

FRIDAY, 14 MAY 2021

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A **VIRTUAL** MEETING
OF THE **SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**
WHICH WILL BE HELD AT **10.30 AM** ON **FRIDAY, 21ST MAY,**
2021 FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED
ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA.

Wendy Walters

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Democratic Officer:	Emma Bryer
Telephone (Direct Line):	01267 224029
E-Mail:	ebryer@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 MEMBERS

PLAID CYMRU GROUP – 7 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Kim Broom |
| 2. | Councillor | Karen Davies |
| 3. | Councillor | Tyssul Evans |
| 4. | Councillor | Jean Lewis |
| 5. | Councillor | Emlyn Schiavone |
| 6. | Councillor | Gwyneth Thomas [Chair] |
| 7. | Councillor | Dorian Williams |

LABOUR GROUP – 4 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|-------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Rob Evans |
| 2. | Councillor | Amanda Fox |
| 3. | Councillor | Ken Lloyd |
| 4. | Councillor | Kevin Madge |

INDEPENDENT GROUP – 2 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Sue Allen |
| 2. | Councillor | Ieuan Wyn Davies [Vice-Chair] |

NEW INDEPENDENT GROUP – 1 MEMBER

- | | | |
|----|------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Louvain Roberts |
|----|------------|-----------------|

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM.
3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)
4. MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE REPORT 5 - 18
5. SOCIAL CARE & HEATH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2021/22 19 - 26
6. FORTHCOMING ITEMS 27 - 30
7. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 20TH APRIL, 2021 31 - 34

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21st May 2021

Mental Health Update Report

To consider and comment on the Mental Health Update report.

Reasons:

To provide Scrutiny Committee with a position statement regarding the impact of the pandemic on mental health and wellbeing and highlight the service priorities and developments going forward.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. Jane Tremlett (Social Care & Health Portfolio Holder)

Directorate

Communities

Jake Morgan

Designations:

Director of Community Services

Tel Nos./ E Mail Addresses:

Report Author:

Avril Bracey

Head of Adult Social Care

01267 242492

ABracey@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
21st May 2021

Mental Health Update Report

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

This document explains the current and potential impact of Covid -19 on the mental health and wellbeing of Carmarthenshire's population, what this means for services and how this is informing our priorities going forward.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Avril Bracey, Head of Adult Social Care

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	YES	YES

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

1. We must make sure that we learn from this unprecedented experience as we re-set our strategic and operational priorities.
2. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to inevitable changes to the way in which services are delivered by local authorities. We will need to reprioritise services and our resources in budget setting.
3. It is critical that Local Authorities involve those who use services and their carers and adhere to equality policies when resetting social care service priorities.

2. Finance

The authority has increased the resource allocation for mental health services this year which will enable us to enhance and improve services to respond to the increased demand for services following the pandemic.

3. ICT

Digital solutions will play an ever-increasing role in shaping what we do. Technology and forms of virtual communication have been invaluable through this time.

4. Staffing Implications

Staffing has remained relatively stable during the pandemic and staff have demonstrated remarkable resilience. Further investment will enable us to increase the staffing resource in mental health services to respond to the anticipated increase in demand.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Avril Bracey, Head of Adult Social Care

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Council - N/A

3. Relevant Partners – N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Monthly meetings with trade unions ongoing. Corporate staff surveys informing services. Regular team meetings and briefing ongoing via Teams online.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED:
YES/NO**

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Impact of COVID-19 on Carmarthenshire Executive Board Report 19 th October 2020	CCC Website

Mental Health Update

Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee 21st May 2021

carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Health and Social Care Scrutiny Report: Mental Health Update

Introduction

Mental Health Services have changed hugely over the last few decades. We have been shifting away from the idea of mental illness to one of wellbeing and in recent years there has been an increased emphasis on raising awareness of mental health issues and reducing stigma. The prevalence of mental health is constantly reported in the media and increasingly many high-profile individuals have spoken out, to raise awareness and encourage people to seek support.

One in four people will experience poor mental health during their lifetime (equates to approx. 45,000 in Carmarthenshire) and demand for mental health support and services has steadily been increasing in Wales. Furthermore, the rates of suicide and self-harm have also been increasing with Carmarthenshire having one of the highest rates amongst the 22 Authorities.

Legislative/ Strategic context

The Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 has introduced important changes to the support available in Wales. It places new legal duties on Local Health Boards and Local Authorities regarding access and treatment and improved access to advocacy.

The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 The Act prescribes prevention and early intervention services within the community to minimise the escalation of critical need. It promotes supporting people to achieve their own well-being and measuring the success of care and support.

Prosperity for All: Economic Action Plan (2017) Welsh Government's national strategy highlights wellbeing, prevention and tackling mental ill-health as one of the six priority areas having the greatest potential contribution to long term prosperity and wellbeing.

A Healthier Wales (2018) sets out a plan for improving integration between health and social services. It also aims to move the focus of services more towards prevention and proposes a wellness system which aims to support and anticipate health needs, to prevent illness, and to reduce the impact of poor health. The quadruple aim applies to all services including mental health services.

- Improved population health and wellbeing
- Better quality and more accessible health and social care services
- Higher value health and social care

- A motivated and sustainable health and social care workforce

Welsh Government have recently published **Together for Mental Health 2019 - 2022** (first launched in 2014) a cross cutting strategy that sets out the vision for improvement of mental health and wellbeing for the people in Wales and recognises that mental health and wellbeing is not the sole responsibility of one organisation, but is everybody's business.

Impact of Covid-19 on Mental Health

The pandemic is challenging for everyone, but the impact on the mental health and wellbeing of many people in Wales is significant. Some individuals will experience severe reactions, including grief, anxiety, depression, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The Mental Health Foundation is leading a UK wide long-term study of how the pandemic is affecting people's mental health. They are undertaking this in collaboration with several Universities, including Swansea University. They are using quantitative evidence from repeated surveys and qualitative evidence from citizens panels.

The study provides some unique insights into the mental health effects of the pandemic since mid-March 2020 and looks at five waves of data collected across the UK. What is also interesting is that the study highlights a divergence in people's experiences and that it is affecting sections of the population differently e.g. that groups affected by socioeconomic inequality are more likely to report not coping well with the pandemic.

The study reports that 82% of UK adults have experienced stress because of the pandemic and 10% of the population have had suicidal ideation.

In relation to the mental health impacts of Covid-19, the study also refers to several high-risk population groups and this data provides a useful indication of potential pressures on mental health services during and after the pandemic.

High Risk Population Groups

The study has consistently shown that young adults are more likely to report hopelessness, loneliness, not coping, and suicidal thoughts and feelings. This age group is already a high risk, as we know that three quarters of mental health problems arise before mid-20's. Young adults have been badly hit with curtailed education, curtailed job prospects and reduced contact with peers.

People with pre-existing Mental Health issues

People who entered the pandemic with a prior experience of mental health problems are more likely to experience anxiety, panic, and hopelessness. In the study they have reported suicide thoughts and feelings at a rate that is almost triple those in the general population.

People with long term disability or physical health conditions

The study supports the view that the pandemic has hit the mental health and wellbeing of people with long-term, disabling physical health conditions particularly hard. They found that a higher proportion of people with long-term disabling health conditions reported having difficulty coping (26%) compared to the overall population (14%). They were also more likely to have been worried that the pandemic may make their existing mental health condition worse (46%). Furthermore, this group were more likely to be more anxious, panicked, afraid and lonely.

Single Parents

The study found that a higher proportion of single parents have reported mental and emotional distress during the pandemic than the general population. Nearly two-thirds of single parents (63%) reported having been anxious or worried compared to 49% of the overall adult population. Very worryingly, more than double the proportion of single parents had experienced suicidal thoughts/feelings in the prior two weeks compared to the population.

Unemployed people or insecure employment

Unemployed people are already at risk of developing mental health problems and during the pandemic the study indicates that one third of UK adults are worried about losing their jobs and their livelihood. The study showed that those who are unemployed or in insecure employment, reported suicidal ideation at a rate of 24%, which is more than double the rate of the general population.

Potential Impact on Adult Social Care in Carmarthenshire

Welsh Government is currently developing real time data for Wales regarding the impact of the pandemic on mental health services. Early predications for the UK from literature published suggest a 20% increase in demand in inpatient and Community Mental Health Team demand.

Contact with the Mental Health Team has also increased by 136% over the last year, from 131 April to September 2019, to 301 for the same period this year. All contacts will require some form of intervention such as assessment, intervention, a report for a Mental Health Tribunal, or Information, Advice and Assistance.

The third sector are reporting a 24% increase in mental health referrals. All of the voluntary groups have seen an increase in calls and contacts, and some from people that have not used mental health services before.

All Mental Health Forums and Networks since March have reported increased demand and reported high levels of anxiety and self-harm across West Wales and Carmarthenshire, including reported significant increases in people contacting them for support for self-harm and eating disorders. Carmarthenshire's Occupational Health Dept have enhanced the offer of mental health support to respond to the impact of Covid-19 on the wellbeing of staff. The department has seen a 11% increase in referrals compared with last year.

Additional pressures

- Aside from anticipated increased demand post Covid-19, there is an increase in complexity and co morbidity e.g., 50% of those cases who have mental health issues managed by the Community Mental Health Teams (CMHT) also have a substance misuse. Others have a physical frailty or sensory impairment.
- We are also seeing an increase of those who have a personality disorder or an offending history.
- The CMHT is increasingly asked to respond to individuals in the community whose behaviour is a concern, but they may not wish to engage, or their mental health condition is not of a nature or degree which warrants compulsory intervention.
- We are also seeing higher rates of mental health issues occurring in people with a learning disability and/or autism.
- We are seeing an increased presentation of mental health issues related to homelessness and other accommodation issues.
- Domestic violence referrals are also up and 30% of these have MH support needs.

How are we responding?

In relation to the mental health impact of Covid-19, the study refers to several high-risk population groups. Whilst these groups are not exhaustive, they are significant in terms of Local Authority planning and suggest that what is required is a recovery plan that is multi-faceted and addresses not just the provision of mental health services, but the social determinants of mental health to minimise the extent of mental health problems during and after the crisis.

The findings of the Mental Health Foundation study and current Carmarthenshire data suggest that more needs to be done to address the mental health needs of the population. Early intervention and prevention must be a priority as well as targeted intervention and crisis support for those most at risk.

This year the Council has approved a significant investment in mental health services which will enable us to develop and deliver improved services. The following are some examples of current activity:

Collaboration with partners.

Timely access to services and clear pathways for those in crisis is critical. We are working with HDUHB and the third sector to develop a Single Point of Contact for mental health services. This approach has already been piloted successfully in other LA areas and is based on a model where experienced health and social care professionals are the first point of contact, triaging the calls and facilitating the appropriate response; for example, urgent cases being responded to within four hours.

We are also scoping with HDUHB a 24/7 crisis response service which would involve the out of hours Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) being aligned or potentially co-located with the HDUHB team to look at an improved and timely response to those in crisis, targeted outreach support for those at greatest risk and prevent admissions to hospital wherever possible.

We are increasing the number of Social Workers in the Community Mental Health teams to facilitate the above developments.

We are increasing the number of Social Work Assistants in the Community Mental Health Teams. These posts will work collaboratively to boost community

resilience, community connection and maximise the potential of community resources.

In 2019 Adult Social Care initiated the development of an out of hours mental health service for adults in Llanelli- The Twilight Sanctuary. It was a collaborative project between the Hywel Dda Health Board, the Local Authority, Dyfed Powys Police and the Third Sector. The project offers a place of sanctuary for adults at risk of deteriorating mental health, when other services are closed. The project is the first of its kind in Wales and it is now being rolled out across the West Wales region. It has been highlighted by Welsh Government as good practice and it is hoped it will soon be a model adopted across Wales.

We are exploring a collaborative recovery focussed model for day opportunities with the Health Board and Third Sector which will link closely with the single point of contact in terms of prevention, early intervention, and community connection.

We are looking at digital mental health interventions to reach people in socio economically/ geographically/culturally disadvantaged groups and are going to pilot a system called “Brain in Hand”, where individuals will have access to support and coping strategies on their phones.

The impact of the pandemic has been significant on the mental wellbeing of carers, who have had to continue to provide 24/7 support, often with reduced support in some instances. We have established Carers’ Champions in all the social work teams in Adult Social Care. These Champions ensure that the profile of Carers is raised in the teams, that carers assessments are prioritised and act as central points for information and advice relating to carers.

In relation to the mental health of children and young people and for young people in transition, we are recruiting two social work posts that will also focus on this area of work. We are currently working with colleagues in Children’s Services and Education to look at early intervention and prevention for young people who do not meet criteria for secondary mental health services. A Children and Young People’s group has been re-established by the Regional Partnership Board. A key focus of this group going forward will be the mental health and well-being of young people.

Within mental health and learning disability services we are embarking on an ambitious programme of change in relation to accommodation. Our vision is to reduce the reliance on residential care and develop more community options accommodation, which promote choice and independence. We are collaborating with colleagues in Housing, Commissioning and with Hywel Dda Health Board to develop a range of community accommodation projects from independent tenancies to shared settings. Currently we are engaged in a regional project to identify the current and future accommodation requirements of those with mental health needs.

We have enabled 20 individuals to step down from residential care to supported living environments and we are currently utilising Integrated Care Fund (ICF) funding to develop a project for those with a mental health need and a learning disability. The project is already demonstrating improved outcomes for individuals and there will also be an impact on the budget by more cost-effective use of resources. Quote from someone who has stepped down from residential care in 2020 from his community nurse ***“I just spoke to Mr T. It was so lovely. He is so happy ‘Joyo, Joyo’, he said. He has been ‘everywhere’ he says. He has been playing football outside with the staff, he happily shares chores like drying and washing up with X. He is looking forward to the future and talking about returning to all his jobs and clubs. He is also looking forward to going on holiday.”***

Suicide and Self Harm

In 2009 Welsh Government published Talk to me, a five-year national action plan to reduce suicide and self-harm in Wales. A review of progress undertaken in 2012 by Public Health Wales contained a series of recommendations. One was that action should be taken to enhance the involvement of health boards, local authorities, and a broad range of other organisations.

Following the review, the Minister for Health and Social Services asked the National Advisory Group to Welsh Government (chaired by Professor Ann John, Swansea University) on suicide and self-harm prevention to redraft the plan. The finalised strategy and action plan, Talk to Me 2 was launched in July 2015 and relates to the period 2015-2020. The strategy has six key objectives:

- Further improve awareness, knowledge and understanding of suicide and self-harm amongst the public, individuals who frequently encounter people at risk of suicide and self-harm and professionals in Wales.
- Deliver appropriate responses to personal crises, early intervention and management of suicide and self-harm.
- Provide information and support for those bereaved or affected by suicide and self-harm.
- Support the media in responsible reporting and portrayal of suicide and suicidal behaviour.
- Reduce access to the means of suicide.
- Continue to promote and support learning, information, monitoring systems and research to improve on understanding of suicide and self-harm in Wales and guide actions.

Regional Implementation

Three regional fora have been established to support implementation: North Wales, Mid and South West Wales, South East Wales. These fora have been charged with developing a regional suicide and self-harm prevention strategy in accordance with the national strategy. The Mid and South West Wales forum is chaired by the Head of Adult Social Care in Carmarthenshire.

It is expected that local plans will be delivered in local authority areas. Carmarthenshire has a local delivery group which is well attended by all agencies. It reports back to the regional forum, the forum reports to the National Advisory Group who provides updates to Welsh Government. It is also expected that organisations will report via their own governance structures including the Mental Health Partnership Boards and that Regional Safeguarding Boards are kept updated on progress.

Grant funding was provided in 2019 to support a National Coordinator, three Regional Coordinators and support some local innovative projects. These roles are already proving valuable in raising the profile and mobilising organisations to engage in this critical area of work.

Each year approximately 325 people in Wales die by suicide and there are many more who attempt suicide. There is a general upward trend in male suicide rates, in the over 65's and in children in young people. There has been a significant increase in the incidences in self-harm in children and young people and there are challenges in this region. The plans to improve early intervention,

access to services and crisis services will include strategies to respond to the suicide and self-harm agenda in Carmarthenshire.

Covid -19 has resulted in exceptionally challenging and worrying times for all of us. The effects of social distancing, lockdown, and loss of loved ones to the virus is taking a huge toll on mental health and wellbeing and will have a lasting impact on the mental health of our population. The lasting effects of trauma and severe economic pressures will be felt by many - those working on the front line, those who have spent months alone, those who have lost their livelihood and young people who have had their support networks taken away. There will be a long-term impact for individuals in care homes and their families who have not been able to see each other for many months.

We have yet to reach the peak of the mental health crisis so we must think longer term. Prioritising mental health has never been more critical than it is now.

References:

Mental Health Foundation Coronavirus: the divergence of mental health experiences during the pandemic (July 2020)

Avril Bracey
Head of Adult Social Care

SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21st May, 2021

Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme for 2021/22

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- That the Committee confirm its Forward Work Programme for 2021/22

Reasons:

- The County Council's Constitution requires scrutiny committees to develop and publish annual forward work programmes that identify issues and reports to be considered during the course of the municipal year.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: **NO**

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: N/A

Directorate Chief Executive's Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees-Jones Report Author: Emma Bryer	Designations: Head of Administration & Law Democratic Services Officer	Tel Nos. / E Mail Addresses: 01267 224010 lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk 01267 224029 ebryer@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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**SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
21st May, 2021**

**Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee
Forward Work Programme for 2021/22**

Purpose of the Forward Work Programme

Article 6.2 of the County Council's Constitution states that: *"Each scrutiny committee is required to develop and publish an annual forward work programme, identifying issues and reports to be considered during the course of a municipal year"*.

The development of a work programme:

- Provides an opportunity for members to determine the priority issues to be considered by their scrutiny committee over the course of the next year.
- Provides a focus for both officers and members and is a vehicle for communicating the work of the Committee to the public. The programme (see attached report) will be published on the council's website www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/scrutiny and it will be updated on a quarterly basis.
- Ensures agreement of provisional agendas for scheduled scrutiny meetings within the council diary. The Programme is a flexible document that can be amended to reflect additional meetings and agenda items during the course of the year.

The draft Forward Work Programme includes statutory and annual reports as well as those reports requested by the Committee during the course of previous meetings.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities – In line with requirements of the County Council's Constitution.

2. Legal - In line with requirements of the County Council's Constitution.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Linda Rees-Jones Head of Administration & Law

1. Local Member(s) - N/A
2. Community / Town Council - N/A
3. Relevant Partners - N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

NO

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee Reports and Minutes		Meetings from September 2015 onwards: http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeed=169

SC&H Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme 2021/22

21 st May 21	7 th July 21	5 th October 21	29 th November 21	20 th December 21	January 22 (Date tbc)	February22 (Date tbc)	March 22 (Date tbc)	Joint Scrutiny E&PP + SC&H (Date tbc)
Mental Health - General Update	End of Year Budget Monitoring	Performance Management Report (Quarter 1)	Covid-19 Position Statement	Revenue Budget Consultation 2021 – 2023	Budget Monitoring 2021/22	Domiciliary Care Update	Carers Update	Area Planning Board's Drug & Alcohol Misuse Annual Report
SC & Health Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2021/22	Covid-19 Position Statement	Communities Department Business Plan 2021/22 – 23-24 (TBC)	Dementia Action Plan - (Moved from April)	Mental Health Update – inc impact of Covid		Adult Social Services Complaints and Compliments Report (Q3)	Learning Disability Strategy (2021-26)	Area Board Substance Misuse Service Annual Report
Budget Monitoring 2021/22 – to be circulated via email	Draft Annual Report of the Statutory Director of Social Services 20/21	Adult Social Services Complaints and Compliments Report (Q1)	Residential Care Update (in-house & independent)	Services & Support for Children & Young People (Multi Agency Forum Update)				
	Annual Report on the Wellbeing Objectives	Budget Monitoring 2021/22	Budget Monitoring 2021/22 – to be circulated via email					
	Annual Safeguarding Report	Task & Finish Group <u>Revised</u> Planning & Scoping Document (TBC)						

21 st May 21	7 th July 21	5 th October 21	29 th November 21	20 th December 21	January 22 (Date tbc)	February22 (Date tbc)	March 22 (Date tbc)	Joint Scrutiny E&PP + SC&H (Date tbc)
	SC&H Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2021/22							

ITEMS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS WORK PROGRAMME:

- Services & Support for Children & Young People (Multi Agency Forum Update)
- Mental Health of Carers and Young People (incorporated into General Mental Health Update)
- Annual Safeguarding Report
- Dementia Action Plan

ITEMS FOR JOINT MEETINGS IN 2021/22: DATE TBC

- Area Planning Board's Drug & Alcohol Misuse Annual Report (E&PP and Social Care & Health)
- Area Board Substance Misuse Service Annual Report (E&PP and Social Care & Health)

TASK & FINISH REVIEW (on hold pending re-scoping exercise):

- Early Intervention & Prevention of Suicide in Carmarthenshire.

TASK & FINISH REVIEW – FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

- Mental Health of Children – joint with Education (Chair to speak to E&CS Chair)
- Social Care in the Home – Review of how other Countries are working / Best Practice etc

DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS: (TBC)

21st May

- Overall approach to supporting discharge to hospital – Alex

7th July

- Shared Lives Placement (inc. Living Units for people with learning disabilities) – Avril
- Respite Service – Avril
- Overview of Delta Wellbeing & Social Care Services Delivery [Alex / Sam – date TBC]

5th October

- Overall approach to right sizing and review of domiciliary care – Alex
- Recruitment and Retention of OT & Social Workers – Alex / Avril

1st December

- CHC / Citizens Voice Body [Chair to confirm date]

REPORTS REQUESTED / CIRCULATED VIA E-MAIL:

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SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21st May 2021

FORTHCOMING ITEMS TO BE HELD ON 7TH July 2021 [10.00 A.M.]

In order to ensure effective Scrutiny, Members need to be clear as to the purpose of requesting specific information and the outcome they are hoping to achieve as a consequence of examining a report. Limiting the number of agenda items may help to keep meetings focused and easier to manage.

Discussion Topic	Background	Reason for report
Budget Monitoring Report	This item enables members to undertake their monitoring role of the Health & Social Care revenue and capital budgets.	The Committee is being requested to scrutinise the budget information as part of their scrutiny role.
Covid-19 Position Statement	The Scrutiny Committee received a report on the impact of Covid on the 19 th November 2020 and 11 th February 2021. This is an update on these reports.	For Scrutiny to consider the immediate and longer-term impact of Covid.
Annual Report of the Statutory Director of Social Services on the Performance of Social Care Services in Carmarthenshire	The annual report by the Director of Social Services on the performance of our Social Care Services in the county and sets out the progress made on areas identified for improvement in last year's report and highlights those areas to be developed in the current year.	Provides the Committee with the opportunity to question the content and gives an opportunity for the Statutory Director to consider any comments elected Members may have for the future.
Performance Management Report on the Well Being Objectives	To report on the Well-being objectives and Improvement objectives as set out in the Corporate Strategy.	This item will enable the Committee to consider and comment upon progress achieved and to enable members to exercise their scrutiny role.
Annual Report on Adult Safeguarding	This report relates to last financial year and summarises the national policy context of adult safeguarding at that time including the implications of the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014.	To inform the Committee on progress being made and provides the Committee with the opportunity to consider and comment on the report. .

<p>SC & Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2020/21</p>	<p>In accordance with Article 6.2 of the County Council's Constitution, each Scrutiny Committee must "prepare an annual report giving an account of its activities over the previous year."</p> <p>This report will provide members with an overview of the Committee's work during the 2018/19 municipal year.</p>	<p>To comply with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.</p>
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Items circulated to the Committee under separate cover since the last meeting
1. None

Briefings provided to the Committee since the last meeting
1. None

The following document(s) attached for information
1. None

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SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 20 April 2021

PRESENT: Councillor G. Thomas (Chair)

Councillors:

S.M. Allen, D.M. Cundy (In place of K. Madge), K.V. Broom, I.W. Davies, K.Davies, R.E. Evans, W.T. Evans, M.J.A. Lewis, K. Lloyd and E.M.J.G. Schiavone

Also in attendance Councillors:

L.D. Evans, Executive Board Member for Housing
D.M. Jenkins, Executive Board Member for Resources
J. Tremlett, Executive Board Member for Social Care and Health

The following Officers were in attendance:

C. Harrison, Head of Strategic Joint Commissioning
J. Morgan, Head of Homes & Safer Communities
A. Williams, Head of Integrated Services
K. Barlow, Senior Manager-Complex Needs and Transition
A. Thomas, Group Accountant
R. Page, Senior Business Support Manager
S. Sauro, Performance, Analysis & Systems Manager
S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator
M. Evans Thomas, Principal Democratic Services Officer
S. Hendy, Member Support Officer
E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer

Virtual Meeting - 10.00 am - 11.35 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A.L Fox, K. Madge and D.T. Williams.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM.

Councillor	Minute No (s)	Nature of Interest
K. Lloyd	4. Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21. 6. Learning Disability Strategy 2020-2025	Close family member is a carer in the Shared Lives Scheme.

There were no declarations of prohibited party whips.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

4. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

The Committee considered the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report in relation to the Social Care and Health Service, which provided an update on the latest budgetary position as at 31st December 2020 in respect of the 2020/21 financial year.

The Social Care & Health Service was projecting an overspend of £789K on the revenue budget and net variance of -£149K against the 2020/21 approved capital budget.

The following questions / observations were raised on the report:

- It was asked if the overspend within Physical Disabilities and Mental Health areas would have occurred if the Covid pandemic hadn't struck. The Executive Board Member for Resources advised that it was difficult to predict if it would have happened but provided assurance that the budget was in hand.
- It was asked if the projected overspend had reduced since the report had been generated. The Group Accountant advised that the accounts were still being finalised, however income was being received so it was hoped that some improvement would be seen.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

5. DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22

The Committee considered the Communities Departmental Business Plan 2021/22 in relation to those services falling within its remit:

- Commissioning and Business Support.
- Integrated Services
- Adult Social Care
- Care Homes (part of Homes and Safer Communities)

It was noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic this was an abbreviated plan. Usually, it would include a review section but this had already been covered in the Service COVID-19 Impact Assessments previously submitted to the Committee in January and March.

The following issues/questions were raised on the report:-

- An update was asked regarding the implementation of Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS). The Head of Integrated Services advised that Government had delayed the implementation however as an Authority, preparations were continuing, and comprehensive plans being developed between the three Authorities and the Health Board. Reassurance was given that the Authority was maintaining compliance with Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).
- Concern was raised regarding the empty bed voids in Care Homes. The Head of Homes and Safer Communities advised that the number of voids

had reduced.

- Reference was made to the innovative investment programme for care homes and sheltered housing. The Head of Homes and Safer Communities advised that some of the care homes were outdated and in need of modernisation and that the intention was to use and secure funding through ICF and Swansea Bay City Deal for technology investment.

RESOLVED that the Department for Communities Departmental Business Plan 2021/22 be received.

6. LEARNING DISABILITY STRATEGY 2020-2025

The Committee considered the Learning Disability Strategy (2020- 2025). The Committee had previously considered the draft strategy at its meeting on the 19th April 2018.

It was noted that in developing the final strategy, a series of engagement events were held in 2019. These were facilitated by both Mencap and Carmarthenshire People First, with support from Council officers. The strategy provided strong service user and parent/carer input into the direction of travel for learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire.

The following issues/questions were raised on the report:-

- The predicted increase of the population with Learning Disabilities was queried. The Head of Strategic Joint Commissioning advised that the predicted figures had been established using the demographic information from the StatsWales database which is used across Wales.
- It was asked if the Authority had a plan in place for the increase in demand on the autism services. It was advised that there was a Regional Strategy for autism and that the Head of Adult Social Care would be able to provide additional information.
- In response to a comment regarding the gaps in the availability of services in the evenings and on weekends, the Head of Strategic Joint Commissioning advised that improvements had already been made. During consultation and engagement, it was clear that support needed to be made available when it was most required. Work was on-going to address these needs and to make communities more inclusive.
- Concern was expressed regarding the lack of transport provision. It was acknowledged that unfortunately this was a re-occurring theme and that work was continuing in supporting people to access local services within the community. Additionally, a transport champion had been appointed who was a user representative on the Regional Partnership Board.
- Concern was raised regarding the lack of availability of the Country Cars service in some areas. It was advised that perhaps the Committee could engage with the Royal Voluntary Service to discuss these concerns.
- It was asked how the transfer of Direct Payments back to in-house was progressing. The Committee was advised that the project had progressed well and that the feedback from the service users had been positive.

RESOLVED that the Learning Disability Strategy (2020- 2025) be received.

7. ADULT SOCIAL CARE COMPLAINTS & COMPLIMENTS REPORT 1ST APRIL 2020 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020

The Committee considered a report detailing the Adult Social Care complaints and compliments received for the 2020-21 financial year. The report summarised the number of complaints and compliments received and provided information on the type of complaint and the service area relating to complaints and compliments.

The Executive Board Member for Health and Social Care highlighted that the number of compliments received had more than doubled during the reporting period and that the number of complaints had decreased.

It was stated that while complaints had reduced it was important to receive these so that lessons could be learnt.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

8. FORTHCOMING ITEMS

RESOLVED that the list of forthcoming items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting on the 21st May, 2021 be noted.

9. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 11TH MARCH 2021

UNANAMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 11th March, 2021 be signed as a correct record.

CHAIR

DATE