

Date of meeting Monday, 29th November, 2021

Time 6.30 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 - 6)

To consider the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 13 September 2021.

4 UPDATE FROM CABINET

5 STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL (Pages 7 - 20)

To consider the reports from recent meetings of the Police Fire and Crime Panel.

**6 POLICE FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR
STAFFORDSHIRE - BEN ADAMS**

**7 MINUTES OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE HEALTH AND CARE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Pages 21 - 24)**

To receive feedback from members of this committee who attended the meetings of the Staffordshire Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 UPDATE ON HEALTH IMPACTS FROM WALLEY'S QUARRY

The link below is to the meeting of the County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 25 October 2021:

<https://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=871&MId=13458>

**9 MEETING WITH THE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP - 8
NOVEMBER 2021 (Pages 25 - 26)**

10 WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 27 - 34)

11 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.

12 URGENT BUSINESS

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 7 MARCH 2022

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, 13th September, 2021
Time of Commencement: 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillors:	Julie Cooper (in the Chair)	Silvia Burgess	Ruth Wright
	Barry Panter	Tony Kearon	
	Mark Holland	Sue Moffat	
		Ken Owen	

Officers:	Andrew Bird	Head of Recycling, Waste and Fleet Services
	Denise French	Democratic Services Team Leader

Also in attendance: Councillor Gill Heesom,
Portfolio Holder for
Community Safety and
Wellbeing

48. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from the Chair, Councillor Ian Wilkes and Councillors Allison Gardner and Bert Proctor (substitute Councillor Ken Owen).

49. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

50. **MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2021 be approved as a correct record.

51. **UPDATE FROM CABINET**

Councillor Heesom, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Wellbeing, updated that the Cabinet meeting on 7 July 2021 had approved the recommendations from the scrutiny review of 'encouraging greater use of parks and open spaces'.

52. **UPDATE ON HEALTH IMPACTS FROM WALLEY'S QUARRY AND THE COUNTY HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 JULY 2021**

The Committee considered the County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 26 July 2021 that had considered the health impacts from Walley's Quarry. The Committee had held a lengthy meeting and heard from the Director of Health and Care, Staffordshire County Council; the Environment Agency; Public Health England; and the Director of Strategy Planning and Performance for the 6 Clinical Commissioning Groups in Staffordshire. The County

Committee had resolved to write to various ministers including the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care; requests had been made to Public Health England for written information relating to safety of employees at Walley's Quarry and a number of requests had been made to the Environment Agency. Responses were awaited.

The Committee discussed the ongoing situation at Walley's Quarry and the following points were made:

- Residents were experiencing sustained stress
- A number of protests had taken place outside the site of the quarry
- The response of the Police and that some local people felt criminalised
- The visibility of the Police at the site compared to a lack of presence in town centres
- That the operator continued to breach permit requirements
- Whether this Committee could receive regular updates
- That Cabinet was receiving regular updates and the Council had served an Abatement Notice which had been appealed
- Whether a regular bulletin could be provided to all Councillors to keep them updated.

Resolved: that

- (a) The update be received and noted;
- (b) A regular update be made to the Committee on the health impacts relating to Walley's Quarry; and
- (c) Cabinet be asked to provide a regular update to all Councillors on the current situation at the Quarry.

53. MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the regular digests from Staffordshire County Council outlining the work of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 7 June; 5 and 26 July; and 9 August.

Resolved: that the updates be received.

54. MEETING WITH THE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP - 20 AUGUST 2021

The Committee considered a report from the regular meeting between the Chair, Vice Chair and Tracey Shewan of the Clinical Commissioning Group.

Andrew Bird updated on the most recent figures regarding inpatients which included 70 patients in Royal Stoke hospital with Covid, with 13 in the ITU. Other points noted from the meeting included difficulties in accessing primary care; waiting lists for hospital treatment which it was suggested could take between 2 and 4 years to clear; vaccine and mask hesitancy; that younger people were more likely to attend for vaccines at walk in centres rather than on an appointment basis; and that obesity was a challenge regarding health and wellbeing of the population and the NHS was looking at prevention measures.

It was noted that there was currently a two week suspension of elective surgery at Royal Stoke and Stafford Hospitals.

Members discussed a number of points including:

- The importance of ensuring accessibility issues were managed so there were no barriers to treatment and testing
- The importance of accessing primary care including face to face appointments
- The impact on NHS staff of ongoing pressure on services
- The impact of the flu virus particularly on those with long Covid and what plans were in place to address this
- Were there any plans to address the backlog in hospital waiting times and was the Government providing any extra resource
- What lessons were being learned for the future
- Were any Council staff impacted by the need to be fully vaccinated for their job role and were statistics collected on the percentage of staff who were fully vaccinated? In response, Andrew explained that no members of staff needed to be fully vaccinated for their job role; from staff surveys it appeared a large proportion were double vaccinated.

Resolved: that the update be noted and the points made at the meeting be raised at the next meeting with the CCG.

55. STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL - 21 JUNE 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Chairman of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel held on 21 June 2021. The Panel had been introduced to Ben Adams, the new Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner who had outlined initial priorities. The Committee was informed that Mr Adams had accepted an invitation to attend the next meeting of the Committee on Monday 29 November 2021.

Members discussed a number of issues:

- There were a large number of boarded up windows in Newcastle town centre due to vandalism and anti-social behaviour and the level appeared much higher than in other towns in the county
- The importance and value of visible policing
- A role for wider partnership working such as with West Midlands police on issues such as County lines and Serious and Organised Crime
- Response times
- Whether the Committee could have a regular presentation from the Local Policing Team as happened previously.

Resolved: that the report of the Panel be received and the upcoming visit by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner be welcomed.

56. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the Work Programme. As discussed during earlier items, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) would be attending the next meeting of the Committee. There would also be the regular update from the meeting with the CCG and bulletins from the County Scrutiny Committee. It was suggested

that the item on the Newcastle Housing Advice Service could be postponed to March 2022 to enable the next meeting to focus mainly on the PFCC. It was also suggested that the start time be brought forward to 6.30pm to enable sufficient time for discussion.

Members suggested the meeting of the Committee in March could include discussion of how services have coped with winter pressures plus the item on the Housing Advice Service.

Resolved: that

- (a) The next meeting focus on the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner plus standard items and commence at 6.30pm subject to agreement with the Chair; and
- (b) The meeting in March 2022 include the Newcastle Housing Advice Service and a report on how services have managed during the winter season.

57. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

58. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

59. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 29 NOVEMBER 2021

Chair

Meeting concluded at 8.27 pm

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 23 September 2021.

The main items considered were:

Minutes Silence – Councillor Brian Edwards

The Panel held a minute's silence in memory of Councillor Brian Edwards.

Police and Crime Plan / Fire and Rescue Plan Update

The Commissioner updated the Panel on the progress made in developing his Police and Crime Plan and the Fire and Rescue Plan. He emphasised that there would be wide consultation with both partners and other bodies and that he was particularly interested in hearing from the public. Consultation would be with as many people from all areas of the community as possible.

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

- Hard to reach groups such as BME groups would be encouraged to comment on the plan. It was hoped that every part of the community would be reached.
- A variety of methods of consultation would be used from social media to paper copies of the plan in libraries and public buildings.
- Those who don't have access to technology would still have a chance to respond.
- The plan would be subject to review if government direction changed. This was a particular issue should the current national review of the PFCC role make recommendations for the role of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), to changed or expanded.
- The plan would be reviewed annually, and progress monitored via this Panel.
- Parish and District Councils would be consulted, and all Councillors had already been emailed directly with contact information for both the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner.
- The Police and Crime Plan would compliment the Police Force Plan and the Fire Service Plan and would aligned the two. The Commissioner stated that he may be asking for improvements in performance which may not be considered a priority for either service. Consultation would take place between services, but the priority would always be on Staffordshire residents.

The Commissioners Police and Crime Plan would be considered at the next formal meeting of the Panel on 25 October 2021.

Police Performance Update

The Commissioner had temporarily halted the public performance meetings with the Acting Chief Constable during the selection and interview period for the permanent Chief Constable. He explained that in holding the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer to account, the Commissioner would concentrate on the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the Fire and Rescue Plan; Statutory requirements; public satisfaction; recruitment and national indicator comparison.

It was intended to reintroduce the performance meetings on a quarterly basis for the Police Force and Biannually for Fire and Rescue Services.

Knife crime was part of the national indicators and was outlined in the report. Work was taking place with partners around serious crime, anti-terrorism/drug related crime/county lines to ensure that priorities were being targeted. There were good working relationships with all neighbouring forces including Derbyshire and Cheshire and similar statistical neighbours to ensure information was shared and lessons learnt.

The Commissioner informed the Panel that Police response and contact times would remain a priority and a separate piece of work was being undertaken to look at improving figures.

Following a question on road safety funding, Helen Fisher explained that there was a small budget for road safety schemes but there were plans to strengthen the partnership and put the community at the heart of activities by strengthening Community Speed Watch groups. Reducing accidents, including catching and removing criminals driving stolen cars or driving without insurance was also a priority. Extending the support provided and sharing equipment may enable improvements without the need for increased funding or more speed cameras. The Commissioner emphasised that road safety was a top priority for the public and would not be ignored. Further information on this review would be supplied to members at a later date. The possible reintroduction of powers for PCSO's to issue parking fines was discussed especially near to schools. It was explained that this was an operational matter, but the Commissioner would discuss this with the new Chief Constable.

A question was asked on a scheme carried out by Medway Police Force covering the issue of safer schools and reducing offending. The Commissioner explained that he was not familiar with the project but agreed that better results were found by keeping people out of the judicial/penal pathway. The way that reoffending was tackled would be considered by the Panel as part of the Police and Crime delivery update.

The Panel supported the priorities outlined by the Commissioner and felt that they were the ones that the public raise with them on a regular basis. Contact was a priority, however the pandemic was still a concern and the numbers contacting the force following the lifting of lockdown measures was a significant increase on previous years. Particular increases had been seen in missing persons, suicides, and mental health concerns.

Officer recruitment was progressing well. Different skills were required for different geographical areas and services and a more diverse workforce would help to support this.

Fire and Rescue Performance Update

The Panel received the performance report for the Fire and Rescue Service. It was noted that the plan was for 2020-2024 but would be reviewed annually to meet the changing needs of the service.

The additional work carried out by the service during the pandemic was discussed, particularly the work carried out with the Local Resilience Partners and the NHS mobile vaccination unit. The effects of Covid on staff members had been felt, particularly with the loss of a team member. The effect of long Covid on lung capacity was a national issue which would be monitored.

The Commissioner expressed concern that during the national discussions on Fire Officer pay, the four Commissioners who cover Police and Fire Services had not been invited to comment, but they had been for Police pay discussions. However, the local relationship with unions was considered to be positive and strong.

The safety of transient people and the work undertaken with landlords of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) was explored. It was explained that the fire service gave advice and guidance to the private sector and it was also a recommendation from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.

Following a question on the approach taken on checking the quality of work undertaken by the service, it was explained that the HMI were due to start an inspection and the Commission would pay particular attention to quality monitoring and risks.

Response times in some circumstances was not ideal. A hybrid of full and part time station/work force provision was needed and this need to be risk based and in the right location. This would be considered at a future meeting.

The Panel agreed to write to both the Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Force to thank them for all their work throughout the pandemic.

Progress report on appointment of Chief Fire Officer and Chief Constable

The Commissioner reported that the selection process for both the Chief Constable and the Chief Fire Officer had been completed and the Commissioner was now in a position to refer his preferred candidates to the Panel for consideration at a confirmation hearing. The Chairman reported that a provisional date had been set for 12 October to consider the appointments

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
Was there anything that could be done to improve Town Centre Policing in Newcastle as there was a perception of increased anti-social behaviour and intimidation?	The Commissioner would look at the concerns with local officers and report back to Councillor Heesom.
Had there been any progress in the development of a local Firing range?	This item was on the Panels Work Programme.
Rural wildlife crime (including livestock and farming equipment) was an issue in some parts of the County but it was not mentioned in any of the plans.	The Commissioner stated that responding to theft was a fundamental part of policing and was a priority. The term 'rural' may not have been used but it was covered in all plans.
Was there any guidance on working together to support and relocate travellers?	The Commissioner was keen to have a forum where all partners could come together to share their knowledge and expertise. It was noted that one consistent way of dealing with issues would be useful.
Could Neighbourhood watch forums be reinstated?	It was explained that as from 1 st October Safer Neighbourhood Panels would end and the Commissioner was looking at a new model of local engagement. He wanted to see the public and partners having a bigger voice and able to raise local concerns which was difficult under the current model.
The Chairman welcomed the recognition that the community need to have a voice in local policing and a means of raising concerns. A further comment was made on the need for clear policies and procedures, so it was clear who was responsible for which service/deliver of actions.	The Commissioner restated that this was being reviewed and brought to a future meeting of the Panel.

Webcast can be found at

<http://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1150&MId=13737&Ver=4>

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

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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 12 October 2021.

The main items considered were:

Confirmation Hearing Procedure

The Secretary to the Panel's report explained that 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 preferred candidate for both posts of Chief Fire Officer and Chief Constable.

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

Consideration of the proposed appointment to the post of Chief Fire Officer

Presentation by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner

The Commissioner reported on the detailed and lengthy process followed by him to recruit a new Chief Fire Officer for Staffordshire. Information provided to candidates was submitted to the Panel for information.

The Commissioner reported that Mr Barber was his preferred candidate.

Presentation by and questions to Mr Barber:

Mr Barber briefly summarised his career in the Fire and Rescue Service having served with Staffordshire Fire and Rescue since 1997. He went on to list the additional duties and responsibilities he had held both nationally and regionally.

The Panel questioned Mr Barber on various issues including the main challenges and risks facing the service; working within neighbourhoods; prevention and protection; working with other partners/services; communications and his experience in Staffordshire.

In his responses Mr Barber stressed that the challenges facing the service were the same as those facing the whole of society, such as Dementia, obesity and addiction, as fire is often a symptom of other causes and there is a need to work closely with partners to identify and address the root cause.

Mr Barber reported that in his view there had been a reduction in neighbourhood and community communication particularly with local Councillors and this needed to be restored so that information could be shared.

Mr Barber advised the panel that working relationships with both the Commissioner and other partners would always be based on him providing the best information at the time in order for informed decisions to be made.

The Panel unanimously agreed that the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire be informed that this Panel recommends that he proceed with the appointment of Mr Robert Barber as the Chief Fire Officer for Staffordshire.

Consideration of the proposed appointment to the post of Chief Constable for Staffordshire

Presentation by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner

The Commissioner introduced his report which included Information provided to candidates and outlined the selection process.

Mr Haroon, an Independent Interview Panel Member, briefly outlined the recruitment and selection process and the stakeholder involvement which had taken place.

The Commissioner reported that Mr Noble was his preferred candidate.

Presentation by and questions to Mr Noble

Mr Noble briefly summarised his career in the Police Service having served in a number of Forces including 21 years in the Royal Ulster Constabulary and his current position as Deputy Chief Constable Humberside Constabulary.

The Panel questioned Mr Noble on various issues including the main challenges the force faced; how trust can be rebuilt following the recent Sarah Everard case; Neighbourhood and community policing; and staffing levels.

In his responses, Mr Noble felt that the long term effects of the pandemic would prove to be challenging, with increased unemployment and financial worries leading to crime and Anti-social behaviour. Mental health pressures would also lead to the need for closer partnership working. Community policing and tackling some forms of anti-social behaviour would involve partnership working and looking at the cause and how and who could address this.

Responding to a specific question on the independence of the role, Mr Noble informed the Panel that the role of Chief Constable involved working with many partners and forming relationships whilst retaining accountability and operational independence.

Mr Noble felt that whilst the majority of police officers showed excellent standards of behaviour, the culture in policing needed to change and the highest standards of behaviour needed to be set along with a zero tolerance to certain attitudes which had

been accepted in the past. Formal vetting of police officers could only go so far and informal scrutiny and improved leadership was needed to increase standards of behaviour.

The recruitment of the right people and their retention was a priority, with clear performance standards and expectations set out at the start of the recruitment process.

Following a question on communicating with the public, Mr Noble stated that the correct type of communication needed to be used to best suit the issue in question and the audience. The right person with the right information needed to the public face, not necessarily the Chief Constable.

The Panel unanimously agreed that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire be informed that this Panel recommends that he proceed with the appointment of Mr Chris Noble as the Chief Constable for Staffordshire.

Webcast can be found at

<http://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1150&MId=13776&Ver=4>

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Councillor Bernard Peters
Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Chairman

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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 25 October 2021.

The main items considered were:

Questions to the PFCC from Members of the Public

The Panel considered the questions ask by a member of the public and presented their written report which contained their considered response.

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

There had been no decisions had been made since the last meeting.

Implementation of Reforms to the Police Misconduct and Complaints Regulations 2020

The Commissioners report updated the Panel on the implementation of Police Misconduct and Complaints Reforms, as set out in the Police (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2020 which came into place on 1 February 2020. The Staffordshire Commissioner became the Appropriate Authority for reviews (formally known as appeals). The Commissioner now receives all reviews unless they are about a senior officer, criminal or misconduct proceedings, or article 2/3 (Human Rights), the review body for these is the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC).

During the period 1 February 2020 and 31 December 2020, the Commissioner's office had received 52 reviews. 50 requests had been completed, 1 was withdrawn and 1 had been identified as the wrong review body and should have been sent to the IOPC.

During the period 1 January 2021 and 30 September 2021, the Commissioner's office had received 49 reviews. 48 requests had been accepted for review, 1 was refused as out of time.

The report outlined the lessons learned from the reviews and also the findings of the Ethics and Transparency Audit Panel, who had conducted a thematic review of complaints. The Panel noted the contents of the report.

Police and Crime Draft Plan

The Commissioner updated the panel on the progress made in developing his Police and Crime Plan. He emphasised that there would be wide

consultation with both partners and other bodies and that he was particularly interested in hearing from the public.

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

- The consultation period was for 4 weeks. The panel were concerned that this was a short period of time for such an important document. It was explained that the consultation would be extensive and therefore hopefully effective.
- Hard to reach groups such as BME groups would be encouraged to comment on the plan, however, there was no intention as yet to translate the plan into other languages.
- All forms of social media would be used to reach as many people as possible. Paper copies would be available if needed.
- Young people were being encouraged to share their opinion. Schools and Colleges were part of the consultation programme.
- All Parish, District, County and City Councillors would be contacted.
- Road safety was in both the Police and Crime and Fire and Rescue plans as it was a significant issue in the County.
- Early intervention and clear expectations were needed with partners in order to reduce people entering the penal system and reduce reoffending.
- Delivery Plans would be developed to ensure that the priorities would be achieved. These would be performance monitored regularly and could be considered by the Panel when looking at the priorities in detail.
- Following a question on how process could be quickened, for example in the Courts system, it was explained that partnerships would need to work together to ensure that backlogs were cleared and more effective ways of working could be introduced for example, ensuring that all appropriate documents were available on time to ensure adjournments weren't required, or plea bargaining done in advance etc. The Commissioner felt that although he may not have control over a particular organisation, he could direct influence and could hopefully bring people together.
- It was acknowledged that some partnerships had not always worked effectively in the past and had not delivered on targets. The Commissioner felt that the right partnerships had to be established and this took time. Service demand also changed over time and being able to forge new relationships/agreements quickly was important.
- The Commissioners Plans would work alongside the Police force priority plans. The Police and Crim Plan would set out clear expectations with clear achievable targets.
- The new Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer had been engaged in the process of drawing up the draft plans.

- The aim was to reduce the number of crimes and it was acknowledged that this meant overall levels of crime and not simply reducing numbers in some areas by redirecting effort/resources leading to an increase in other types of crime or in other geographical areas.
- Witness and Victim Support Services would be delivered with a number of partners/agencies. New structures may be developed but the relationship with the Community Safety Partnerships would remain.
- The Commissioner agreed to look at a scheme previously introduced in Medway, to reduce the number of young people entering the penal system.
- Volunteers would be encouraged. There were currently a number on scrutiny panels, ETAP, custody suits, appropriate adults etc but this was looking to expand.
- Rural crime and trespass need to be included in the plan.

The Panel were reassured that the consultation would be comprehensive and wide ranging and a rolling conversation which would remain an open discussion supplemented by further surveys and questionnaires. However, they felt that four weeks may not be long enough particularly when consulting with partners who may not meet to consider responses on a frequent basis. Examples were given of a District Council whose meetings were every six weeks or a Parish Council which meets every two months. There was also concern that contacting young people may be difficult when one week of the four was during half term.

The Panel asked to see the finalised version of the plan along with details of the number of responses received and a breakdown of gender, age, ethnicity, organisations etc. It was agreed to scrutinise the overall performance and each priority at future meetings. The Draft plan and consultation report was noted.

Fire and Rescue Draft Plan

The Commissioner informed the Panel that the Draft Fire and Rescue Plan had much commonality with the previous plan but included new challenges such as changing legislation/regulations following Grenfell Tower and climate change and environmental threats such as flooding and fire.

The following issues were discussed:

- The Panel were reassured that the Priorities in the plan covered the areas they expected to see and ensured that new challenges such as responding to the Pandemic were still achievable.
- Why retained Fire Officers in the South of the County work out of the West Midlands stations. It was explained that this was mainly

due to calls being dealt with through the West Midlands control centre and officers were deployed from the closest and most available resource.

- Relationships with neighbouring authorities/bodies was essential and good practice, but a Staffordshire delivery approach and knowledge from local officers was invaluable.
- There may be a need to redesign jobs to meet the new challenges. The relationship with unions was strong and open discussions would take place to discuss terms and conditions if they needed to change.
- Local fire officers could be invited to local community meetings to offer advice and answer concerns particularly concerning prevention.

Following a question on Fire and Police vehicles carrying defibrillators, the panel were informed that the possibility of providing defibrillator equipment on response vehicles would be looked at.

The Commissioners Fire and Rescue Draft plan was noted.

Webcast can be found at [Agenda for Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel on Monday 25th October 2021, 2:00pm - Staffordshire County Council](#)

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

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Councillor Bernard Peters
Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Chairman

Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 20 September 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 20 September 2021 - link to Agenda and reports pack:-

[Agenda for Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday 20th September 2021, 10:00am - 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)
Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee 20 September 2021 <p>The Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following matters:</p> <p>Transforming Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) update Committee considered and noted the Transforming Urgent and Emergency Care programme and the engagement plan. Members raised matters of concern relating to current pressures, UEC arrangements, patient experiences and joined up processes. Committee was assured that the engagement process would be as wide as possible, it will also look at pathways of care and lessons learned through the pandemic. Committee considered the process to be an opportunity to improve services and patient experience and asked District and Borough Councillors to share the consultation widely to ensure District, Borough and Parish voices are heard. A further report was requested to consider feedback.</p> <p>Difficult Decisions Update Committee considered and noted the Difficult Decisions engagement process regarding five areas of care: assisted conception, hearing aids for non-complex hearing loss (Mild hearing loss only), male and female sterilisation, breast augmentation and reconstruction and removal of excess skin following significant weight loss. They commented on the need to ensure consistency across Staffordshire for residents, the need for service user engagement and to use feedback from engagement to develop processes. A further report was requested to consider feedback.</p> <p>Phase 3 Covid Vaccination Update Committee considered and noted the current position relating to the vaccination programme and take up of vaccinations. There was an increase in Covid case rates across Staffordshire and targeted work is ongoing, alongside campaigns to inform those with concerns about getting vaccinated. There is a good take</p>	<p>All Districts and Boroughs</p> <p>All Districts and Boroughs</p> <p>All Districts and Boroughs</p>

<p>from young people and SCC care home staff, and front facing health and care staff are being encouraged to get vaccinated, although this is not mandated. Members welcomed the progress made and thanked all involved for the fast response. There is an all member seminar to update on Covid-19 on 29 September 2021.</p> <p>Covid-19 Update Committee received a detailed presentation. There is a high case rate however double vaccination cases are mainly symptomatic and death rates are down. Committee concerns related to the early emergence of winter pressures and non-Covid infections that were impacting on the system. They understood the need to vaccinate across all age bands to protect older people and to vaccinate younger people for the protection of the Community.</p> <p>District and Borough Health Scrutiny Updates District and Borough Council representatives reported on matters arising from District and Borough meetings. As a result, two additional items have been added to the Work Programme 2021-22: (i) an update on GP Access, which was requested by more than one district representative; (ii) an invitation to West Midlands Ambulance Service to attend Health and Care O&S Committee.</p> <p>Work Programme 2021-22 Note that the Introduction to Mental Health session is on 21 October 2021. All members are requested to pass details of the Mental Health Survey 2022 to District, Borough and Parish members.</p>	<p>All Districts and Boroughs</p> <p>All Districts and Boroughs</p>
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Their next meeting will be held on Monday 25 October 2021 at 10.00 am, County Buildings, Stafford.

Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 25 October 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 25 October 2021 - [link to Agenda and reports pack](#):

[Agenda for Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday 25th October 2021, 10:00am - Staffordshire County Council](#)

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

Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee 25 October 2021	District(s)/Borough(s)
<p>The Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following matters:</p> <p>Quality Assurance of Independent Hospitals providing care for patients with Mental Health and/or Learning Disabilities</p> <p>Committee considered the criteria outlined to ensure that patients in Staffordshire and in external provision were safe and receiving the best possible care. Measures introduced in line with the guidance included a programme of monthly reviews with providers, face to face meetings where possible, 6-8 weekly visits and closer contact with host commissioners where placements were out of County. The proposed way forward was to develop community placements in the County with advice and support from specialist services, members suggested further discussions with Housing Associations. Committee requested that a report capturing lessons learned from the Eldertree Lodge Independent Mental Hospital closure be shared with the Committee.</p> <p>Transformation Programme Update</p> <p>An update on the process to develop proposals and business cases was considered relating to Maternity, Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC), George Bryan Centre, Difficult Decisions, Community Diagnostic Hubs, and interdependencies between programmes. Members understood that feedback from this sense check phase and other relevant data would result in a shortlist of proposals for the consultation phase. Concerns were raised about face-to-face consultation in the process, assurance was given that the CCG was working with Healthwatch and other voluntary</p>	<p>All Districts and Boroughs</p> <p>All Districts and Boroughs</p>

sector groups to carry out face to face sessions as part of the consultation. Committee requested that the CCG pass its comments on to NHS England relating to its current guidance on face-to-face consultation.

Performance Overview and Dashboard

The report detailed performance data with focus was on referral times, diagnostic timelines, metrics, and information relating to Urgent and Emergency Care UEC and winter pressures. Committee understood the pressures outlined and that NHS was facing its most challenging winter period. The Chairman welcomed the report and dashboard as a positive step toward building an overall dashboard of health across the County, this would be rolled down into Districts and Boroughs to inform scrutiny work to improve the health of residents.

Walley's Quarry Health Implications Update

Committee considered updates from the Environment Agency, UK Security Agency and Public Health relating to the health risk assessment of air quality monitoring, measures taken to reduce the off-site odours from the landfill site and recent findings from surveys to measure odour and symptoms experienced by residents living close to Walley's Quarry.

Members were satisfied with progress to implement measures to reduce the odour from the landfill site and that current air pollution data was reducing month on month but highlighted that the odour was still causing temporary discomfort to residents and having an impact on resident's mental health. Committee agreed to carry on monitoring trends in the resident's survey and air pollution, and to consider any potential mental health and long-term health impacts for residents. It was agreed to receive a further update, including issues relating to mental health of residents, in 3 months' time.

Covid-19 Update

Committee received an update which detailed the current position in relation to management of Covid-19, case rates, hospitalisations, death rate and infection rates. A further update will be provided at the next meeting.

All Districts and Boroughs

All Districts and Boroughs

All Districts and Boroughs

Their next meeting will be held on Monday 29 November 2021 at 10.00 am, County Buildings, Stafford.

QUARTERLY MEETING BETWEEN SCRUTINY AND THE CCG.

MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER, 2021 - 3.00pm to 3.40pm

Present: Cllr Julie Cooper, Andrew Bird, Geoff Durham, Denise French, Tracey Shewan CCG

Tracey Shewan gave an update on the current situation with Covid: Currently, in Newcastle over a 7 day period, the number of cases were 203.3 per 100,000 population. The current hospital bed occupancy, at 1 November, in Royal Stoke Hospital was 92 people with Covid and 16 of those were on ventilators.

Tracey stated that there was an expectation that flu cases would start in December. However the vaccine this years was said to be a good one so it was hoped that cases would be low. The efficacy of the flu vaccine was currently being checked.

Andrew Bird advised that the Council had again done the voucher scheme for staff and there had been a good uptake.

Andrew stated that there seemed to be a belief amongst some people that the Covid booster was included with the flu Vaccine and asked if this was actually possible. Tracey stated that it would be good if it were possible but there had to be a six month gap between vaccines . There still needed to be the push for people to get both their booster and the flu vaccine. It was believed that after six months the efficacy of the Covid vaccine began to wane.

The NHS was not seeing a lot of outbreaks i.e. in Care Homes. There seemed to be more community transmissions, for example meeting with others.

With regard to vaccine uptake, it was lowest amongst the 60-69 year olds who were due their booster.

Tracey reported that the number of ambulances coming into hospital was lower than pre-covid. However, ambulances were then stuck due to delays in the patient flow through hospital. Regarding bed spaces, a Ward in the Haywood Hospital for 'Acquired Brain Injury' had been moved to Cheadle in order to create more capacity.

A Community Rapid Intervention Service was also working really well in North Staffordshire.

Councillor Julie Cooper asked, of the cases in hospital, how many were 'double jabbed'. Tracey advised that 75% of those in hospital had not been vaccinated. One in five patients in ETMO were pregnant, non-vaccinated women.

Councillor Julie Cooper suggested that the 'space' rule was no longer being adhered to and was advised that it was now 'for guidance' and no longer enforceable.

Covid was still impacting on the workforce in general as parents with sick children were having to be off work to care for them.

Andrew asked if there had been an improvement in the take-up amongst ethnic groups and Tracey advised that it had improved but still needed to be worked on .

Denise asked about face to face appointments and Tracey advised that these had been happening throughout Covid for those that needed a 'physical examination'. GP surgeries were experiencing a huge increase in phone calls.

Tracey advised that at next month's County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 December there would be an item on GP access where the committee would hear from a representative of GPs, the ambulance service and urgent care.

The backlog of hospital appointments needed to be addressed. There was a plan for recovery but it would not be a quick one.

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.

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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

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	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)
29 November 2021	Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner in attendance Walley's Quarry – health impacts Police and Crime Panel – notes from recent meetings County digest Meeting with CCG - notes	Vision and priorities, working together Requested by Committee)) regular items)
7 th March 2022	Newcastle Housing Advice Service How services have managed with winter pressures	Review and update on how the service is performing now it is in-house

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	Walley's Quarry – health impacts Police and Crime Panel – notes from recent meetings County digest Meeting with CCG - notes	Requested by Committee)) regular items)
Suggestions for potential future items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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) Review of SPACE provision (December 2019 Committee) NHS Provision in North Staffordshire (consultation exercise anticipated in Autumn 2018) Mental Health Challenge (ongoing) Dementia (considered at September 2019 meetings, ongoing) Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) (report considered at 19th June 2019 meeting) Safeguarding (report considered at 19th June 2019 meeting) Domestic Violence (December 2019 committee) Counter Terrorism Purple Flag – 19th June 2019 An examination of the incidence of domestic violence and the impact of local initiatives – December 2019 Emergency planning specifically in relation to climate change and the impact of flooding. Examination of ways to encourage greater use of the parks and green spaces to encourage physical and mental wellbeing – March 2020 To receive a report of air quality (reported to 25th November 2019 Economy, Environment and Place Scrutiny Committee) Plans for the delivery of a no deal Brexit (County Council examining this) 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). Review of campaigns/comms on homelessness J2/museum – future plans and impact on health and wellbeing 		
Task/Finish Groups:		

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

30 September 2021

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