
Meeting of the Cabinet – 23rd November, 2020

Report of the Monitoring Officer and Lead for Law and Governance

Scrutiny Review of the Council and Partner Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Purpose

1. To invite the Cabinet to consider a report from the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on findings and recommendations arising from the scrutiny review of the Council and Partner response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Recommendations

2. That the report of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee concerning the scrutiny review of the Council and Partner response to the Covid-19 Pandemic be received and endorsed.
3. That the report be referred to Full Council for consideration at its meeting on 30th November, 2020.

Background

4. On 10th June, 2020, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a scrutiny review of the Council and Partner response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Prior to this, consultation had taken place with both Group Leaders in the context of maintaining proper democratic oversight, transparency and scrutiny during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The scrutiny review was included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2020/21.
5. Members of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee have formed the 'core membership' for undertaking the review. Members of other Scrutiny Committees, experts and other attendees have contributed to the review taking account of the theme(s) under consideration.

6. Arrangements for the scrutiny review were agreed by the Scrutiny Committee on 27th July, 2020. Further Scrutiny Committee meetings were held on 3rd September, 15th October and 4th November, 2020. The agenda, minutes and reports of these meetings are available on the [Council's Internet site](#). In addition, recordings of the Committee's proceedings are publicly available to view on the Council's [You Tube Channel](#).
7. A draft report on the findings and recommendations from the scrutiny review is being considered by the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 23rd November, 2020. The draft report has also been circulated to the Cabinet. Any amendments arising from the Scrutiny Committee on 23rd November, 2020 will be reported to the Cabinet.
8. Subject to any comments from the Cabinet, it is proposed that the report will be referred to Full Council for consideration at its meeting on 30th November, 2020.

Finance

9. The financial impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic was discussed at the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 4th November, 2020 and will be reflected in the report to the Cabinet and Full Council.

Law

10. The scrutiny review has been undertaken in accordance with the Council's governance arrangements operated in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000, the Localism Act 2011, any subsequent legislation, statutory provisions, associated Regulations and Guidance.
11. The Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules, as set out in the Council's Constitution, make provision for Scrutiny Committees to hold detailed inquiries and reviews and to submit reports and recommendations to the relevant decision taker(s) including the Cabinet and Full Council.

Equality Impact

12. The scrutiny review has been undertaken in the context of statutory requirements and the Council's commitment to equality and diversity. On 4th November, 2020, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee received a report on the impact on specific communities. This will be reflected in the report to the Cabinet and Full Council.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

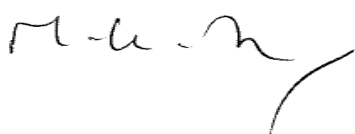
13. The scrutiny review has been undertaken from within existing Council resources with support from Directorates and Partners as required.

Commercial/Procurement

14. A report on the procurement of Personal Protective Equipment was considered by the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 3rd September, 2020. This, along with any relevant commercial/procurement issues, will be included in the draft report to the Cabinet and Full Council.

Health, Wellbeing and Safety

15. The scrutiny review has been primarily focussed on the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic and issues associated with the health, wellbeing and safety of our citizens. This is consistent with building stronger, safer and more resilient communities in line with the Dudley Vision and to protect our residents' physical, and emotional health for the future.



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List of Background Documents

[The Council's Constitution](#)

Agenda, Reports and Minutes of meetings available on the [Committee Management Information System](#)

Recordings of Meetings on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#)