

**Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 9 August 2021  
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 Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Monday 9 August 2021 - link to Agenda and reports pack:-

[Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny 9 August 2021](#)

The webcast of the meeting can also be viewed following the above link to mod.gov.

Agenda Item	District(s)/Borough(s)
<p><b>Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b></p> <p><b>9 August 2021</b></p> <p>The Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following matters:</p> <p><b>George Bryan Centre</b></p> <p>The Committee received a report and presentation relating to the temporary closure of George Bryan Centre in Tamworth following a fire in February 2019 and considered the process for deciding the long-term solutions for mental health services formerly provided at the George Bryan Centre.</p> <p>The Committee considered the best balance of clinical evidence and evidence gained through public involvement. The Committee requested additional information about clinical data to ensure it was included in the business case, they highlighted the importance for the community impact assessment to highlight issues that impact on the individual, and they agreed that service users, family and carer groups should meet to add their experiences and perspective to engagement sessions which would be supported by Healthwatch Staffordshire. The final proposals will be considered by the Committee at a future meeting</p> <p><b>Maternity Services</b></p> <p>The Committee received an update around the Temporary Closure of Free-Standing Midwife-led birthing Services. The two freestanding midwife-led birthing units (FMBUs) at Stafford and Samuel Johnson hospitals were suspended in March 2020 due to the pandemic in order to consolidate resource into the main maternity units, they remain</p>	<p>All Districts and Boroughs</p> <p>All Districts and Boroughs</p>

temporarily closed.

Engagement activity had previously taken place to inform the clinical model of care that was included in the options appraisal process. The option appraisal process took place from November 2019 through to February 2020, the process was paused due to the pandemic. The Committee considered the service changes presented, current and previous involvement work to assess the impact of the proposed model of care, and the ongoing short survey of service users and maternity workforce. The Committee asked for further data about the trends for home births to be circulated.

The next stage was for the trusts to provide revised business cases on how to reinstate the birthing services to the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Maternity and Neonatal Programme Board in Autumn 2021. The final proposals would be considered by the Committee at a future meeting

### **Covid-19 Update**

The Committee considered an update on the current position relating to Covid-19, with focus on case rates, hospitalisations, death rate, infection rates and vaccine roll out for under 18 year olds.

It was noted that informal guidance for roll out of vaccines for under 18 age group was not yet available, there was an increase in demands across NHS services, and that recent legislation required health and care workers to be fully vaccinated by 11 November 2021 to continue to work in the care sector, therefore they must start vaccinations by 18 September. There would be further updates to the next meeting on Phase 3 Flu and Covid vaccinations.

All Districts and  
Boroughs

Their next meeting will be held on Monday 20 September 2021 at 10.00 am, County Buildings, Stafford.