

Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

District and Borough Council 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 meetings of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13,20 & 27 November 2023.

Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee 13,20 & 27 November 2023

West Midlands Ambulance Service Performance Update

The Committee considered the WMAS performance update. The Committee received incidents, transport and conveyance data, operational demand and handover delay data and average Cat 2 response times.

The Committee noted the performance update and made a number of resolutions including the endorsement of the WMAS proposals for an independent review of the required resourcing to improve performance.

Walleys Quarry Landfill Site, Silverdale

The Committee received an update from the UK Health Security Agency and the Environment Agency as to the health impacts. The Committee were advised that on 5 October 2023 the EA announced that there were concerns around the accuracy of the historic hydrogen sulphide data collected around the Walleys Quarry Landfill site.

The Committee made a number of recommendations including writing to the EA to request a response to a number of questions raised by the Committee. The Committee also recommended and supported that the EA maintain the monitoring equipment around Walleys Quarry for the foreseeable future.

Maternity and Neonatal Services

The Committee considered a report from the ICB on Maternity and Neonatal Services.

The Committee were informed that Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent had the second highest neonatal mortality rate in the UK. The UHNM Neonatal Improvement Group had been re-established to better understand the data and identify areas for learning.

The Committee were assured that freedom to speak up policies across the ICS were being refreshed.

The Committee discussed the Freestanding Midwife-led Birthing Units at County Hospital and Samuel Johnson ands were advised that an options appraisal process and public engagement was ongoing.

A significant recruitment exercise by UHNM and UHDB meant that it was expected for the Home Birthing service to resume Q4 2023/24.

The Committee made a number of comments and received the report. They requested an update on maternity services and the Freestanding Midwife-led Birthing Units.

SSOT ICB Performance and Finance Overview

The Committee received the SSOT ICB Performance and Finance Overview.

The Committee were presented with a headlines and escalations summary. An overview of key underpinning deliverables was also shared with the Committee:

- Children and Young People/ Maternity
- Planned Care, Diagnosis & Cancer
- Improving Population Health
- Urgent and Emergency Care
- Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism
- Primary Care
- End of Life, LTCS and Frailty

The Committee received the report and requested a briefing note detailing actions to address the CAHMS waiting list.

To see the reports in full and view the webcast of the meeting see the links below:

[Browse meetings - Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Staffordshire County Council](#)

The next meeting will be held on Monday 29 January 2024 at 10.00 am, County Buildings, Stafford.