

## Health Select Committee

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### MINUTES [excerpt] OF THE HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2021 AT ONLINE MEETING.

#### 10 COVID-19 Update

Emme Legg (Director for Access and Reablement) updated that demand on the service has increased during COVID-19 and adult MASH demand had remained as in previous periods. Virtual methods were being used to deliver services where possible, however a community presence remained for those that are most vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic. The officer advised the severity of COVID-19 outbreaks in care homes had been minimal compared to the first lockdown due to sound protective measures in place.

Currently a significant pressure was the need for short term care following discharge from hospital and the service was working with care homes to provide additional capacity. In response to questions, it was explained the Care Home Advisory Group was established in around April-May 2020.

Clare Edgar (Director for Mental Health and Learning Difficulties) provided an update on the council's Wellbeing Hub to support those that were clinically extremely vulnerable or shielding. 28,000 residents had been supported by the Hub since it was established last year, by phone, email or in person. During the currently lockdown, 150 people currently required support from the wellbeing hub.

The Chairman invited comments and questions which included that LINK drivers should be prioritised for vaccinations to allow them to help others to travel for vaccinations. In response to questions, it was noted the Wellbeing Hub referred those it supported to organisations that could support their mental health and isolation. Wiltshire CIL had been working with Wiltshire Council to understand the needs of young people and those with disabilities. Kate Blackburn updated on communication via radio and print for those vulnerable residents that could not access support online.

Edward Rendell from Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG provided an update on health care provision during the COVID-19 pandemic. A significant challenge was to continue to provide acute and urgency care, and this was continuously monitored. For primary care, a full telephone triage service was in place to allow surgeries to be open for business. For Adult Community Services, the CCG was working to prioritising care at home as much as possible. Mental Health Services were also under demand during COVID-19. In terms of the vaccination programme, full coverage for vaccinations was now established to vaccinate the four priority groups. Larger vaccination sites local to Wiltshire were due to come online within a couple of

weeks. The officer concluded by drawing awareness to an Integrated Care consultation that was currently open.

Gill May updated that 40,000 vaccines had already been delivered to priority groups. It was explained the CCG was currently working on plans for deployment of the vaccine to the homeless and traveller communities. In response to questions, it was confirmed the CCG would work with Public Health to provide more information to councillors about vaccination plans across the county.

**Resolved:**

**To note the update provided from the council and CCG.**

11 **CCG updates**

An update was provided under the previous item.

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