

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee Chair's Update – July 2021

Scrutiny Review – Hospital Discharge	
Achieved since last meeting	The Committee considered a summary of all the evidence received for phase 2 (discharge to an individual's own home) of this review in May 2021 and then formulated several draft recommendations. The draft final report was considered (and subsequently agreed) by the Committee in June 2021.
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	The Committee's agreed final report for phase 2 (discharge to an individual's own home) will be presented to Cabinet in July 2021. A further progress update on the agreed Action Plan in relation to the previously-completed phase 1 (discharge to care homes during the COVID-19 pandemic) will be considered by the Committee in July 2021.
On track – yes / no	Yes

Scrutiny Review – Multi-Agency Support to Care Homes during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Task & Finish)	
Achieved since last meeting	The first meeting of the Task and Finish Group took place in May 2021 where Local Authority Officers gave a comprehensive presentation covering the support the Council and its local partners had given to care homes since the emergence of COVID-19.
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	The next Group session (to follow the formal Committee meeting in July 2021) will further reflect on the evidence provided in May 2021 as well as relevant information received by the Committee via other means (i.e. recent care home-related scrutiny reviews, subsequent progress updates and other presentations). The Group will then seek to formulate draft recommendations.
On track – yes / no	Yes

Scrutiny Review – Day Opportunities for Adults	
Achieved since last meeting	Initial Officer meetings regarding the Committee's next in-depth review were held in June 2021 and an initial tri-partite meeting took place in July 2021 to discuss the scope and plan for this work.
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	The draft scope and plan for this review will be presented to the Committee in July 2021 for consideration and approval.

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On track – yes / no	Yes
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Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>NTHFT Quality Account 2020-2021: The Committee received the North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (NTHFT) draft Quality Account document in mid-May 2021 and were asked to prepare a statement of assurance for inclusion in the final published version within a shorter time than usual due to a change in Government guidance – this was subsequently submitted to the Trust by the required deadline (4th June 2021).</p> <p>TEWV – Update on CQC-related issues: At the meeting in June 2021, the Committee received an update from Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) following concerns identified by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in an unannounced inspection of some of the Trust's adult inpatient wards in January 2021 – the subsequently-published report rated TEWV 'inadequate' for these particular services, with specific issues raised around documentation. TEWV outlined the actions being undertaken in response to the CQCs findings and the Committee provided challenge on governance, staffing levels and recruitment. A further update was requested for a future Committee meeting.</p> <p>CQC Report Updates: The Q4 2020-2021 report was considered by the Committee in June 2021. The CQC inspection programme remains limited as a result of COVID-19, with focused inspections of care providers (involving checks on infection prevention and control (IPC) management) continuing to be a prioritised area of work.</p>
Requests for more information	<p>CQC Report Updates: With reference to the IPC focused inspections listed within the quarterly summary, the Committee re-iterated previous concerns regarding the level of robustness and reporting detail (and again questioned the level of CQC visibility in care homes). To give Members assurance that providers were meeting the eight IPC measures, the Committee requested full briefing reports for all inspections (full and focused) in future quarterly summaries.</p>

NHS Updates / Consultations	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) / Integrated Care System (ICS): Further to the publication of the Government's Health and Care Bill White Paper, a meeting of the Joint STP Committee was intended – however, this could not be arranged prior to the purdah period ahead of the 2021 elections. Awaiting confirmation from Durham of the next meeting date.</p>
Requests for more information	None

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Regional Health Committees	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Tees Valley Committee: Middlesbrough Borough Council are supporting and Chairing the Committee in 2021-2022. The first meeting of the current municipal year took place on the 22nd June 2021 and gave the Committee a further opportunity to consider the contents of the draft TEWV Quality Account for 2020-2021. A third-party statement for inclusion in the final Quality Account document was subsequently agreed and submitted to TEWV.</p> <p>Regional Committee: No meetings are currently scheduled.</p>
Requests for more information	None

Monitoring	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>The following progress updates have been received by the Committee since the last Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting:</p> <p><u>Temporary Accommodation for Homeless Households</u> The second update on the agreed Action Plan in relation to the previously-completed review was considered in May 2021. Both outstanding actions remained 'on-track', and the Committee received information on the development of a new contract tender specification for temporary accommodation, the establishment of bespoke roles to support and engage those who were 'hardest to house', the securing of additional funds to provide immediate access accommodation, and ongoing work with Thirteen Housing Group regarding a bid to provide further supported 'move-on' accommodation.</p> <p>Subsequent Committee questions and discussion included linking-in with other Council directorates and external partners when considering arrangements around homelessness, provision of accommodation for those being released from prison, and post-pandemic planning amid the potential for increased demand on homelessness services.</p> <p><u>Care Homes for Older People</u> The first update on the agreed Action Plan in relation to the previously-completed review was considered in May 2021. Whilst the ongoing pandemic had limited the ability to advance some areas of the Action Plan, several key developments were noted including the HenPower Project (recognised by BBC News and the Alzheimer's Society), technological advances to support care throughout the pandemic (including the creation of the 'Hub' – a remote information-sharing platform for care home managers), and the monitoring and maintaining of safe staffing levels since the emergence of COVID-19 through weekly support calls to providers.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed confirmation that day activities, although needing to be adapted / newly-introduced, had never stopped within</p>

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	<p>care homes themselves during the pandemic period, and encouraged further work and engagement to establish a specification for digital care planning and medication management.</p> <p>Future progress updates regarding previously-completed reviews will be received by the Committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital Discharge (Phase 1) (Jul 21) • Temporary Accommodation for Homeless Households (Oct 21) • Care Homes for Older People (TBC)
<p>Requests for more information</p>	<p>None</p>

Next Meetings

Tuesday 20th July 2021 (4.00pm)
 Tuesday 14th September 2021 (4.00pm)