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HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, 5 July 2023

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: The Dove Room, Moorlands House, Stockwell Street, Leek

27 June 2023

PART 1

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Notification of Substitute Members, if any.
3. Declarations of Interest:
 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
 - Other Interests
4. To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel. **(Pages 3 - 6)**
5. To Note the Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Staffordshire County Council Health & Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee. **(Pages 7 - 14)**
6. Questions to Portfolio Holders, if any
(At least two clear days notice required, in writing, to the Proper Officer in accordance with Procedure Rule 15).
7. The Code of Joint Working - Local Authorities. **(Pages 15 - 26)**
8. Work Programme
9. Date and time of next meeting

MARK TRILLO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

Membership of Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee

Councillor J Jones (Chair)

Councillor G Bentley

Councillor C Edwards

Councillor B Hughes (Vice-Chair)

Councillor C Boone

Councillor K Flunder

Councillor T Holmes
Councillor V O'Shea
Councillor J Salt

Councillor A Hulme
Councillor A Parkes

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL
HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL MEETING

Minutes

WEDNESDAY, 8 MARCH 2023

PRESENT: Councillor B A Hughes (Chair)

Councillors C Atkins, E Fallows, M Gledhill, I Herdman, T Holmes,
A Hulme, J Jones and L Swindlehurst

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors
K Hoptroff
P Roberts

APOLOGIES: Councillors L A Malyon, T Riley, J Salt and C Smith

160 **NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS, IF ANY.**

Councillor Hoptroff was substitute member for Councillor Salt.

161 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

Discussion took place around the remit of the Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Code of Joint Working with Staffordshire County Council.

DECIDED:

- 1) That the minutes from the previous meeting held on 14 December 2022 be approved
- 2) For the Code of Joint Working to be reviewed at the next meeting of the Panel.

162 **URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS, IF ANY. (24 HOURS NOTICE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE CHAIRMAN).**

There were none.

163 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

None were declared.

164 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE SCC HEALTH & CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE.**

DECIDED:

The Panel noted the minutes of the last meeting of the SCC Health & Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

165 **QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS, IF ANY.**

Q1. Received from Cllr Salt:

“Biddulph wishes to develop a Mental Health / Neurodiverse Friendly town. Is there any funding (especially as SMDC has a role overseeing health and wellbeing and Biddulph Town Council does not) that may help support Biddulph Town Council with this initiative?”

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Communities:

“This appears to be a very interesting initiative and something that I believe the District Council would wish to support. This Panel can play an important role in influencing the policies and decisions made by those organisations with responsibility for mental health and neurodiversity. Whilst the Panel does not control any budgets, it can request attendance by those service providers that could potentially assist Biddulph to achieve its aims. With this in mind, I would encourage Cllr Salt – and any other Panel Members – to bring forward any suggestions for the work of this Panel that would assist in the development of the initiative. This would also be a very useful way of ensuring that other parts of the district also benefit from the learning in Biddulph if they wish to take forward similar approaches.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust is the leading provider of mental health services in our District, and they also have responsibility for social care, learning disability and substance misuse services. They are the main budget holders for such services with funding primarily coming from NHS England and the Staffordshire and Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board, which replaced the North Staffs CCG and the other Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups in the middle of 2022. If Biddulph Town Council haven't already approached the Trust, then I suggest that it would be appropriate for them to have those discussions to see if any funding is available via that route.

If there are specific, planned activities that relate to the District Council's functions which can support Biddulph's initiative then I would encourage Cllr Salt and the Town Council to highlight these to District Council Officers, who will look at what support can be provided.”

As Councillor Salt wasn't present at the meeting, any supplementary questions could be submitted by email.

166 **WORK PROGRAMME.**

DECIDED:

That the Work Programme be agreed, subject to, the removal of the Community First Response item and it was requested that members be updated on the future of the whole of Leek Moorlands Hospital.

167 **LONELINESS REDUCTION PLAN - VICKY ROWLEY, COMMISSIONING MANAGER PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENTION, SCC**

The Panel gave consideration to a presentation which covered the following topics:

- Vision and objectives
- Introduction
- National research and evidence

Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel - 8 March 2023

- Those most at risk
- Health and wellbeing impacts
- Loneliness in Staffordshire
- Age UK Heatmap
- Lonely places or lonely people
- Advice
- Impact of Covid-19
- Groups, organisations and projects
- Consultation and outcome
- Guiding principles for tackling loneliness
- Promising Approaches Framework
- Reduction Plan development
- Next steps to achieve the vision and objectives

Members debated the lack of public transport in the area, cost of living and the impact this had on younger people or those with learning disabilities being able to socialise. Useful information could be obtained from Young Carers and working in partnership with town/parish councils.

The Chair thanked the Officer for the informative presentation and members would be contacted to assist further with the Loneliness Reduction Plan.

DECIDED:

That the presentation be received.

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm

_____Chairman _____Date

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Minutes of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 20 March 2023

Present: Jeremy Pert (Chair)

Attendance

Patricia Ackroyd	Phil Hewitt
Charlotte Atkins	Dan Maycock
Philip Atkins, OBE	Bernard Peters
Richard Cox (Vice-Chair (Overview))	Janice Silvester-Hall
Ann Edgeller (Vice-Chair (Scrutiny))	Mike Sutherland
Philippa Haden	Mike Wilcox

Also in attendance: Julia Jessel

Apologies: Keith Flunder, Lin Hingley, Jill Hood and Barbara Hughes

PART ONE

50. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Ann Edgeller declared an interest as Staffordshire County Councils appointed Partner Governor at the Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust (MPFT).

Councillor Bernard Peters declared an interest as Staffordshire County Councils Local Authority appointed Governor at University Hospital Derby and Burton (UHDB).

51. Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 February 2023

The Committee noted a duplication of "to help" on page 2 of the minutes and highlighted that Councillor Steve Norman was not recorded as having attended the Committee as a Substitute Member.

Resolved – That, subject to the amends stated above, the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

52. Social Care Workforce Update

Councillor Julia Jessel and Amy Duffy, Senior Commissioning Manager, presented the Social Care Workforce Update. The Committee were informed that the Strategy detailed key actions as a collective partnership to support the on-going challenges faced by the Staffordshire social care workforce. The Committee were also informed that the recruitment process had been refined to be more efficient. It was highlighted that the strategy had been formed for the whole of the social care industry and a number of organisations and partners had been consulted.

The Committee were advised that people enjoyed working within the care industry and the strategy was based around recruitment, training and retention. In 2021/22 there were 21,000 filled posts in adult social care in Staffordshire. There had been a downward turn in the overall number of person employed in the sector in comparison from 2020/21:

- 11,500 employees working in residential and nursing care settings (marking a reduction of approx. 500 staff),
- 7,200 providing home care (marking a reduction of approx. 700 staff)
- 950 working in community-based care (including day opportunities).
- 1,400 personal assistants (providing support to both children and adult, and on behalf of the NHS).

It was reported that by 2024 it was projected that a workforce of 23,983 would be required. Taking into account the staff required due to increase in demand and potential staff turnover would require 6,336 new staff. By 2027 the estimated number of new staff required was 16,463.

The Committee were advised that there were 8 key workstreams focussed on supporting the social care workforce:

- Data & intelligence
- Information Sharing
- Journey to work
- Learning and Development
- Valuing social care
- Digitalisation
- Recruitment and Retention
- Transport

The Committee noted the following comments and responses to questions:

- Details of new uplifted rates of pay were not yet known.
- The Cabinet Member highlighted the importance of social care workers in the industry adding that care workers needed to feel valued. There were the dignity in care awards to give care workers recognition and a second celebration event being considered.

- Gathering a collective intelligence through exit interviews was difficult as there were over 500 individual providers in Staffordshire however work was being undertaken to bring together the data in a more cohesive manner so that common trends could be identified and addressed.
- In 2021/22, the overall turnover rate of the workforce was reported as 32.2% with 59% of leavers remaining within the social care workforce. The overall vacancy rate in Staffordshire was 9.9%.
- Feedback which had been received highlighted levels of pay, learning and development opportunities and team support and ethos.
- Employee benefits were being explored, the County Council's employee benefits scheme had been extended to some care workers and the possibility in further extending the NHS employee benefits scheme was being considered.
- There is a high turnover rate within children's social care. The Committee requested a briefing note on this.
- Training, development and apprenticeships were discussed. The Committee were informed that increasing the number of apprenticeships was being explored. Working alongside other providers so that there was an employment opportunity at the end of the apprenticeship. It was highlighted that apprenticeships were available to people of all ages.
- There would be targeted and localised recruitment campaigns. The ICS have undertaken a pilot in five secondary schools to promote health and social care careers. The Committee were also informed that a virtual work experience opportunity with the ICS was being developed.
- There were a number of zero-hour contracts in the sector, and it was discussed that there was a need for them as they give flexibility for the employer and the employee, however a reduction in the number of zero-hour contracts would help with staff retention. Work-life balance was also discussed to retain staff.
- Individual providers had attempted cash incentives related to recruitment and retention, however feedback from these providers was mixed.
- Digital competences in the workforce were wide ranging. A national digital framework which would set out expectations and training requirements for the workforce was expected.
- Feedback from workforce had highlighted that feeling valued and celebrating good practice and achievement was important. The Council were looking at ways to recognise and reward the workforce. Qualifications were also discussed as a mechanism to give young people aspiration.

- Colleges and Universities had been involved in the creation of the strategy. There was a workstream which was looking to establish a local social care academy which would offer qualifications at a number of levels. The Committee agreed to hold a focussed session on social care education in colleges. In relation to the proposed social care academy as the government were looking to bring in T levels.
- The Committee requested that a report detailing the progress against the action plan be brought to Committee in 12 months.
- The Committee also requested the market sustainability plan which was due to be published at the end of March 2023 and that they be invited to the workforce event on 19 April 2023.
- The Committee agreed to host a round table discussion with care providers: The Staffordshire Association of Care Providers and Nexxus and one or two smaller providers to discuss the Staffordshire Social Care Workforce Strategy and to seek their views on the strategy.

Resolved – That (a) the Committee noted the progress made by partners to date on the Staffordshire Social Care Workforce programme

(b) the Committee considered the on-going challenges faced by the social care workforce and the range of actions and initiatives identified by the programme to address these and continue to support the social care workforce.

(c) the following be shared with the Committee:

- A staffing update on the Childrens social care workforce.
- The Market Sustainability Plan
- An invite to the workforce event due to be held on 19 April 2023.

(d) the Committee hold a focussed session on social care education in colleges in relation to the proposed social care academy as the government were looking to bring in T Levels.

(e) a report detailing the progress against the action plan be brought the Committee in 12 months.

(f) the Committee host a round table discussion with care providers: The Staffordshire Association of Care Providers, Nexxus and one or two smaller providers to discuss the Staffordshire Social Care Workforce Strategy to seek their views on the strategy.

53. Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB update on 2023/24 Operational Plan

Paul Brown, Chief Finance Officer at Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board presented the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB update on 2023/24 Operational Plan to the Committee. The Committee were advised that the system was required to agree three planning documents:

- A plan for the financial year 2023/24 (reflecting local and national priorities)
- A five year 'Joint Forward Plan'
- A Strategy

The Committee were advised that the financial position had been challenging. Over COVID the ICB broke even and it was expected to break even this year (22/23). It was reported that four priorities had been identified in 2023/24:

- Urgent and emergency care
- Tackling backlogs
- General practice
- Complex individuals.

The Committee noted the following comments and responses to questions:

- The plan will have timelines against each of the objectives and will be sent to the Committee when completed.
- Integrated Care Hubs were enablers of the outcomes highlighted in the report. Which would reduce the number of trips to A&E and calls to 999 as patients could be treated elsewhere.
- The ICB were due to take on the responsibility of Dentistry on 1 April 2023. It was reported that the Dentistry contracts were underspent.
- There was a lack of dentist schools in Staffordshire. The Committee and the ICB discussed that Keele University could offer dentistry courses.
- There was a need for more GPs and workforce to strengthen existing practices and primary care to reduce emergency calls.
- There was a Mental Health investment standard in response to under investment in mental health. In funding terms, mental health was now prioritised over physical health.
- Improving Healthy life expectancy was the long-term focus. In the short term, four priorities had been identified and targets had been associated with them such as waiting times for ambulance category

2 and 3 calls. The Committee agreed to receive the first quarter performance against these targets at a future meeting alongside the Key Performance Indicators and the Operational Plan.

- 10% of the work the NHS does is in relation to diabetes. Long term investments were being made to reduce the number of people with diabetes.
- As a reward of breaking even, £6 million extra capital had been given to the ICB. There was a £300million legacy financial debt and if the ICB were to breakeven for two consecutive years the debt would be written off which would allow the ICB to make investments. Capital was limited but some could be spent on estate.
- The Operating plan was a work in progress, there was more focus detailed in the long term in the plan which would be shared with the Committee when completed.
- Contacts within the ICB related to the Women's Health Strategy working group was to be shared with the Committee when available.

Resolved – That (a) the Committee noted the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board's approach and current position in the development of the 2023/24 Operational Plan as set out by NHS England in the 2023/24 priorities and operational planning guidance.

(b) the Committee receive the first quarter performance against the targets in the Operating Plan at a future meeting alongside the Key Performance Indicators.

54. District and Borough Health Scrutiny Activity

The Committee received the District and Borough Health Scrutiny activity update report.

The Committee discussed the content of the report and that it was compliant with the Francis report. It was reported that the Code of Joint Working had been agreed by the Leaders Board. The Committee agreed a small working group to look in detail at the District and Borough Councils Work programmes.

Councillor Haden advised that she had attended a virtual ward at the Royal Wolverhampton Trust and the Committee agreed to attend the virtual ward.

Councillor Maycock advised that Tamworth Borough Council had received the Healthier Communities report and had requested Staffordshire Public Health to attend to go through the recommendations within the report.

Councillor Wilcox informed the Committee that Lichfield District Council has invited the ICB to talk about the George Bryan Centre and the Burton Health and Wellbeing Centre.

Resolved – That (a) the District and Borough Health Scrutiny Activity report be received and noted.

(b) a working group be convened to look in detail at the District and Borough Councils work programmes.

55. Work Programme 2022/23

The Chairman informed the Committee that the Work Programme for 2023/24 was being drafted.

Resolved – That the Work Programme be noted.

Chairman

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STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee

5 July 2023

TITLE:	Staffordshire Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny - The Joint Code of Working
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Councillor Mike Gledhill – Council Leader
CONTACT OFFICER:	Linden Vernon – Head of Democratic Services
WARDS INVOLVED:	Non-Specific

Appendices Attached – Appendix A The Joint Code of Working – Local Authorities

1. Reason for the Report

- 1.1 The report provides members with the updated version of the Code of Joint Working for Health Scrutiny in Staffordshire that has recently been considered approved by the Staffordshire Leaders Board.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Council Leader be recommended to approve, sign and adopt the Joint Code of Working and to update the Council's Constitution accordingly.

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 The Code of Joint Working arrangements with District and Borough Councils for Health Scrutiny has been reviewed and refreshed to develop the health scrutiny function across Staffordshire and to foster good relationships with District and Borough Council scrutiny committees and health partners.
- 3.2 Due to changes in the legislative framework the Staffordshire Leaders Board recently considered and approved the revised Code of Joint Scrutiny Working. The Board agreed that the Leaders of each District and Borough Council would take the Joint Code back to their respective Local Authorities for adoption.

Mark Trillo

Executive Director (Governance and Commissioning) and Monitoring Officer

Web Links and Background Papers

Joint Code of Working - attached

Contact details

Linden Vernon - Head of Democratic Services
Linden.vernon@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk

6. Detail

- 6.1 The Code of Joint Working arrangements with District and Borough Councils for Health Scrutiny has been reviewed and refreshed to develop the health scrutiny function across Staffordshire and to foster good relationships with District and Borough Council scrutiny committees and health partners.
- 6.2 The statutory responsibility for Health Scrutiny lies with Staffordshire County Council (SCC) as the social care authority, the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers health, adult social care, and public health matters. Scrutiny of wider determinants of health falls within the District/Borough scrutiny function.
- 6.3 The Joint Code was first introduced in 2003 to provide guidance to County and District/Borough Scrutiny processes. In essence, matters that had a Staffordshire wide theme be scrutinised by the County, whilst the local District/Borough scrutiny arrangements were intended to deal with matters that had a local theme.
- 6.4 The Joint Code was updated in 2015 in response to Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, implications of the Francis Report, and the changes to the structure of the Health Service. This was to ensure health matters were being scrutinised in the right forum and to avoid duplication. The Joint Code was signed by District/Borough Leaders in 2015.
- 6.5 The Health and Care Act 2022 has introduced the Integrated Care System and new ways of working. Existing regulations from 2014 on health scrutiny remain in force for the time being but there will be new powers for the Secretary of State to intervene in local health services from July 2023. Around this, the role and functions of health scrutiny will be changing, and it is important to prepare for these changes. It is therefore timely to refresh working arrangements and re-launch the Joint Code.
- 6.6 The Chairman, District / Borough Chairmen and support officers refer to the Joint Code to determine the method for scrutiny of any item that is of interest to both County and District/Boroughs:
- Countywide issues are considered by the County (e.g. System Pressures)
 - Local issues may be considered by the Districts/Boroughs (e.g. Leek MIU) by mutual agreement.
 - Joint scrutiny (e.g. Integrated Care Hubs in North Staffordshire) considered by the County and one or more Districts/Boroughs.
 - All Staffordshire Member Webinars (e.g. GP access) County, District/Boroughs and Parish Councils.
- 6.7 The Staffordshire County Council Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee has 21 members: 13 County Council and 8 District and Borough representatives (The Chairman of each District Committee with the remit for

Health and Wellbeing). A County Councillor also sits on each District/Borough committee.

- 6.8 The [Staffordshire Leaders Board on Thursday 9th March 2023](#), considered and approved the revised Code of Joint Scrutiny Working - Local Authorities to develop the health scrutiny function across Staffordshire and to foster good relationships with District and Borough Council scrutiny committees and Health Partners. The Board agreed that the Leaders of each District and Borough Council would take the Joint Code back to their respective Local Authorities for adoption.
- 6.9 It was agreed to seek approval from respective Councils to formally agree, sign and adopt the document and for each District and Borough Council to include the following wording in its Constitution:
- a. The Council has agreed a Code of Joint Working between the District/ Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council in relation to Overview and Scrutiny of health matters.
 - b. In accordance with the agreed code:
 - i. the County Council shall discharge the overview and scrutiny function under the Health and Social Care Act 2001 and subsequent guidance including the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.
 - ii. the [Borough/District] Chairman of the [relevant Overview & Scrutiny Committee] Committee will be appointed to Staffordshire County Council's Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
 - iii. the County Council is entitled to appoint one of its members to the [relevant Borough/District Overview & Scrutiny Committee] in relation to health matters.

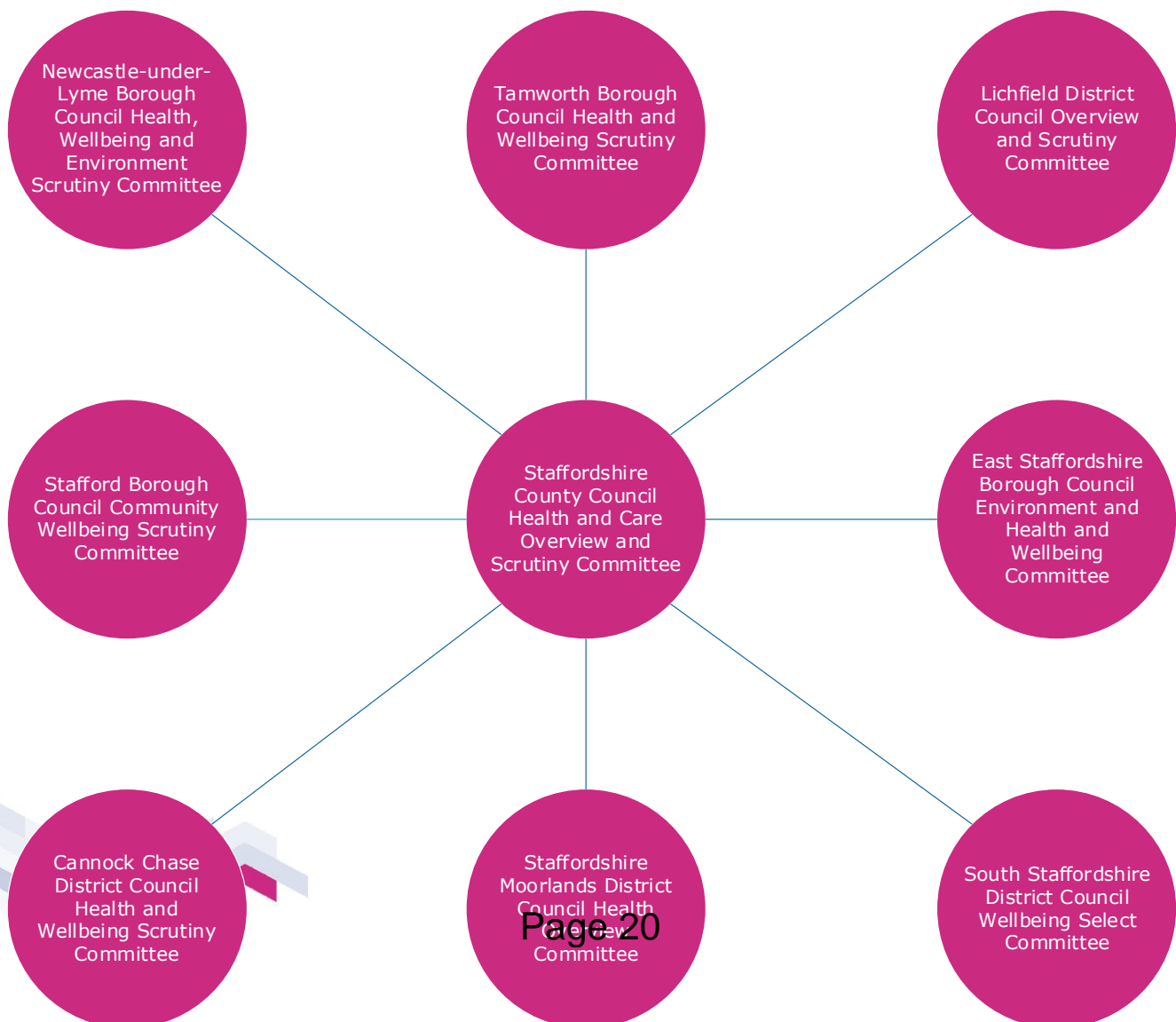
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Staffordshire Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Code of Joint Working – Local Authorities

1. Background

- 1.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2011 (“the Act”), as amended by the National Health Service Act 2006, provides local authorities with social services functions and powers to undertake scrutiny of health matters as detailed in the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 (The Regulations).
- 1.2 The remit of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee can be found in Staffordshire County Councils constitution.
- 1.3 The County Council and the eight District/Borough Councils in the county agreed to operate joint working arrangements for health scrutiny in 2003 (amended in 2014).



2. General Principles

- 2.1 The Health and Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee carries out Health Scrutiny activity in Staffordshire on the basis of the following working principles (and meeting statutory requirements where applicable):
- a. **Scope of Health Scrutiny** - The intended outcome of health scrutiny activity is the improvement of the health and wellbeing of the people of Staffordshire. The Staffordshire County Council Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HCOSC) may review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision, and operation of health services in its area.
 - b. **Co-operation** - The authorities involved must be willing to share knowledge, respond to requests for information, initiatives and reports as appropriate. The County and District Councils will work together and mutually agree who will scrutinise each topic to ensure that nothing is overlooked and to avoid duplication of effort.
 - c. **Accountability** - The process of health scrutiny will be open and transparent. The HCOSC cannot delegate its statutory power to Districts/ Boroughs (paragraph 1.1).
 - d. **Code ownership** - The document will be owned by the County Council and will be reviewed annually in partnership with District and Boroughs.

3. Governance

- 3.1 Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
- a. The **County Council** will lead on matters that can best be dealt with at a county wide level.
 - b. 21 Members appointed annually: 13 County Councillors and a councillor from each District/ Borough (8) (see point 3.3a).
 - c. The District/Borough Councillor can nominate a substitute if they are unable to attend a meeting. The County Council should be notified prior to the meeting and the substitute will have full voting rights.
 - d. The **County Council may ask a lead District / Borough Council** to carry out scrutiny of an issue, which the County Council believes can be best dealt with at a district level which is specific



to their geographical area. This may be singly or jointly with other District/Borough Councils. The capacity of committees and partners to carry out scrutiny activity should be taken into consideration when planning scrutiny of an issue.

- e. **District and Borough Councils may ask the County Council** to carry out scrutiny of an issue that is of a strategic nature or is county-wide.

3.2 District and Borough Committees:

- a. Each District and Borough Committee operates in line with their terms of reference in their constitutions. As per 3.1 d The HCOSC may ask it to consider:
 - i. Locality specific commissioning proposals that solely affect health and wellbeing activities within that district/ borough, whoever they are provided for;
 - ii. matters which have been agreed with the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 - iii. District/Borough services that interface with planning for and providing health services - for example, but not exclusively, housing, leisure and environmental health service; and relevant locality specific partnerships

3.3 Appointment of representatives:

- a. The Chair from each District/ Borough Scrutiny Committee which holds the remit for Health and Wellbeing matters will be appointed to the HCOSC and will have full voting rights. Their role is to:
 - i. Provide updates from their relevant Committee to the HCOSC.
 - ii. Report back on any issue which the HCOSC has requested the relevant Committee to scrutinise.
- b. One County Councillor will be appointed to each District/Borough Committee with full voting rights on the respective Committee. The appointment will be made by the County Council annually. The representative will provide updates from HCOSC to the District/Borough Committee.

3.4 Health Scrutiny Officers Group:

- a. The terms of reference is appended to this code.



Appendix 1 – FAQs

- 1. Why does the County Council scrutinise the big issues such as the ICS Transformation Programme and ambulance waiting times? Borough/Districts also want to look at how these issues affect services in our area and our residents.**

The Transformation Programme covers services across Staffordshire County. The joint code ensures that representatives from all 8 District Councils have a seat on the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee to raise local issues and that a representative from the County Committee has a seat on the District Committees to report back to District Councils on matters discussed. Any specific questions can be channelled through the local representatives on the committee.

- 2. Should Borough/District Councils invite NHS providers to their meeting to scrutinise a particular issue?**

Largely no unless the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed with the Borough/District Council that it should be the lead authority for scrutiny. The reason for this is to avoid NHS providers attending 8 Borough/District Council meetings, Staffordshire Council has the responsibility for health scrutiny under the Health and Social Care Act and to avoid duplication of effort.

- 3. Can a Borough/District Council scrutinise the performance of a local GP surgery?**

The performance of a GP Surgery does not fall under the scrutiny remit. GPs are commissioned under contract by the ICS and the quality management of their contract is through NHS England. There are other ways for local members to discuss concerns about local surgeries directly with the ICS, but a public scrutiny meeting is not the appropriate forum.

- 4. Can a Borough/District Council scrutinise access to GP surgeries in their area?**

The Primary Access Plan is a countywide plan and includes access to GP surgeries. This is scrutinised by the Staffordshire Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Representatives from District and Borough Councils have equal opportunity to question witnesses about progress of actions in the plan to improve access to GP surgeries across the region.



5. Can a Borough/District Council scrutinise issues such as NHS Dentistry provision?

The provision of NHS Dentistry is a countywide contract, currently led by NHS England, this will change in April 2023 when the ICS takes on the contractual role. This should be looked at in a strategic nature by the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

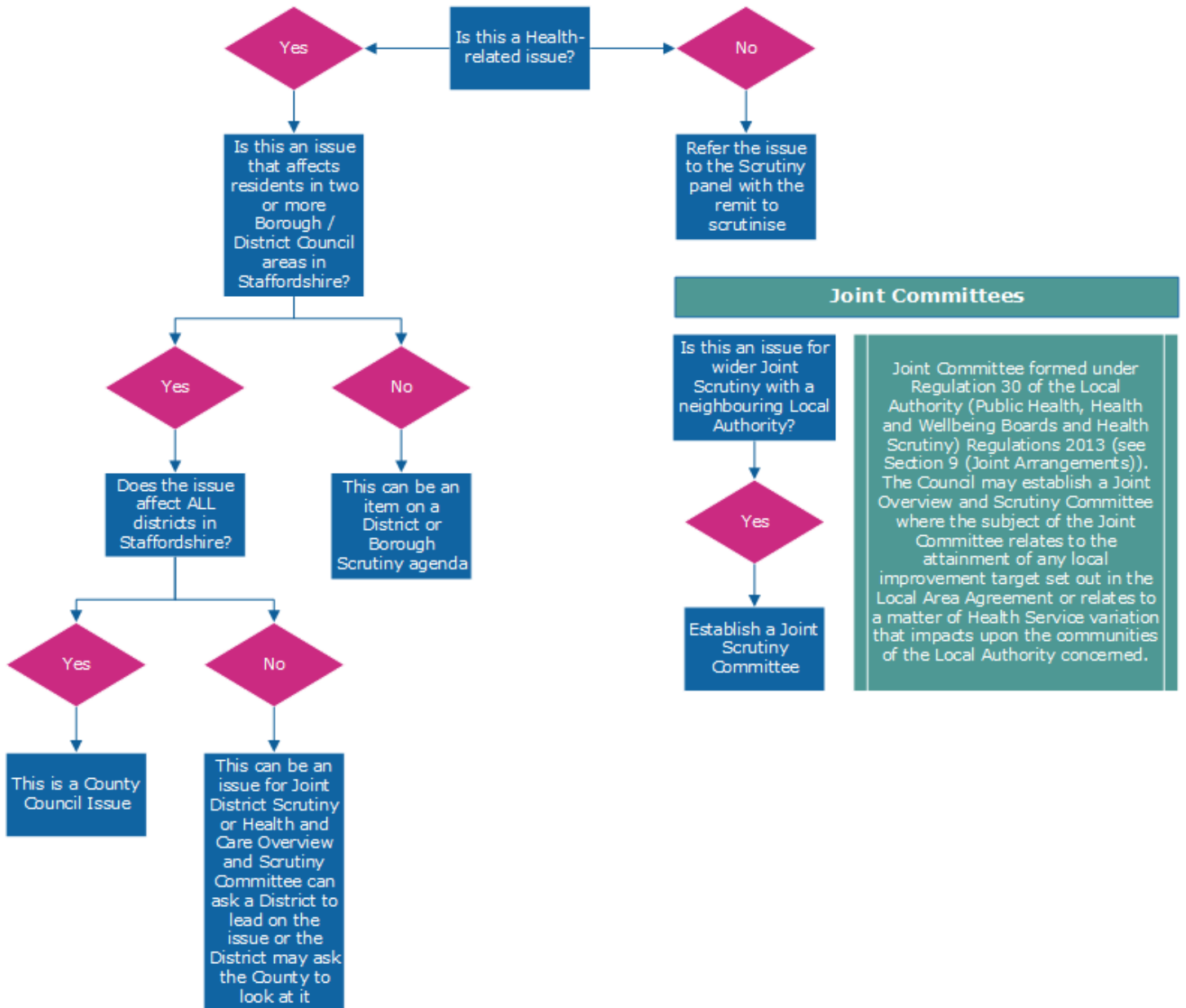
6. What should a Borough/District Council do if their Committee wants to scrutinise a health issue that was the responsibility of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee?

The Borough/ District Member appointed to the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee (i.e. the chairman of the Borough/District committee) should bring the matter to the attention to the Chairman of the Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee under the terms of this Joint Code of Working.



Appendix 2 – Joint Code of Working with Districts and Boroughs

Plan for where scrutiny of an issue takes place, as determined by the County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairman in consultation with the relevant Committee Members and agreed by the Committee in the Work Programme.



Appendix 3 – Health Scrutiny Officers Group

Terms of Reference

1. Introduction

1.1 The Health Scrutiny Officers Group (HSOG) has been formed to support the Staffordshire County Council Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HCOSC) and District and Borough Scrutiny arrangements.

2. Membership

2.1 The membership will consist of:

- a. Officer representatives from Staffordshire County Council
- b. At least one officer representative from each District / Borough

2.2 Other advisers and partners may be invited to the Group on an ongoing or ad-hoc basis as appropriate.

3. Terms of Reference

3.1 The main aims of the Group is to mutually support the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing function in achieving its aims and objectives.

3.2 The group may:

- a. Put forward items of business to the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- b. Inform the process of work programme planning and delivery;
- c. Discuss and report on matters of note on health and care across Staffordshire; and
- d. Establish an appropriate mechanism to carry out the scrutiny function and consider the scrutiny arrangements at Districts and Boroughs.

4. Ways of Working

4.1 The Group will meet twice annually as a minimum. Meetings will be organised and administered by the County Council. Meetings will be chaired by the County Council.

