

## Report of the Chair of the Health, Wellbeing & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

The Committee met on 13 September and the following matters were considered:

- The Committee discussed the meeting of the County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 26 July at Castle House to consider the health impacts arising from Walley's Quarry odour issues. The Committee noted that a number of letters had been sent to Government and responses were awaited. Members asked for a regular item on the agenda about the health impacts from Walley's Quarry.
- Meeting with the Clinical Commissioning Group – the Committee received notes from the regular meeting between the Chair, officers and Tracey Shewan of the CCG. The meeting had discussed the vaccination programme, numbers of people in hospital with Covid and current hospital waiting lists. The Committee discussed the importance of accessing primary care including face to face appointments, impact of the flu virus and long Covid and whether there were plans and additional resources to address the backlog in hospital waiting lists.
- Report from the meeting of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel held on 21 June - the Panel had met the new Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Ben Adams and he had outlined his initial priorities. The Committee discussed key issues that they would like to raise with Mr Adams when he attended the next meeting in November; issues included the importance of a visible police presence, vandalism and anti-social behaviour particularly impacting Newcastle town centre and response times.
- The Work Programme was discussed and the Committee agreed that the next meeting would focus on the discussion with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. A report on the Newcastle Housing Advice Service would be considered at the March meeting to consider the service now it had been brought back in-house.

Cllr Julie Cooper, Vice Chair (in the chair for the meeting)