ongoing | Together We're Better / STP - brief update post close of initial consultation (end date of initial consultation is 25 August 2019) |
| Ongoing | Working group updates |
| Ongoing | Children's wellbeing, including education and mental health issues / anxiety |
| 26th January 2021 | Young People Working Group Report (PB, SP, MG) |
| 26th January 2021 (tbc) | Green agenda (working group update) |
| 17th March 2021 | Vaccination update (written) |
| TBC / March Meeting?? | Update on PREVENT Agenda / Safeguarding (Staffordshire County Council – First Response) |
| 21st April 2021 | Safeguarding update (2) (Councillor Doyle to attend and Officers) |
| TBC | Food vulnerability and Healthy Eating |
| TBC | Physical wellbeing |
| TBC | Mental wellbeing – to cover mental health issues in Tamworth as well as loneliness and partnerships |
| TBC | The Green Agenda, including Air Quality review |
| TBC | Discharge to Assess and End of Life Care |
| TBC | Barriers to accessing GP Services in relation to residents with additional needs / Centralisation of some GP Services |
| TBC | Update on Young People – SCYVS representative to be invited |

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| TBC | Social Prescribing |
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| TBC | Presentation on CCG / Derby & Burton Hospitals Update |

Upcoming Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Meetings

- 26th January 2021
- 17th March 2021
- 21st April 2021

Upcoming Relevant County Council Meetings

Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee

- 1st February 2021
- 16th March 2021

Chair