

APPENDIX 1

Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review – COVID-19 Care Home Safety

	Recommendation	Cabinet Decision <i>(Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)</i>	Cabinet Response <i>(detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)</i>	Accountability	Target date for completion (if applicable)
1.	<p>That the following recommendations from the review be received:</p> <p>a) That the learning from the pandemic and ongoing needs in respect of care home safety be noted.</p>	Accepted	<p>That Cabinet accepts and notes the recommendation from the Spotlight Scrutiny/OSMB meeting.</p>	Ben Anderson, Scott Matthewman and Steph Watt	Ongoing
	<p>b) That the service consider how the Council may help support recruitment and retention within the care sector.</p>	Accepted	<p>That Cabinet accept the recommendation from the Spotlight Scrutiny/OSMB meeting.</p> <p>The adult social care workforce training programme will continue in 2023/24 including running sector-based academy recruitment programmes involving Job Centre Plus, Free2Learn, Princes Trust and the Housing Inspire and Pathways Team. As part of the academy, where potential candidates express an interest in working in adult social care, employers are invited to talk about their organisation's job vacancies and job interviews are held.</p>	Nigel Mitchell	Ongoing
	<p>c) That consideration be given to how best to retain, where possible, the benefits of supportive models such as regular engagement, access to training/guidance and the IMT approach, which were adopted during the pandemic.</p>	Accepted	<p>That Cabinet accept the recommendation from the Spotlight Scrutiny/OSMB meeting.</p> <p>The Adult Social Care Commissioning and Finance Teams have undertaken work on the Fair Cost of Care exercise, developed a draft Market Sustainability Plan and submitted cost of care reports to the Department of Health and Social Care on 14th October 2022.</p> <p>Meetings have been held with owners / directors of companies between May 2022 and January 2023 which gave providers an opportunity to provide feedback on proposed fee rates and the draft market sustainability plan. A final market sustainability plan will be submitted to the Department of Health and Social Care by 27th March 2023.</p> <p>Relationships with Care Homes and Registered Care Home managers were strengthened during the pandemic and these stronger relationships continue to be built on as we face other issues together for the care sector. Maintaining those relationships and regular engagement with the sector is helping to address the ongoing challenges.</p> <p>Provider forums with registered managers and meetings with owners / directors are held to contribute to development initiatives, influence new policy, provides an opportunity to discuss strategic and operational concerns / issues, agree actions and share good practice with each other and key stakeholders.</p> <p>The approach to Covid-19 outbreak management developed through the pandemic continues to be followed both in response to Covid-19 and to other communicable disease outbreaks in care homes. At present due to low prevalence rates, Incident Management Team (IMT) meetings have been stood down, although a range of measures and thresholds have been developed for meetings to reconvene if this is required. This includes prevalence rates higher than 2%, where there is a point at which the Trust are no longer able to cohort patients safely, 10% of care homes beds are closed due to outbreaks and three or more commissioned homes providing step-down beds have outbreaks leading to discharge pressures. Public Health will respond to requests to set up IMT's if these thresholds are met and deemed necessary.</p>	<p>Steph Watt, Gioia Morrison and Karen Smith</p> <p>Steph Watt, Gioia Morrison and Karen Smith</p> <p>Steph Watt and Karen Smith</p> <p>Steph Watt and Karen Smith</p> <p>Ben Anderson</p>	<p>14th October 2022</p> <p>27th March 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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	d) That outcomes of forthcoming reviews by the Health and Wellbeing Board on learning from the Pandemic be considered for scrutiny.	Accepted	That Cabinet accept the recommendation from the Spotlight Scrutiny/OSMB meeting. Cabinet agrees that any forthcoming Health and Wellbeing Board reviews of the pandemic or pandemic learning to be considered for scrutiny.	Ben Anderson, Scott Matthewman and Steph Watt	Ongoing
2.	That Cabinet formally consider its response to the above recommendations by March 2023, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.	Accepted	That Cabinet accept the recommendation from the Spotlight Scrutiny/OSMB meeting.	Ben Anderson, Scott Matthewman and Steph Watt	Ongoing