

Public Document Pack

Date of meeting Monday, 13th September, 2021
Time 7.00 pm
Venue Astley Room - Castle
Contact Geoff Durham 742222



**NEWCASTLE
UNDER LYME**
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Castle House
Barracks Road
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1BL

Health, Wellbeing & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

AGENDA

PART 1 – OPEN AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES**
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 3 MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 3 - 8)
To consider the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee.
- 4 UPDATE FROM CABINET**
Nothing to report.
- 5 UPDATE ON HEALTH IMPACTS FROM WALLEY'S QUARRY AND THE COUNTY HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 JULY 2021**
The link below is to the meeting of the County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 26 July 2021:
<http://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=871&MId=13719>
- 6 MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** (Pages 9 - 14)
To receive feedback from members of this committee who attended recent meetings of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 7 MEETING WITH THE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP - 20 AUGUST 2021** (Pages 15 - 18)
- 8 STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL - 21 JUNE 2021** (Pages 19 - 24)

9 WORK PROGRAMME

(Pages 25 - 32)

10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Any member of the public wishing to submit a question must serve two clear days' notice, in writing, of any such question to the Borough Council.

11 URGENT BUSINESS

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 29 NOVEMBER 2021

Members: Councillors Ian Wilkes (Chair), Julie Cooper (Vice-Chair), John Cooper, Barry Panter, Mark Holland, Silvia Burgess, Allison Gardner, Tony Kearon, Sue Moffat, Ruth Wright and Bert Proctor

Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training/development requirements from any of the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.

Meeting Quorums :- 16+= 5 Members; 10-15=4 Members; 5-9=3 Members; 5 or less = 2 Members.

SUBSTITUTE MEMBER SCHEME (Appendix 9, Section 4 of Constitution)

The Constitution provides for the appointment of Substitute members to attend Committees. The named Substitutes for this meeting are listed below:-

Substitute Members:	Kenneth Owen	Andrew Fear
	Jennifer Cooper	Andrew Fox-Hewitt
	Graham Hutton	Sarah Pickup

If you are unable to attend this meeting and wish to appoint a Substitute to attend in your place you need to:

- Identify a Substitute member from the list above who is able to attend on your behalf
- Notify the Chairman of the Committee (at least 24 hours before the meeting is due to take place) NB Only 2 Substitutes per political group are allowed for each meeting and your Chairman will advise you on whether that number has been reached

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

NOTE: THERE ARE NO FIRE DRILLS PLANNED FOR THIS EVENING SO IF THE FIRE ALARM DOES SOUND, PLEASE LEAVE THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY THROUGH THE FIRE EXIT DOORS.

ON EXITING THE BUILDING, PLEASE ASSEMBLE AT THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING BY THE STATUE OF QUEEN VICTORIA. DO NOT RE-ENTER THE BUILDING UNTIL ADVISED TO DO SO.

HEALTH, WELLBEING & PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 7th June, 2021
Time of Commencement: 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillors:	Julie Cooper (in the Chair)	Mark Holland	Sue Moffat
	John Cooper	Silvia Burgess	Ruth Wright
	Barry Panter	Tony Kearon	Bert Proctor
		Andrew Fox-Hewitt	

Officers:	Andrew Bird	Head of Recycling, Waste and Fleet Services
	Daniel Dickinson	Head of Legal & Governance /Monitoring Officer
	Denise French	Democratic Services Team Leader
	Sarah Moore	Partnerships Manager
	Simon McEneny	Executive Director - Commercial Development & Economic Growth
	Natalie Noone	Senior Partnerships Officer
	Roger Tait	Head of Operations

Also in attendance: Gill Heesom, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety & Wellbeing
Jill Waring, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture & Heritage

36. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from the Chair, Councillor Wilkes and Councillor Gardner, with Councillor Fox-Hewitt as substitute.

37. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

38. **MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

39. **UPDATE FROM CABINET**

There was nothing to report back from Cabinet.

40. **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UPDATE**

Councillor Heesom, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Wellbeing, introduced the report on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) which had been requested at a previous meeting of the Committee.

The Partnerships Manager and Senior Partnerships Officer presented the report highlighting the following items:

- Background including the legal definition of ASB and examples; how the council worked with partners to manage ASB;
- A snapshot of the local picture which saw new ASB cases in 2020/21 of 461 which was an increase of 26% compared to the previous year. The report set out the complaints by Local Action Partnership Area and by type of complaint with the most common being general nuisance followed by neighbour nuisance.
- Local arrangements to deal with ASB and the powers available to councils; there were various tools to address low level incidents including diversionary activities, verbal and written warnings and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts/Parenting Contracts. There were also a range of formal and legal actions to address more serious incidents. Any criminal activities would be promptly disseminated to the Police.
- The impact of Covid-19 was set out; the council had continued to offer services to victims of ASB and action had continued to be taken against perpetrators. The council had taken action against households who had not complied with Covid restrictions and numerous individuals had been excluded from parts of the Borough, particularly Newcastle town centre.
- Delivery of diversionary activities had been impacted by Covid restrictions. The council was discussing with partners the SPACE scheme for summer 2021 and also working with schools and the County Council to develop activities for young people through the remainder of the year.
- CCTV had been installed in Newcastle town centre, delivered by Stoke on Trent City Council; this was having benefits in reacting to ASB and other crimes.
- The Partnership team were working with the Housing Team and partners including Rough Sleepers Service to tackle perceived issues of ASB involving people with complex needs such as substance misuse, homelessness and mental health. There had been an increase in complaints relating to street drinking and disruptive behaviour and enforcement action had been used for a small number of individuals but only as a last resort.

Members raised a number of queries and issues on the report:

- Issues reported on social media often experienced long delays in getting a response, sometimes there was no response. In light of the increase in ASB and reduced diversionary activities due to the pandemic, were there plans to increase visible patrols through partners. In response, the Committee was informed that the council services operated Monday – Friday between 9.00am – 5.00pm; however, officers worked closely with the Police to identify issues and hotspots and identify where a targeted response would be appropriate. The council would also use complaints information to identify where work should be specifically targeted and who would provide the response this could include Police patrols, signage, outreach, work with housing providers and local schools etc. Officers encouraged residents to report issues and anything other than an emergency could be reported on 101 or through the Police Facebook page.

- Where individuals were excluded from town centres how was this monitored. The exclusions used were under police powers and were time limited. The council also had powers under Community Protection legislation which was outlined and focused on where behaviour had a persistently detrimental impact on the quality of life of individuals. There were some cases that were proceeding towards injunctions. The council would also benefit from measures including CCTV, installation of gates at entrances to locations, removal of buildings all of which helped to tackle ASB.
- Members asked whether there could be publicity about the council's actions towards tackling ASB? The Partnerships Manager said she was happy to visit businesses on an individual basis and there was good working with the Newcastle BID and work had been carried out with the market.
- Was there any feedback on the CCTV installation? The Committee was advised it was still fairly early as it had been installed on 1st April but initial feedback was positive. Monitoring was undertaken 24/7 by the control room and incidents could be reported direct to the Police. Reference was made to a recent incident and the time taken to respond. The Partnership Manager would refer this to the LPT Commander outside the meeting in the first instance.
- How were arrangements for the SPACE programme progressing due to shortened timescales? Members were advised the arrangements were progressing well, funding had been secured and locations discussed with external partners regarding outreach; there was a commitment to the provision of J2 passes at a reduced cost for individuals above 8 years old and their families to be available over summer and potentially other school holidays. There would be publicity on the SPACE 2021 scheme shortly. The scheme was being targeted at known hotspot areas.

Resolved: that

- (a) the report be received; and
- (b) the Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner and a representative of the Local Policing Team be invited to a future meeting to discuss the policing response to ASB issues as raised at the meeting.

41. **ENCOURAGING GREATER USE OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

The Committee considered the final report of the Scrutiny Review into encouraging greater use of parks and open spaces. The Working Party had focused on 3 main areas – level of usage, barriers to access and knowledge of existing parks and open spaces. The Working Party had met 3 times and their recommendations were outlined in the report.

Members discussed marketing the current provision in the Borough and the Head of Operations advised this would be part of the One Council programme which was aiming to make services more accessible.

Resolved: that the recommendations of the Working Party as set out below, be approved and forwarded to Cabinet for consideration:

- (a) the importance of open spaces for physical and mental health and wellbeing is emphasised and given appropriate priority in the Council's annual budget setting programme and the One Council programme in relation to digital promotion of the service and customer engagement with it.

- (b) Initial pilot work is undertaken to improve information on open spaces on the website, including a register of strategic open spaces with location maps, and QR codes at 2 sites (Lyme Valley and Bathpool Park) which enable users to upload feedback. Resources to be made available to implement this work. Existing web “report it” functions are reviewed and improved via the One Council programme where necessary.
- (c) The existing tree planting project in the Environmental Sustainability Strategy is reviewed to incorporate potential community “sponsor a tree” initiatives (eg 850 trees to celebrate the Borough’s 850th anniversary in 2023) and Britain in Bloom community projects. The Council’s Urban Forest Strategy (2013) is also reviewed and updated to reaffirm support for such initiatives.
- (d) External funding and partnership activity is reviewed and capacity issues highlighted

42. MEETING WITH THE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

The Committee considered the notes from the regular meeting with Tracey Shewan of the Clinical Commissioning Group. The current position with the vaccine rollout in Staffordshire had been discussed. At the time of the meeting there were 12 patients in the Royal Stoke Hospital with Covid and only one person in the ITU. A briefing on the vaccination programmed was to be held for all Councillors across Staffordshire on 16th June.

Members were advised that the Council continued to promote the messages about Covid safety on the website and intranet; street messaging remained in place and Covid marshals were present; visits to premises were also done to ensure they had the correct measures in place.

Resolved: that the update be noted.

43. MINUTES OF THE HEALTHY STAFFORDSHIRE SELECT COMMITTEE - 16 MARCH 2021

The Committee considered the digest from Staffordshire County Council outlining the work of the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee at its meeting on 16th March 2021.

Resolved: that the update be received.

44. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the Work Programme. Members discussed:

- Including an item on Walley’s Quarry from the perspective of the health issues and impact. The Head of Legal and Governance advised that the Economy, Environment and Place Scrutiny Committee had undertaken a review but he would discuss with colleagues outside the meeting whether this Committee could also consider the matter from the specific focus within its remit.
- Members requested an item on Air Quality in relation to the Directive and traffic emissions and the impact.

Resolved: that

- (a) the items for the September meeting include – the Newcastle Housing Advice Service; Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner to report on ASB; regular update from the meeting with the CCG;

- (b) the item on Walley's Quarry be subject to discussion outside the meeting; and
- (c) an update be made to a future meeting on Air Quality.

45. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no Members of the Public present.

46. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

47. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 13 SEPTEMBER 2021

Chair

Meeting concluded at 8.25 pm

This page is intentionally left blank

highlighted in the report submitted. Priorities for the next meeting of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee were highlighted as Maternity Service, George Bryant Centre and Access to GP Services.

The list of potential items will be considered and scheduled in the work programme. The work programme will be presented to the next meeting of Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 5 July 2021.

Covid-19 Vaccination Programme Update

The Committee considered an update report and presentation from Programme Director and Clinical Lead Vaccination Programme. The presentation highlighted progress so far; phases of the Vaccination Programme; responding to the new variant and priority areas; second doses; site locations; targeted vaccination service; Myths and challenges; AstraZeneca – risk of blood clots; Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Covid-19 Vaccination Programme – how did we get there?; we can't let our guard down. Further detail is available on mod.gov.

There will be an all Staffordshire Member Webinar Briefing to provide a Covid-19 Update on 16th June 2021. Invitations to register have been sent to members of the County Council, District and Borough Council and the invitation had been extended to Parish Councils. Members were advised that there would be facility to raise questions during the webinar.

The Committee thanked officers, staff and volunteers involved with the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme for the work they had carried out during the pandemic.

All Districts and
Boroughs

Their next meeting will be held on Monday 5 July 2021 at 10.00 am, County Buildings, Stafford.

**Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 5 July 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 5 July 2021 - link to Agenda and reports pack:-

[Agenda for Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday 5th July 2021, 10.00 am - Staffordshire County Council](#)

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

Agenda Item	District(s)/Borough(s)
<p>Restoration and Recovery</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation from CCG and NHS providers to outline the restoration and recovery plans for services across 3 provider organisations UHMN, UHDB and RWT acute Trusts and mental health services. The challenges for restoration were presented highlighting the demand for urgent and emergency care at the front door, capacity in critical care, work force resilience, winter pressures and mental health service demand.</p> <p>The three biggest risks to recovery were workforce resilience, ability to restore activities and widening health inequalities. It was reported that providers were starting to see increased referrals and were tackling the backlog list for procedures. All three provider organisations were looking at services that had been temporarily closed to agree what needed to happen next to stand them back up. In relation to Minor Injuries Units at Leek and Cannock which were temporarily closed due to the pandemic and staffing issues. Leek MiU was now open with limited hours, but Cannock Chase MIU remained closed. Simon Evans gave a commitment to attend Cannock Chase DC to provide an update.</p> <p>It was reported that partners were working collaboratively across various Trusts to facilitate recovery. Work was ongoing to ensure existing workforce and facilities were deployed efficiently. It was important to look after staff, to ensure support mechanisms and communications were in place. Patients in need of care the most were prioritised and communication with patients on waiting lists was ongoing to advise if care could be deployed to independent sector and also to validate that patients still want to proceed with procedures.</p> <p>Additional data was requested from each of the three provider organisations relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People waiting longer than 62 days for procedures • Staff vacancies 	<p>All Districts and Boroughs</p>

- Restoration and recovery action plans
- Specialist services action plan on backlog

It was agreed that a letter be sent to thank the NHS for the work that had been carried out through the pandemic and to congratulate the NHS for being awarded the George Cross.

Access to General Practice

The Committee received a report and presentation to consider access to General Practice. The presentation provided context, activities and actions put in place during the pandemic to support general practice, key activities in June 2021 and a detailed action plan for general practice access updated on 1 July 2021.

It was reported that business continuity plans were upgraded during pandemic to include total triage and extended access hours. There had been a variety of responses to the use of telephone consultations and remote access to services. Members raised issues and concerns relating to equity of remote access for some people, cost of long waits on telephone calls and that that people wanted a face to face appointment with a GP.

In response to concerns raised, members were informed that an additional 100,000 calls a week were currently being made and some practices were struggling to meet demand. It was considered that public expectation was for access to be 'back to normal' and although GPs wanted to do more face to face consultations, there were different issues for each practice to address. Members were advised that some remote access measures would remain, additional telephone lines were being added and some surgeries were moving to cloud based solutions to reduce call waiting times. It was also explained that there were a range of healthcare professionals available to help patients in practices and a training programme for reception staff was progressing to advise patients what was available and how to access services.

Other concerns raised related to impact of GP vaccinating role on GP access, it was confirmed that vaccinations were in addition to the normal GP practice hours, and in relation to specific GP access issues in Rugeley, it was confirmed that this was being addressed and CCG was working closely with practices in Rugeley.

Members highlighted the need to develop GP practice sites to reflect the growth of housing development in the County and that the Strategic Infrastructure Plan (SIP) should ensure that developers contribute to infrastructure including doctors' surgeries. The Chair encouraged all District and Borough Members to consider statements in local plans and neighbourhood plans with regard to section 106 negotiations. The NHS was appointing to a planning officer role to work on and respond to consultations where more than 250 homes were being proposed to ensure the right capacity and access to primary care.

All Districts and Boroughs

Further information was requested about planning s106 agreement re Doctors Surgeries and consultation feedback from work with residents and practices on patient preference - perceptions, challenges and barriers.

Covid-19 Vaccination Programme

The Committee received an update report and presentation from Programme Director on the latest position in the planned COVID-19 Vaccination Programme, the delivery of the first vaccination to be offered to all eligible adults over 18 by 19 July 2021 and the next steps in delivery.

A second CCG Covid-19 Webinar for all Staffordshire Members was taking place on 8th July 2021.

Future Delivery of Residential Replacement Care Services in Staffordshire (Learning Disabilities)

The Committee considered a report as pre-decision scrutiny. The Committee endorsed the commencement of an options appraisal for the future provision of replacement care for people with learning disabilities in Staffordshire, including engagement with service users, carers, and stakeholders. The results of will be presented to Cabinet in the third quarter of 2021.

Work Programme

The work programme 2021-22 was presented, there will be an additional meeting 26 July 2021 to consider health impacts arising from Walleys Quarry, the meeting will be held in Newcastle Under Lyme and there will also be an opportunity for Members to see the landfill site.

All Districts and
Boroughs

Their next meeting will be held on Monday 9 August 2021 at 10.00 am, County Buildings, Stafford.

This page is intentionally left blank

**Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 26 July 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 26 July 2021 - link to Agenda and reports pack:-

<http://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=871&MId=13719>

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

Agenda Item	District(s)/Borough(s)
<p>Walley’s Quarry – Health Implications</p> <p>This special meeting of the Committee was held at Castle House, Newcastle under Lyme (NuLBC) with Borough Councillors from the Health, Wellbeing and Partnerships Committee in attendance. The Committee considered the impacts of odour emissions from Walley’s Quarry Landfill Site on resident’s physical health and mental wellbeing.</p> <p>Key partners from Staffordshire County Council (SCC), Public Health England (PHE), Environment Agency (EA) and Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council (NuLBC) were in attendance to provide clarification to the reports and to respond to members questions.</p> <p>There were 7 key themes considered to develop a clearer understanding of the evidence and the issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The actual physical health impacts from Walley’s Quarry on individuals • The site and monitoring requirements • Employees health and HSE • Impacts on mental health of residents • Wider symptoms being seen by residents • What can residents expect going forward <p>Following in depth scrutiny of the matter and a healthy debate the Committee was able to draw its conclusions and make several recommendations. The priority recommendation was to write to Government to highlight the length of</p>	<p>All Districts and Boroughs</p>

Page 16
time odour emissions from Walley's Quarry Landfill site have had, and continue to have, adverse impact on the health and wellbeing of residents in Staffordshire and to request intervention in this matter.

The full debate (3 hours) can be viewed [here](#)

Their next meeting will be held on Monday 9 August 2021 at 10.00 am, County Buildings, Stafford.

**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>Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>9 August 2021</p> <p>The Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following matters:</p> <p>George Bryan Centre</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>Maternity Services</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.

HEALTH MEETING. FRIDAY 20 AUGUST, 2021 - 9.00am to 9.50am

Present: Cllr Ian Wilkes, Andrew Bird, Geoff Durham, Tracey Shewan CCG

Apologies Denise French

Notes of quarterly meeting held with Chair and Vice Chair of HW&P scrutiny committee and the CCU.

Tracey Shewan gave an update on the current situation with Covid: Currently, in Newcastle over a 7 day period, the number of cases were 270.8 per 100,000 population with the latest figures standing at 300 per 100,000. The current hospital bed occupancy in Stoke was 50-55 people with Covid and 14-15 people in ITU receiving critical care. The number of infections were reaching the level of the second wave but the levels of hospital admissions were not at that level. The people being admitted to hospital were mainly non-vaccinated or those who had received their first dose although there were some who had had both and it was mainly younger people being admitted. This included children with a respiratory virus rather than Covid.

ITU was currently over capacity, at 150% but these were non-covid cases.

The hospital was under a lot of pressure. Last Monday, (16th August), 6 ambulances waited for up to 6 hours to admit their patient into the hospital although they were receiving medical attention inside the ambulances.

Primary care was also struggling with 33% of people struggling to get through to their GP surgery or get an appointment. Extra phone lines have been set up as there were more telephone consultations being carried out as opposed to face to face.

Currently there were 48% face to face consultations and 52% telephone. This compared to 2019 at 89% face to face and 11% telephone and in March, 2020, the start of the Covid pandemic, 56% face to face and 44% telephone consultations took place.

In terms of hospital waits, before the pandemic there were no 52 week waits for treatment. This now stood at 6000 – a backlog of 18 months, which will take between 2 and 4 years to clear.

Tracey stated that there were concerns regarding Covid when the schools returned in the autumn. The Delta variant is very transmissible but with 2 vaccinations, the likelihood of hospitalisation remains low. There was a need to get 16 year olds vaccinated before returning to school, and this is a priority, with a number of walk-in centres operating.

Councillor Ian Wilkes asked about the people who didn't want to wear masks, or be vaccinated. Tracey Shewan advised that Covid had affected different populations, and their attitude towards it. In ITU in the first wave there was high proportion of overweight Asian males. As vaccines started to be rolled out, generally the majority of the population were quick to come forward to receive the vaccine. However some groups were more reluctant, and did not come forward. There was a fear amongst pregnant women that the vaccine could harm their baby or make them infertile. There was no evidence of this but pregnant, unvaccinated women could be affected more by the virus in terms of symptoms. They are being encouraged to receive the vaccine when attending anti-natal clinics. There were currently three pregnant women in ITU who had not received the vaccination

With the vast majority of the population now vaccinated, the NHS is moving into phase three of the vaccination programme, which is the booster/flu vaccinations. There has to be a 6 month gap between the second COVID vaccine and the booster and although the Covid and flu vaccines could theoretically be given together, due to timelines of receiving the vaccine that may need to be staggered. A big increase in flu cases was expected this year as social distancing requirements disappear, and people begin to meet up again.

In terms of encouraging the younger population to receive the vaccine, walk in centres would be better than appointments as these could be easily forgotten or missed. The 'Together We're Better' website gave a list of walk in centres for people aged 16 and over.

Councillor Wilkes asked what current recruitment was like within the NHS, and was advised that it takes 6 years to train a doctor and 3 years for a paramedic/nurse, so it's a long term issue to be addressed. The current difficulty is recruiting midwives. This was currently being looked into, looking at different ways of working, with the possibility of 'on demand' rather than free-standing birthing units.

Obesity remains one of the largest challenges with regard to the health and wellbeing of the population, and the NHS are looking to do more on the prevention front. There is a need to educate people into staying healthy. Obesity is a major problem at present and Tracey referred to Paul McKenna's quote that people eat and drink to make them feel better but this could have the opposite effect.

Meetings had been held with the County Council and urgent emergency care was being looked at. The 111 service was also being promoted.

Discussion took place on what more we as the Council can do to encourage our employees who have not yet had the vaccine for whatever reason? Tracy stated that it would be really helpful in the first instance to understand the reasons why people are reluctant or refusing to have the vaccine. The NHS really need to understand these reasons, and Tracy asked that any information s to the reasons the Council can provide, would be really useful in providing the NHS with useful data which in turn would allow them to develop communications which are more effective at reaching out to people who remain cautious, and trying to alleviate their fears.

This page is intentionally left blank

Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Report of the Chairman of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel

To All Member Authorities

In accordance with agreed practice I am reporting on matters dealt with by the Police, Fire and Crime Panel at its meeting on Monday 21 June 2021.

The main items considered were:

Appointment of Chairman - Councillor Bernard Peters was appointed Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing year.

Appointment of Vice-Chairman - Councillor Richard Cox was appointed Vice Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing year.

Appointment of Co-optee Member

The Panel are required to appoint two independent co-optee members. Mr Darbys term of office came to an end in May 2021 and a formal recruitment process had been followed which concluded in interviews being held on 15 June 2021. The Panel formally appoint Mr Adrian Bowen as co-optee member. A letter of thanks to Mr Darby would be sent from the Chairman.

Police Fire and Crime Commissioner - Ben Adams

Mr Adams was welcomed as the new Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire. Ben Adams introduced himself to the Panel and explained that his key objective was to keep Staffordshire residents safe. Although this was the early days of his term of office, he envisaged that this priority would include:

- Visible policing
- Improving regional relationships with partners such as West Midlands anti-terrorism
- Balancing the need to deal with changing crime methods and visible policing
- Sharing assets
- Recognising and addressing different challenges in different localities
- Working with communities
- Providing tools and training to both Police and Fire staff, to enable them to effectively deal with situations they face.

The Panel thanked Mr Adams for his presentation and after a number of questions the following information was noted:

- It was felt that the current balance between enforcement of Covid-19 regulations and encouraging the public to 'do the right thing' during periods of lockdown and social restrictions, was working well.
- There had been a recent rise in 999 calls with the easing of lockdown regulations.
- The number of domestic violence calls would be reviewed and brought to the panel if required.
- The impact of Covid on people's mental health and any increased need for police services would be assessed.

- The recent recruitment of Police officers/Cadets and Specials reflected the diverse population of the county.
- Community Safety Partnerships would be promoted, and partnership working would be essential in improving services.
- Response times for Police in some areas of the county was felt to be too slow, particularly in rural villages. Response vehicles were being positioned in places where they could respond quickly, and this was reviewed regularly.
- Inconsiderate parking and enforcement were an issue in some areas, particularly around schools. There was a range of powers available to different bodies and it was hoped that discussions with the County Council could take place to improve the situation.
- It was felt that PCSO's were less visible in some localities and this caused concern to the public. It was noted that the number of PCSO's had reduced slightly from 220 to 200 but they were being deployed where they were most needed. The aim was for more flexibility.
- The 101 system and its speed in responding to calls was raised and it was reported that this was a priority area as all public contact and information was essential in sharing information effectively.

The Commissioners Police and Crime Plan would be considered at the next meeting of the Panel.

Questions to the PFCC from Members of the Public

The Panel had received two questions from members of the public, one concerning the number of complaints made against Staffordshire Police and one concerning speeding in Burntwood. Both questions were listed in the report and the Commissioner had provided written responses.

The Panel felt that they would benefit from training on the complaints system for both Police and Fire service and asked for this to be arranged.

Decisions published by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC)

Details were submitted of decisions published by the Commissioner since the last Panel meeting. No further information was requested.

- a) Firefighters Pensions (injury awards) <https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/cms/wpcontent/uploads/SCF-D-202122-001.pdf>
- b) Princes Trust Peer Mentoring Pilot <https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/cms/wpcontent/uploads/SCP-D-202122-002.pdf>

Home Office Grant for 2020/21

The Panel received an annual report which provided information on the Home Office Grant allocated to the Panels host authority which was intended to meet the costs of the administrative support and management services of the panel. The Grant allocation for 2021/22 had not yet been received.

Annual Report on the Handling of Complaints against the Commissioner 2020/21

The Panel received an annual report which provided information on the number of complaints referred to the panel which relate to the personal conduct of the Commissioner and/or his Deputy.

Questions to the PFCC by Panel Members - Members of the Panel questioned/sought the views of the Commissioner on the following issues and received the responses indicated:

Question/Issue	Response
Does CCTV figure in the Police and Crime Plan?	CCTV does offer the public reassurance. CCTV is primarily a Local Authority function. There was a need for partners to work together and make the best use of all CCTV including private systems. This may include shared monitoring facilities. The use of surveillance systems needed to be looked at in more detail. The Safer Streets Fund in Stoke on Trent had worked well and had included CCTV.
What are the Commissioners view on the Safer Neighbourhood Panels	To make these work effectively, it was important to keep a local influence, to listen to concerns and feed the information into improvement plans. The new commissioner wanted to retain these and develop them to worked together to provide valuable information. This was welcomed by the panel.
Could there be part funding for speed indicators to help to stop large vehicles going through small rural towns?	Joint funding with parish councils may be available. Speed information devises are common in most areas and is part of the Safer Road's Partnership. The Commissioner wanted to look at this in more depth.
The plan to increase Police numbers on the street was welcomed, but it was acknowledged that this was difficult to do in rural areas.	The Commissioner was hoping for imaginative approaches to more visible policing. Police were deployed in areas with most need.
Does the Commissioner envisage an increase in Police Cadet numbers and if so, how would this happen?	The Cadets scheme had been a great success. This was not a recruitment route but an opportunity for young people to develop and meet new people.
Operation Hub and Firing range. Would this be an improvement and how much would this cost?	A business plan was being worked on. This item was in the Panels work programme.

Consideration of the Appointment of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The report of the Secretary to the Panel informed members that, in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Panel was

required to hold a Confirmation Hearing following receipt of formal notification by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner of his wish to appoint his Deputy Commissioner.

The report explained that guidance on the role of the Panel recommended that through questioning of the candidate they consider her 'professional competence' and 'personal independence'.

Presentation by and questions to Helen Fisher

Helen Fisher briefly summarised her business and political career which included Councillor for Burntwood Town Council, Lichfield District Council and Staffordshire County Council.

The Panel questioned Helen Fisher on various issues including how she would support the Commissioner, how she would measure her own success, how she would bring about change and if she intended to be a visible presence or work behind the scenes.

In response Mrs Fisher replied that she would provide the support that the Commissioner needed and that it was a little early to say the precise role she would take. She was a good communicator and intended to talk and listen to the public and help to engage with them and develop services to meet their needs. Mrs Fisher gave examples where she had acted independently during her time as a Cabinet member at the County Council and had also enabled members to provide their own solutions to local highway problems through delegated funding.

The Panel adjourned to consider the appointment and on their return the Chairman informed the Commissioner that the Panel had unanimously agreed to the appointment of Helen Fisher as the Deputy Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire.

Consideration of the Proposed Appointment to the Post of Interim Chief Constable for Staffordshire

The Secretary to the Panel reported that, in accordance with Schedule 8 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Panel were required to hold a Confirmation Hearing following receipt of formal notification by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner of his wish to appoint his preferred candidate, Emma Barnett, to the post of Temporary Chief Constable for Staffordshire.

The report explained that guidance on the role of the Panel recommended that through questioning of the candidate, they consider her 'professional competence' and 'personal independence'. To assist, the Panel had been provided with documentary evidence of the process followed by the Commissioner when recruiting to the post and selecting his preferred candidate.

As the post was temporary, the timescales for a permanent appointment had also been provided.

Presentation by and questions to Emma Barnett

Ms Barnett briefly summarised her career in the Police Service having served in a number of Force areas ranging from inner City Birmingham to Counties. She had been appointed as Assistant Chief Constable in 2016 and Deputy Chief Constable in 2020.

The Panel questioned Ms Barnett on various issues including visible policing, performance measures, demands of the pandemic, sharing and gathering information/intelligence.

In response, Ms Barnett stated that it was important that the police were visible but there were different ways to communicate with the public and share information. Team working and partnerships were crucial. Dealing with the Covid crisis had been difficult at times and understanding the new 'normal' and dealing with the effects of the pandemic would be challenging. Partnership working at all levels was viewed as essential for creating efficiencies and sharing information. There was also a constant need to be aware of the effects of Covid and the pressures it had put on staff both physically and mentally.

The Panel adjourned to consider the appointment and on their return the Chairman informed the Commissioner that the Panel had unanimously agreed to the appointment of Emma Barnett as the Temporary Chief Constable for Staffordshire.

For more information on these meetings or on the Police, Fire and Crime Panel in general please contact Mandy Pattinson e mail mandy.pattinson@staffordshire.gov.uk

Details of Panel meetings are issued to contact officers in each of the District/Borough Councils in the County and Stoke-on-Trent City Council for posting on their own web sites.

Councillor Bernard Peters
Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Chairman

This page is intentionally left blank

HEALTH, WELLBEING AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Work Programme 2021/22

Chair: Councillor Ian Wilkes

Vice-Chair: Councillor Julie Cooper

Members: Burgess, John Cooper, Gardner, Holland, Kearon, Moffat, Panter, Proctor, Wright

Portfolio Holders covering the Committee's remit:

Councillor Gill Heesom - Cabinet Member – Community Safety and Well Being

Councillor Jill Waring - Cabinet Member – Leisure, Culture and Heritage



The following services fall within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee:

Health and Wellbeing	Leisure Facilities (Leisure Centres etc.)
Anti-Social Behaviour	Museum and Art Gallery
CCTV	Community Recreation
Homelessness	Community Centres
Civil Contingencies / Emergency Planning	Parks and Gardens – Recreation and Leisure
Community Safety (Police and Crime Panel and Safer and Stronger Board (Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership)	Britain in Bloom
Domestic Violence Reduction	
Business Crime Reduction	

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

The core Work Programme is determined at the beginning of the municipal year. Issues can be added throughout the year with the Chair's approval or where a new priority area comes to the Committee's attention.

For more information on the Committee or its work Programme please contact Denise French on 01782 742211 or at denise.french@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	BACKGROUND/OBJECTIVES
Monday 10 th September 2018	Newcastle Town Centre	To consider the Councils responsibilities, strategies, initiatives and involvement with partner agencies and including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Purple Flag Scheme • Update on the Review of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) • 'Make in Count' Scheme • Homelessness
	Emergency Planning	Scrutiny of the Boroughs preparations for the impact of Winter on the Provision of, and demand for, services. NB The remit for this Committee includes Civil Contingencies/Emergency Planning.
	Britain in Bloom	Evaluation report on the Boroughs involvement and participation in the 2018 Scheme.
	Update on Mental Health Challenge	
	Work Programme	To discuss the work programme and progress of scrutiny activity and to consider any amendment/additions to the Programme.
Monday 3 rd December 2018	Leisure Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Recreation and Leisure Strategy • Evaluation of impact and effectiveness of Educational Programmes

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kidsgrove Sports Centre – Community Group Business Plan
	SPACE Scheme	Evaluation report on effectiveness of 2018 Scheme.
	Parkinson’s Disease Feedback	Support and advice service for people with diabetes and Parkinson’s Disease. From Councillors Panter and Maxfield on their review.
	Work Programme	To discuss the work programme and progress of scrutiny activity and to consider any amendment/additions to the Programme.
	CCTV Report on options to enhance the current CCTV provision within the Borough	
	Britain in Bloom (from 10 th September meeting)	Evaluation report on the Borough’s involvement and participation in the 2018 scheme.
Monday 4 th March 2019	Consultation on the Future of Local Health Services in Northern Staffordshire	NSCCG invited to attend.
	Work being done to address the issue of monkey dust	
	Opportunities for adult learning at Brampton Museum	
	Feedback to officers on the Active Lives surveys	
Wednesday 19 th June 2019	Safeguarding	
	Work Programme	Review of the Impact of the Committee’s Work. To discuss the work programme and potential topics that Committee members would like to scrutinise over the forthcoming year.

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

Monday 9 th September 2019	Dementia	Dementia friendly activities in Newcastle-under-Lyme.
Monday 2 nd December 2019	Leisure Provision	Consideration of the marketing of J2.
	SPACE Scheme Evaluation	
	Domestic Violence	An examination of the incidence of domestic violence and the impact of local initiatives. Representatives from the Commissioner's Officer and Staffordshire County Council/Stoke-on-Trent City Council invited to attend.
Monday 2 nd March 2020		Investigation of ways to encourage greater use of the parks and green spaces to encourage physical and mental wellbeing.
Monday 1 st June 2020	Emergency Planning	Specifically in relation to climate change and the impact of flooding.
Monday 14 th September 2020	Partnership working to support the town centre re-opening Homelessness, vulnerable people and rough sleepers Domestic Violence Parks and Green Spaces Scrutiny Review	To consider the work of the Borough Council and partners in making residents and visitors feel secure in the town centre; social distancing measures etc. Lessons learned in respect of changes made to the service during the pandemic Update on the service post lockdown Progress update
Monday 7 th December 2020	Covid 19 Update including impact on mental health/Town centre opening/rough sleepers and domestic violence Plans for a no-deal brexit	
Monday 1 st March 2021	Domestic Abuse update report	Requested at previous meeting

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

	Tackling Faith and Race Hate project Parks and Green Spaces Scrutiny Review update	Requested at previous meeting Update on progress
7 th June 2021	Anti-Social Behaviour update Parks and Open Space Scrutiny – report Meeting with CCG - notes	Requested at a previous meeting. Final report following the conclusion of the Scrutiny Review Regular update
13 th September 2021	Walley’s Quarry health impacts Police and Crime Panel – notes from recent meetings County digest Meeting with CCG - notes)) regular items)
6 th December 2021 – *date changed to 29 November 2021*	Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner Newcastle Housing Advice Service	Vision and priorities, working together Review and update on how the service is performing now it is in-house
7 th March 2022		
<p>Suggestions for potential future items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feedback/Monitoring reports from bodies on which the Borough Council has member representation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee -District and Borough Digest – summary of work of Committee • Staffordshire Police and Crime Panel – summary of Panel discussions (ongoing) 2. Review of SPACE provision (December 2019 Committee) 3. NHS Provision in North Staffordshire (consultation exercise anticipated in Autumn 2018) 4. Mental Health Challenge (ongoing) 		

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

5. Dementia (considered at September 2019 meetings, ongoing)
6. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) (report considered at 19th June 2019 meeting)
7. Safeguarding (report considered at 19th June 2019 meeting)
8. Domestic Violence (December 2019 committee)
9. Counter Terrorism
10. Purple Flag – 19th June 2019
11. An examination of the incidence of domestic violence and the impact of local initiatives – December 2019
12. Emergency planning specifically in relation to climate change and the impact of flooding.
13. Examination of ways to encourage greater use of the parks and green spaces to encourage physical and mental wellbeing – March 2020
14. To receive a report of air quality (reported to 25th November 2019 Economy, Environment and Place Scrutiny Committee)
15. Plans for the delivery of a no deal Brexit (County Council examining this)
16. Report to a future meeting on lessons learned in respect of changes made to the vulnerability and rough sleeping services during the Coronavirus pandemic (from meeting held on 1st June 2020).
17. Review of campaigns/comms on homelessness
18. J2/museum – future plans and impact on health and wellbeing

Task/Finish Groups:

1. Use of parks and green spaces to promote physical and mental health and wellbeing – completed June 2021
2. Domestic Abuse services

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

September 2021

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

This page is intentionally left blank