

COVID-19 Scrutiny Committee held 16 July

Outcomes

A glossary of abbreviations is included at the end of this document.

1. Future scrutiny on the impact of covid-19 should reflect the themes identified at paragraph 4 of the cover report.

1.1. Text in red following the title is a suggested way forward. Text in italics are items identified by councillors at the Covid Scrutiny Committee.

2. Covid-19 items identified

2.1 Children & Young People **OSC**

- Education **AUTUMN SEMINAR**
 - Addressing equality gaps
 - Mental health and wellbeing
 - Attainment
 - Digital

To include schools plans for Autumn term, support needed, back up plans for second lockdown etc. and answering

1. *How are schools fully opening to learning while keeping pupils and staff safe?*
2. *What is being done to maintain the wellbeing of staff, particularly, headteachers, who are under enormous strain with redesigning H&S processes; reassuring and re-tasking staff; and redesigning the curriculum to ease children back into school. It was very striking that exhaustion and the mental health of staff was mentioned by all sectors represented at the meeting today.*
3. *How are schools adapting their curriculum/cognitive load/individual pupil differentiation to ease children back into learning, each of whom will have had a different learning experience over the last few months, with a pathway back to the National Curriculum?*
4. *How is the disproportionate risk to BAME staff and pupils being recognised and managed? (to be added into the risk assessment template?).*

- Mental health and wellbeing **HSC AUGUST SEMINAR (Appendix 3)**
- Safeguarding **OSC UPDATES TO COMMITTEE**
 - Partnership working
 - Managing during lockdown
 - Backlog and capacity
 - Mental health and wellbeing

2.2 Backlog / increased demands. **UPDATES TO COMMITTEE**

- **HSC**
 - ICS
 - HPFT including people new to services, or not presenting during lockdown
 - NHS (virtual consultations, dentistry, HSAB)

- **OSC**
 - ACS including assessments (carers, dementia)
 - Children's Services including SEND assessments
 - Domestic abuse

2.3 Inequalities **OSC & HSC TOPIC GROUP**

- BAME
Health Inequality Focus *differential impact of the pandemic (both in terms of vulnerability to the virus) and the impact on lives more broadly and what health and social care gaps that highlights.*
- Deprivation
- Impact on carers
- Education including SEND, digital, covid planning
- Mental health and wellbeing

2.4 Second wave (preparation and impact) & Recovery. **HSC & OSC TOPIC GROUP**

- NHS including *identity of high-risk sectors (e.g. domiciliary care), PPE, test and trace, primary care*
- HCC including *local outbreak plans*
- Mental health
- Messaging
- Partnership working
- Lessons learned
- Innovations

2.5 Care Homes **OSC TOPIC GROUP**

Future scrutiny (including the annual HSAB topic group) to focus on the outcomes of the HSAB review taking place summer and autumn 2020.

- GPs

3. Existing items refocused

3.1 Substance misuse **HSC & OSC TOPIC GROUP**

- During covid-19
- Backlog
- New referrals
- New services & approaches

3.2 Public Health Outcomes **HSC TOPIC GROUP**

- Supporting HCC services
- Working with schools
- NHS including *communication of public health messages, GP response*
- Districts and boroughs

3.3 People Strategy / Staffing Concerns **UPDATES TO COMMITTEE**

- **OSC**
 - Redeployment hub
 - Home working
 - Annual leave
 - Home schooling
 - Stress / anxiety, exhausted, PTSD, burnout, grief
- **HSC**
 - Stress / anxiety, exhausted, PTSD, burnout, grief

3.4 Economy covid impacts and recovery **OSC TOPIC GROUP**

- Economic downturn
- Infra structure projects
- Businesses
- Climate change
- Employment
- Training
- Young people
- Mental health and wellbeing

Glossary

ACS	Adult Care Services
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
GPs	General Practitioners
HSAB	Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board
HCC	Hertfordshire County Council
HPFT	Herts Partnership University Foundation Trust
H&S	Health & Safety
HSC	Health Scrutiny Committee
ICS	Integrated Care System
NHS	National Health Service
OSC	Overview & Scrutiny
PPE	Personal protective equipment

PTSD	Post-traumatic stress disorder
SEND	Special Education Needs and Disabilities