

Local Members Interest
N/A

Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Monday 29 January 2024

District and Borough Health Scrutiny Activity

Recommendation

I recommend that:

1. The report be received, and consideration be given to any matters arising from the Health Scrutiny activity being undertaken by the Staffordshire District and Borough Councils, as necessary.

Summary

1. The Committee receives updates at each meeting to consider any matters arising from the Health Scrutiny activity being undertaken by the Staffordshire District and Borough Councils.

Background

2. The Health and Social Care Act 2001 confers on local authorities with social services functions powers to undertake scrutiny of health matters. The County Council currently have responsibility for social services functions but, to manage health scrutiny more effectively, they have agreed with the eight District/Borough Councils in the County to operate joint working arrangements.
3. Each District/Borough Council has a committee in which holds the remit for health and wellbeing scrutiny matters and matters that have a specifically local theme. The Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee will continue to deal with matters that impact on the whole or large parts of the County and that require wider debate across Staffordshire.
4. District and Borough Councils each have a representative from the County Council Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a member of the relevant committee with remit for health scrutiny matters. The County Councillors will update the District and Borough Councils on matters considered by the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A summary of matters considered by this committee is circulated to District and Borough Councils for information.

5. It is anticipated that the District and Borough Councillors who are members of this committee will present the update of matters considered at the District and Borough committees to the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
6. The following is a summary of the health scrutiny activity which has been undertaken at the District/Borough Council level since the last meeting of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28 November 2022.

Cannock Chase District Council

Members of the Council's Health, Wellbeing & The Community Scrutiny Committee last met on 18 September, when members received presentations from the Council's Environmental Health & Public Protection Service, including:

- Food, Health & Safety at Work & Infection Control
- Environmental Protection & Public Health
- Licensing
- Private Sector Housing
- Housing Adaptations and Disabled Facilities Grants

Members were informed how this service makes a significant contribution to addressing wider determinants of health in the District, and reducing health inequalities.

Members were advised of the recent review of the Council's Smoke Control Areas and introduction of fixed penalties for households and narrowboats emitting smoke;

Members were also advised of the recent review of the Council's Taxi and Private Hire Policy, since adopted by Council, which contains key milestones to phase out vehicles powered only by petrol and diesel, so improving air quality through reduced emissions of particulates and oxides of nitrogen.

East Staffordshire Borough Council

The Scrutiny Health and Well Being Committee met on 12th September 2023

Date next meeting: 12 December 2023.

Lichfield District Council

Lichfield District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 14 November 2023.

Date of next meeting: 30 November 2023 & 19 December 2023.

Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council

The Committee met on 27 November, 2023 and the following matters were considered:

- The regular reports from the County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Police, Fire and Crime Panel and notes of a meeting with the Integrated Care Board were considered.
- The Committee considered the latest report to Cabinet on odour issues at Walleys Quarry.
- The Committee Considered a report on Newcastle Town Centre – Community Safety Partnership
- The Committee considered a review of the Environment Strategy and the Road Map to Net Zero
- The Work Programme was discussed and Members requested that the following items be added to the Work Programme:

-Childhood Obesity and Leisure centre Activities.

-NHS Dentistry Provision

-Resurfacing of tennis courts (where there are no more than two courts)

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 26 February, 2024

South Staffordshire District Council

South Staffordshire Councils Wellbeing Select Committee last met on 10th October 2023. The following matters were considered.

Air Quality

A presentation was delivered by the Team Manager Environmental Health Protection & Licensing (South Staffordshire Council) on Air Quality, covering how Air quality has improved over recent decades; however, it continues to be an environmental risk to public health with children, the elderly and the already vulnerable most affected.

South Staffordshire's previous reviews and assessments have proved sufficient evidence to be satisfied that the Council's area is only likely to see exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective. This was further confirmed in April 2019 when the council commissioned Air Quality Consultants to carry out a review of air quality across the district. This work confirmed that the district's air quality is good, but did flag two

areas of concern, along the A449 in Penkridge and within Huntington where additional air quality monitoring tubes were located. These have since shown demonstrated NO₂ levels well below objective.

The Environmental Targets (fine particulate matter) (England) Regulations 2023 set targets under this framework for fine particulate matter (PM2.5). The two targets, both to be met by 2040 are:

Annual mean concentrations of PM2.5 to be 10 µg m⁻³ or lower
Population exposure to PM2.5 to be reduced by 35% compared to 2018 levels

The two targets are designed to work together to drive actions that both reduce concentrations where it is highest and reduce the pollution. Work in South Staffordshire will take place during 2024 to again model air quality across the district with the latest information and data, and then develop a measurement and improvement plan if required focused on the new air quality strategy.

Community Safety Partnership Action Plan

The Council's Community Wellbeing and Partnership Officer and the Deputy commander from the South Staffordshire Policing team provided an update on actions against the newly refreshed Community Safety Partnership Action Plan 2023-2026.

- Theft from Motor Vehicles reduced by 12% (past 12 months to end of Aug)
- Instances of anti-social behaviour have reduced by 32% (past 12 months to end of Aug)

Date of next meeting Tuesday 5th December 2023

- Health Inequalities funding and South Staffordshire Health & Wellbeing partnership action plan
- Healthwatch Staffordshire update

Stafford Borough Council

Stafford Borough Council's Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee met on 5 September 2023 and 16 November 2023:

5 September 2023

Members considered the annual report of Freedom Leisure. Performance for Quarter 1 was also discussed.

Councillor Edgeller had previously been asked if there were any age restrictions for Crisis Centre at St George's Hospital - she gave an update to Members on this.

16 November 2023

Annual report from Veolia - commented upon assisted collections within the Borough.

Air Quality - the Borough falls within the Defra guidelines.

Visit to Alleyne's Academy in Stone where there is a successful boxing group for young people suffering from trauma.

Housing Plus have allotments on 4 sites with vacancies.

There will be a Homes Plus presentation on 16 January meeting.

There will be a Task and Finish Group at some point in the future regarding food waste collections.

Members would like a presentation from Samaritans / Andy Mans Club regarding suicide prevention.

13. Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

The Council's Health and Wellbeing Committee is due to meet on 6 December 2023.

Items for consideration will be:

- Better Health Staffordshire Presentation
- Update from the Chair (Health & Care O&S Committee 13 Nov 2023, West Midlands Ambulance Service Performance)

14. Tamworth Borough Council

Safeguarding Children and Adults at risk of abuse report

No specific Health related discussion

Housing Strategy Wellbeing Update (including an update from Beat the Cold)

The Committee received an update from the Safer Communities and Home Manager and the Development Manager for Beat the Cold whose presentations included the following information to the Committee:

Beat the Cold is a unique Staffordshire based fuel poverty charity.

Work with people on how to be more efficient with your energy, how to use energy for health.

Priority 3: ECO4 Flex - referrals can come in via the NHS and those do not have to meet standard criteria under these circumstances.

The next meeting will be held on 28th November 2023.

Link to Strategic Plan

7. Scrutiny work programmes are aligned to the ambitions and delivery of the principles, priorities, and outcomes of the Staffordshire Corporate Plan.

Link to Other Overview and Scrutiny Activity

8. The update reports provide overview of scrutiny activity across Borough and Districts, shares good practice, and highlights emerging concerns which inform work programmes for Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committees across Staffordshire.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

Council	District/ Borough Representative on CC	County Council Representative on DC/BC
Cannock Chase	Cllr David Williams	Cllr Phil Hewitt
East Staffordshire	Cllr Monica Holton	Cllr Philip Atkins
Lichfield	Cllr Leona Leung	Cllr Janice Sylvester-Hall
Newcastle	Cllr Ian Wilkes	Cllr Ian Wilkes
South Staffordshire	Cllr Val Chapman	Cllr Kath Perry
Stafford BC	Cllr Ann Edgeller	Cllr Ann Edgeller
Staffordshire Moorlands	Cllr John Jones	Cllr Keith Flunder
Tamworth	Cllr Chris Bain	Cllr Thomas Jay

Contact Details

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