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**Meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee – 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2023**

**Report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)**

**Annual Scrutiny Report 2022/23**

**Purpose**

1. To consider the annual scrutiny report for 2022/23.

**Recommendations**

2. That the Scrutiny Committee:-
  - receives and comments on the attached annual report;
  - identify any items that need to be rolled-forward for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2023/24.

**Background**

3. The Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules, as set out in the Council's [Constitution](#), require that an annual overview and scrutiny report is submitted to the Council.
4. The Committee's annual report for 2022/23 is attached as an Appendix. Minutes and outcomes of all Scrutiny Committee meetings can be accessed online via the [Committee Management Information System](#). The Annual Report will be presented to the Council on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 for consideration.
5. The Council has recognised the importance of retaining an annual review and report process. This is to ensure that the arrangements continue to align themselves to the needs of the Council and that the scrutiny arrangements remain adaptable and flexible to changes in circumstances.

## **Draft Annual Scrutiny Programme 2023/24**

6. Work to develop the Annual Scrutiny Programme at this stage needs to allow for flexibility given any potential changes arising from the annual meeting of the Council. All Scrutiny Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs, Officers and others will be invited to contribute to the development of the Annual Scrutiny Programme.
7. The views of the Committee are invited on any items that need to be 'rolled forward' to the next municipal year or any items they would like to suggest for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2023/24.
8. A meeting of the Scrutiny Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs was held on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 to discuss the Annual Scrutiny Programme.

### **Finance**

9. The costs of operating the Council's scrutiny arrangements are being contained within existing budgetary allocations.

### **Law**

10. Scrutiny Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.
11. Scrutiny powers relating to health are included in the Health and Social Care Acts 2001 and 2012, and associated Regulations and statutory guidance. The Police and Justice Act 2006 gives the Council powers to scrutinise the work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 enables local authorities to scrutinise other partners. Much of this legislation is consolidated in the Localism Act 2011.

### **Risk Management**

12. The Council's scrutiny and governance arrangements are contained in the Council's Constitution which will ensure that the Council considers any ongoing material risks as part of the Council's Risk Management Framework.

## **Equality Impact**

13. Provision exists within the scrutiny arrangements for overview and scrutiny to be undertaken of the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

## **Human Resources/Organisational Development**

14. Overview and Scrutiny work is primarily administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required. Any proposals to develop the Council's overview and scrutiny functions have to be set in the context of the resources available and the organisational capacity to support scrutiny work.

## **Commercial/Procurement**

15. This report has no impact on the Council's potential to commercially trade. Individual items included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme may have commercial implications, which will be reported to the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

## **Environment/Climate Change**

16. Individual items included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme and associated reports to Scrutiny Committees will consider any implications on the environment or the Council's work in addressing Climate Change and achieving Net Zero target by 2041.

## **Council Priorities and Projects**

17. Items within the Annual Scrutiny Programme and the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committees contribute to the delivery of key Council priorities including the Borough Vision, Council Plan and Future Council Programme.



**Mohammed Farooq**  
**Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)**

Report Author: Helen Mills  
Telephone: 01384 815271  
Email: [helen.mills@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:helen.mills@dudley.gov.uk)

## **Appendix**

Appendix 1 - Annual Report 2022/23

### **List of Background Documents**

[The Council's Constitution](#) – Article 6 and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules

Scrutiny Reports and Minutes available on the [Committee Management Information System](#)



**Chair -  
Councillor  
Matt Rogers**

**Annual report of the  
Health and Adult Social Care  
Scrutiny Committee**

**2022/23 Muncipal Year**



**Vice-Chair -  
Councillor  
Phil Atkins**

Our role involves the scrutiny of local health and associated services, as a contribution to the Council's community leadership role and in line with our statutory duties. This includes the scrutiny of local NHS bodies and matters falling within the portfolio responsibility of appropriate Cabinet Members.

**High Oak Surgery**

The Committee undertook a full scrutiny review on the relocation of High Oak Surgery. A single subject Scrutiny Committee was held on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2022, which members of the public, stakeholders and Ward Councillors were invited to attend and make representations. A joint report of Dudley Integrated Health and Care Trust (DIHC) and the Managing Director for Dudley at Black Country and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) was considered, which provided context around the temporary relocation of High Oak Surgery, including the current provision of services provided at the Brierley Hill Health and Social Care Centre. The report also outlined the changes in primary care, a health needs analysis of the local population and the next steps in determining the future location of the surgery.

Following the conclusion of DIHC High Oak Public Conversation, a further single subject meeting of the Scrutiny Committee was arranged and held in the Pensnett community on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2023. Local residents, Ward Councillors and Stakeholders were again invited to make representations and an update on the current situation was provided by DIHC.

**Outcomes:**

**15<sup>th</sup> June, 2022**

- That the information contained in the report and the associated presentation concerning High Oak Surgery be noted.
- That this Committee believes that the GP surgery and services should revert back to Pensnett.
- That the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing be supported in undertaking further discussions with partner

organisations and that a further report on the outcomes be submitted to the Committee in due course.

- That the views expressed by the Committee, as summarised above, be considered further and that responses be provided to specific issues raised by Members.
- That further work be undertaken with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to develop a joint engagement plan and to ensure that consultation is real and meaningful, however, this is subject to and dependent on services being returned to Pensnett as per the pre-Covid situation.
- That the Stakeholder Panel be reinstated and that a meeting of the Panel take place in advance of the next meeting of this Committee in respect of the High Oak surgery.
- That the Chair and Vice-Chair be authorised to determine the arrangements for a further meeting of this Committee to consider the High Oak issue taking account of the views and suggestions made by Members at this meeting.

*(Arising from comments raised in relation to the level of public transport operated between Pensnett and the Brierley Hill Health and Social Care Centre, located in Venture Way, Brierley Hill, a letter on behalf of the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee was sent to Transport for West Midlands, outlining the concerns and asking for a re-evaluation as a matter of urgency to support the local community.)*

10<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

- That the report and verbal update provided at the meeting in relation to High Oak Surgery, be noted and endorsed.
- That the comments made at the meeting, be submitted to DIHC and taken into consideration as part of the public conversation.
- That the agenda item in relation to High Oak Surgery remain on the Scrutiny Committee's working programme, with a further update provided to the Scrutiny Committee in April, 2023.

### **Local and National Covid-19 Developments and Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP)**

Members considered a report which provided a final update on Dudley's Local Outbreak Management Plan, the Local and National Covid-19 development and the Local Authority's position at the end of the pandemic phase of the response. An overview of all the work undertaken throughout the pandemic was provided, together with the system-wide response implemented to mitigate the impact on the health and social care system,

communities and local economy. It reported that although the LOMP specifically for Covid-19 was no longer required, Dudley's local response plans would be reinvigorated to incorporate lessons learned from the pandemic.

**Outcomes:**

- That the final update in relation to the pandemic phase of Covid-19 be received and noted.
- That the lessons learned from the pandemic and the plans moving forward, be received and noted.
- That the Government's strategy for Local Authorities to have a reduced role in Covid-19 specific activities and that no additional Covid -19 specific local funding has been provide and that a LOMP specifically for Covid-19 is no longer necessary to be maintained by the Local Authority, be noted.
- That the Acting Director of Public Health and Wellbeing circulate a breakdown of how the additional financial support provided, in terms of Government grants, was allocated to each individual Ward, to all Members of the Scrutiny Committee.
- That the Head of Health Protection circulate the findings from the community engagement, together with what barriers were identified, particularly from the BAME communities and lessons learned, to all Members of the Scrutiny Committee.
- That the Head of Health Protection circulate data in relation to the percentage of residents that are unable to have the vaccination for any reason, if available, to all Members of the Scrutiny Committee.

**Feedback from the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee Working Group**

The Committee received a feedback report from the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee Working Group held on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2022, in relation to the work undertaken by the Council's Mental Health, Health and Safety and Corporate Landlord teams on the Woodside Day Centre. The recommendations formulated at the Working Group were submitted for consideration and approval.

**Outcomes:**

- That the information contained in the report submitted on the feedback from the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee Working Group, be noted.

- That the short-term capital required to ensure Woodside Day Centre is committed from the Adult Social Care capital budget and the proposed partial re-opening and use of the two portacabins on site, subject to remedial works, be noted and endorsed.
- That the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, in conjunction with the Director of Adult Social Care, be recommended to seek a land valuation for the site and report back to a future meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee Working Group with options for future provision of the service identified.

### **Corporate Quarterly Performance Reporting**

The Committee received the Corporate Quarterly Performance reports during the year. The Director of Adult Social Care and Acting Director of Public Health and Wellbeing attended meetings to provide a summary and respond to questions asked by the Committee.

#### **Outcomes:**

- That the Director of Adult Social Care draft a letter, on behalf of the Scrutiny Committee, to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, expressing the Committees serious concerns in relation to the impact and difficulties the Social Care sector was experiencing and requesting additional financial support for carers and care providers.

### **Annual Adult Safeguarding Report and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)**

The Committee considered the Annual Adult Safeguarding report and received an update on Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). The report highlighted that the number of safeguarding referrals continued to increase year on year, with an increase in self-neglect referrals also reported. Legislation in relation to the implementation of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards was awaited from Government.

#### **Outcomes:**

- That the report on Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report for 2021/22, be received and noted.
- That the Cabinet be recommended to refrain from making any additional resource cuts in relation to Safeguarding, irrespective of budgetary issues and pressures, and that consideration be given as to how to enhance and positively address areas of neglect, to ensure that the service was fit for purpose.



- That the Independent Chair (Safeguarding) and Director of Adult Social Care be requested to continue to update the Committee on the level of safeguarding demand and performance of the Directorate.

### **Progress update on the development of the Black Country Integrated Care System (ICS) and Dudley's Integrated Health and Care Model**

Throughout the municipal year, the Committee received regular updates on the development of the Black Country Integrated Care System and Dudley's Integrated Health and Care Model.

#### **Outcomes:**

- That the position in relation to the development of the Black Country Integrated Care System, including the integrated care board and the development of Dudley's Integrated Health and Care Model, be noted.
- That the Dudley Managing Director - Black Country Integrated Care Board, be requested to provide a further report on the significant changes in the care system and the impact this had on the role of a Councillor and provide further clarity on the specific role of a Councillor and the Scrutiny Committee in relation to the ICB and ICP, in particular how all parties could be involved to ensure Dudley's priorities would be incorporated.
- The Dudley Managing Director be requested to invite Brendan Clifford to attend a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee to discuss the composition of the ICS and the role of the Scrutiny Committee and Councillors.

### **Impact of the Dudley Telecare Digital Strategy**

The Committee considered a report and received a presentation on the implementation and impact of the digital strategy and the progress of the Telecare Service Review. The ways in which the telecare service supported the wider health and social care system were highlighted, together with the risks from the switchover from analogue to digital and the charging model and future developments for the service were outlined.

#### **Outcomes:**

- That the impact of the digital strategy and digital offer be noted and appraised by Members.
- That the awareness and impact of the analogue to digital switch cover be noted.

- That data in relation to how quick calls were responded/ answered be circulated to the Scrutiny Committee following the meeting.
- That a letter on behalf of the Scrutiny Committee be sent to the Telecare Services team expressing their thanks for their exemplary service.
- Consideration be given to the development of an information pack/booklet for Elected Members and that information on the service be included as part of the induction training for Elected Members.

### **Update on the Health Inequalities Strategy**

The Committee considered a joint report and presentation on the Health Inequalities Strategy and to seek support on adopting a system wide approach to addressing the inequality gap in Dudley and to explore ways to increase the input of the wider system. The priorities for the Borough and the Council to address wider determinants were also presented, together with a picture of the population in Dudley in terms of the percentage of residents with a long-term health condition, unemployed and living in poverty.

- That the report on adopting a system wide approach to addressing the inequality gap in Dudley, be noted.
- That a further report and action plan, taking into account all of the comments made at the meeting and outlined above, be submitted to the first meeting of the 2023/24 municipal year.
- That a progress update on the Violence Prevention Strategy, be submitted to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

### **Other items considered by the Scrutiny Committee in the 2021/22 Municipal Year**

- Food Safety and Standards in Dudley Borough
- Update Report regarding Primary Care Dental Services
- Medium Term Financial Strategy
- Primary Care Strategy
- Feedback from the Joint Meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Working Group, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee Working Group and the Children's Corporate Parenting Board Working Group

## **Future items for consideration by the Scrutiny Committee**

Items to be considered at Scrutiny Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2023:-

- NHS Quality Accounts
- Serious Violence Strategy
- Quarterly Performance Report – Quarter 3

Items to be rolled forward and included in the work programme for 2023/24:-

- High Oak Surgery
- Woodside Day Centre
- Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHP) Hub
- Mental Health and Inequalities
- Director of Public Health Annual Report
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Review of the Dudley Health and Wellbeing Board
- Progress update on the development of the Black Country Integrated Care System (ICS) and Dudley's Integrated Health and Care Model
- Health Inequalities Strategy