

Update from Recovery Theme Leads

Economy

- £89m of the business grant scheme (Small Business Grant and the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant), and over £3m of the Discretionary Grant Scheme has now been awarded. Government have announced that these schemes are to close at the end of August and any unspent allocations are to be returned. At the time of writing this report this figure would be £14m, although any new eligible applications received prior to the scheme closing will be paid.
- The People, Debt and Recovery work stream is utilising the 'Wiltshire Money' Partnership and have a targeted series of campaigns: August – Employment and Housing; September – debts and bills (as payment holidays end); October – employment (as the furlough scheme comes to an end).
- The Economic Recovery Plan is currently being drafted, and this will form the basis of the Economic Recovery theme work programme.
- Dyson have announced redundancies across their business, with 450 job losses within Wiltshire. Their global HQ will remain in Wiltshire and they are committed to consolidating their operations within the county. We are working closely with Dyson to support their workforce and minimise the impact of these job losses. This support is likely to be in the form of a multi-agency Dyson Task Force.
- The Business and Planning Act was introduced on 22nd July. It makes significant changes to the licensing and planning regimes in England in order to support economic recovery and growth as the UK recovers from Covid-19. Further changes to the planning system are expected to be announced in a forthcoming Planning White Paper. Updates on these will be provided for all members.

Community Resilience

- Calls to the Wiltshire Wellbeing hub have dropped to between 20 to 30 calls a day. Referrals to supermarket slots have also dropped.
- A survey of all community groups that supported the response to Covid19 has been undertaken with the majority of groups now positioning themselves to support recovery. A support forum / network between groups is being created to enable the continued sharing of learning into recovery.
- Area Boards have been undertaking virtual workshops to understand the impact of Covid19 in their local area, local community resilience recovery plans will be developed from these.
- The safe outdoor spaces workstream continues work at pace. Over 500 requests have been received for active travel proposals including cycle routes and safe walking routes. Pavement licence requests are coming in. Salisbury People Friendly Streets consultation has launched. We continue

to monitor the government guidance on school transport and prepare for September.

- Libraries and Leisure centres are now opening, both taking a phased test and learn approach to ensure we listen to customers and keep everyone Covid-19 safe.
- The Wiltshire draft VCS strategy is now being reviewed to align to recovery.
- BAME group had started work under the Equalities workstream seeking to understand the impact of Covid-19 on Wiltshire's BAME communities and take positive action together with the community to address inequalities.
- VCS organisations that paused during response are looking to restart. Wessex Community Action and our Community Engagement Managers are working hard to provide advice and guidance on safe reopening.
- Wiltshire faith leaders continue to meet regularly sharing learning and identifying ways to come together to support and enable resilient communities and looking at opportunities to celebrate and reflect together about the response to the pandemic.
- A directory of summer holiday activities and provision has been coordinated with partners across the authority area to seek to meet the needs of Wiltshire families.

Care, Safeguarding & Education

- Full attendance is expected in schools from September onwards.
- Education settings are expected to complete risk assessments before reopening in September and are being supported to do so.
- Rapid response to emerging increase in Domestic Abuse (DA) including through Swindon Women's Aid establishing out of hours DA support. The impact and future delivery options will be subject to ongoing review.
- Work is ongoing to ensure that, following the change in national guidance, care home providers are clear around expectations of risk assessments to allow visiting in care homes. Guidance given to all care homes about opening for visitors. Care homes are also aware of the reduced financial offer going forward.
- £1.6m of Council support for care providers for additional Covid-19 costs and £2.3m of Infection Prevention & Control funding has been distributed to care homes.
- Completed in partnership with CCG and Police demand modelling to explore the impact that Covid-19 has had in relation to both children and adult safeguarding. Significant increase in demand anticipated (in region of 30%). Work is underway with partners to ensure services are prepared for increase in demand.
- Modelling completed with CCG and community health partners identifying discharge demands given reduction in acute hospital capacity due to social distancing requirements.
- Secure PPE supplies in place across lead items that is currently sufficient to meet demand.
- Families & Children's transformation Programme restarted with an Executive Board meeting in July; agreed to review partnership priorities going forward.

Health and Wellbeing

- Local Outbreak Management Plan published, and a suite of multi-agency exercises scheduled in throughout the summer to test the delivery of the plan and inform its continued development.
- Review and planning for local testing sites completed across the county – next stage is development of local testing plan to include rapid deployment teams and community sites.
- Covid-19 JSNA in development to provide evidence base for recovery across health and social care and the wider determinants. Early priority areas for review include: Mental ill health, Domestic abuse, Substance use and misuse, Respiratory infections, Cancers, Deprivation and life expectancy, Housing, Social care.
- Substance misuse workstream meeting weekly with substance misuse services – key focus on service continuity, referrals, service risks, gaps and mitigation actions.
- Homelessness workstream completed review of all rough sleepers accommodated during Covid-19 response to determine health needs to provide targeted support.
- Mental health/LD/ASD workstream focusing on recovery in Wiltshire for service users and organisations. Working closely with education work stream to ensure CAMHS interventions for young people are understood and implemented effectively.
- Overlap between health and wider determinants will be a key focus, and strong links with the economy theme, particularly around mental health are being explored for joint working.
- New focus areas for the theme will include obesity strategy and the requirements for increasing the number of flu vaccinations across the population.

Organisation Recovery

An organisation recovery programme is now underway that will undertake an organisation wide transformation of the Councils governance, policy and business processes, our systems and use of technology, the structure, flexibility, culture and behaviour of our workforce in delivering services and the assets we own in which to deliver those services and to identify opportunities to maximise of these.

The aim of the programme is to learn from the response to COVID-19 and emerge leaner and stronger, particularly given our forecast financial position this year and the inevitable ongoing knock on impact to Council resources to deliver services to Wiltshire residents and communities going forward.

The programme is set against three themes:

- Workforce (Creating an agile and flexible workforce with the skills, capability and capacity to deliver services to our communities).
- Work (Delivering new ways of working that increases productivity, improves job satisfaction all within trusted and secure digital environments)
- Workplace (Providing a safe, suitable, greener, affordable place to deliver services).

These themes have cross cutting support in place in relation to commercial, finance, organisational development & people change, and governance. Work activities will be led by the managers from across the Council to ensure engagement and ownership at all levels and across all services.

A whole programme plan is being developed that will set out outcomes that align with the overall recovery, as it is important that the organisation recovery focuses on delivering the best outcomes for Wiltshire.

A programme methodology has been developed (below) and this will be used to engage with staff across the council to identify how we can work differently, what new ways of working should continue and develop further, and what new opportunities there are for making further change.

ORGANISATION RECOVERY METHODOLOGY



Green Recovery

A new Climate Strategy will be developed in the coming year to set out how the council is going to meet its challenging targets to become carbon neutral by 2030 and seek to make the county carbon neutral by 2030. The Climate Strategy will also consider the steps the council needs to take to improve its resilience to climate change impacts in Wiltshire. As part of developing the strategy, every Recovery theme will need to consider the environmental impact of its activities and identify opportunities to contribute to a green recovery.

The council will be taking part in the Wiltshire Climate Alliance virtual conference this month, to discuss a green recovery in Wiltshire, and will carefully consider the suggestions that come out of these discussions.