

# Agenda

## Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Monday, 13 November 2023, 10.00 am**  
**County Hall, Worcester**

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

This document can be provided in alternative formats such as Large Print, an audio recording or Braille; it can also be emailed as a Microsoft Word attachment. Please contact Scrutiny on telephone number 01905 844965 or by emailing [scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:  
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and 'other disclosable interests'

### WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

**NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you**

### WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
  - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

**NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI**

### WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:  
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

### WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

### DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests OR**  
relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

### DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
  - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

## Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

### Monday, 13 November 2023, 10.00 am, County Hall, Worcester

#### Membership

**Worcestershire County Council** Cllr Brandon Clayton (Chairman), Cllr Salman Akbar, Cllr Lynn Denham, Cllr Peter Griffiths, Cllr Adrian Kriss, Cllr Jo Monk, Cllr Chris Rogers, Cllr Kit Taylor and Cllr Tom Wells

**District Councils** Cllr Paul Harrison, Wyre Forest District Council  
Cllr Antony Hartley, Wychavon District Council  
Cllr Bakul Kumar, Bromsgrove District Council  
Cllr Emma Marshall, Redditch Borough Council  
Cllr Richard Udall, Worcester City Council  
Cllr Christine Wild, Malvern Hills District Council (Vice Chairman)

#### Agenda

| Item No | Subject   | Page No |
|---------|---|---------|
| 1       | <b>Apologies and Welcome</b>  |         |
| 2       | <b>Declarations of Interest and of any Party Whip</b>   |         |
| 3       | <b>Public Participation</b><br>Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager in writing or by email indicating the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case Friday 10 November 2023). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/email listed in this agenda and on the website. |         |
| 4       | <b>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b><br>To follow   |         |
| 5       | <b>Public Health and Prevention</b> (Indicative timing: 10:05-10:55am)  | 1 - 28  |
| 6       | <b>Work Programme</b> (Indicative timing: 10:55-11:05am)  | 29 - 34 |

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All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the [Council's Website](#)

Date of Issue: Thursday, 2 November 2023

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## HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### 13 NOVEMBER 2023

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENTION

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### Summary

1. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) will receive an update on the work of Public Health and other partners aimed at improving health and wellbeing. Attention to the wider determinants of health, such as education and social isolation, is a common theme throughout. The report includes a summary of progress in the last 12 months and an overview of plans for the next 12 months.
2. The Director of Public Health and the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Wellbeing have been invited to the meeting to respond to any questions the Committee may have.

### Background

3. Public Health lead on a range of functions including Health Protection and Outbreak Response, Health Improvement, Child Health and Development (0-5), School Nursing, Substance Misuse, Sexual Health, Community Safety and Crime Prevention, Emergency Planning and Trading Standards.
4. In recent months, Worcestershire has further developed its 'community development' approach to Public Health. This approach seeks to do Public Health work with local people rather than doing it to them. The aim is to harness the expertise and energy of communities by enabling them to make their own ideas for health improvement a reality. This is achieved through local determination of priorities, joint projects with resident groups and resourcing through local grant schemes. The result is health improvement work that is fully 'owned' by local communities which, as such, is more sustainable over time.

### Public Health 12-month review

5. In October 2022, HOSC received the new [Worcestershire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2032](#). This Strategy outlines the Health and Wellbeing Board's commitment to improve mental health and wellbeing, supporting people to live well in good health for as long as possible, particularly those who have poorer health outcomes.
6. In this first year, health and care partners have made real strides in delivering against the Strategy's priority of good mental health and wellbeing. There are several achievements, with some outlined for members in the Year One Progress Report, attached at Appendix 1. This includes a summary of the detailed [Mental Health Needs Assessment](#) carried out by Public Health, the recommendations of which are being reviewed by the Being Well Strategic Group for implementation.

7. Despite this being an early stage in the life of the Strategy, some of the data begins to demonstrate progress (as shown in the Outcomes Framework at Appendix 2). This will continue to be monitored over the 10-year course of the Strategy.
8. In the latest edition of the national performance metrics (Public Health Outcomes Framework, 2023) Worcestershire now has more health improvement outcomes rated as '*significantly better than national average*' than any other Council in the West Midlands Region. In total, 23 performance indicators are awarded this top rating, almost double the overall West Midlands total of 12.
9. Some specific recent achievements include:
  - Worcestershire's Health Visiting Service currently scores well above national averages on all performance metrics. Key outcomes include rates of child development at 2½ years of age that are significantly better than the national average.
  - Worcestershire County Council's (the Council's) work with schools and youth services has contributed to a large rise in the proportion of young people meeting physical activity recommendations. Four of the six most active areas in the West Midlands region are now in Worcestershire.
  - The Public Health team's joint working with midwifery teams and patient groups has led to a significant drop in the number of pregnant women smoking.
  - Worcestershire's pioneering work on youth vaping has recently been featured in national news, including on BBC Breakfast. Over 12,000 illegal vapes have been seized by the Trading Standards team in the last year and Public Health continue to use local research to better understand youth vaping and inform preventative work in schools.
  - The local Prevent programme, aimed at preventing radicalisation and terrorism, has been rated by the Home Office as 'Strong' across all domains of work. Worcestershire is the only area in the region to achieve this.
  - Worcestershire's substance misuse service has a successful treatment rate that is higher than the national average and rates of hospital admissions because of drug or alcohol use have fallen below national averages.
  - Partnership work with prisons has delivered substantial improvements in the proportion of those leaving prison engaging in substance misuse treatment programmes, stopping them falling back into addiction and crime.
  - Recent community development programmes have led to Worcestershire having one of the lowest rates of loneliness in the country. The Council's work was featured in The Municipal Journal and on BBC TV.
  - Work with Primary Care and public facing promotion led to a significant rise in the uptake of bowel screening. This work featured on BBC radio.
10. In the last few months, the Council has won the regional Public Health Award for its health protection work and the national UKPHR Award for 'Best Social Media Campaign' for its work promoting better mental health and preventing suicide in men. This campaign has further been shortlisted in the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (winners to be announced late November), and finally, the team's research

work on Health and Social Care workforce wellbeing, post pandemic has been shortlisted for the national Market Research Awards.

## **Public Health overview for next 12 months**

11. The following is a breakdown of key priorities, divided up in relation to how they contribute to the four main priorities of the Council's Corporate Plan, which are Children and Families, Health and Wellbeing, Open for Business, and the Environment.

### Children and Families

12. The pandemic revealed how crucial schools and early years settings are to health. While Public Health practitioners were able to offer professional guidance on managing outbreaks, there was a heavy dependence on the ability of teachers and other staff to understand their school community and turn that guidance into action.
13. Over the next 12 months Public Health will invest in that understanding and ability to influence health more widely. In line with the 'community development' approach, a new small-grants programme has been launched which allows schools to make their ideas for health improvement a reality. Starting in July, the programme has already received near to 40 bids, with projects ranging from those aimed at increasing physical activity (such as running watches for classes to track their 'daily mile' or the development of sensory and forest play areas), promoting mental wellbeing (including therapy dog sessions with anxious children and healthy mind workshops) through to focusing on healthy eating (growing vegetables and teaching children to cook). Schools have built on links with their local communities, including a bid to purchase and share exercise and play equipment with the nearby care home.
14. Feedback from schools to the launch of the programme has been positive from both staff and parents. Many have fed back that they appreciate the Council's approach to supporting local 'home grown' ideas from within the school community rather than imposing new initiatives on them (quote provided below):
- "We have a growing number of pupils struggling with anxiety. Introducing a therapy dog to our school community will benefit the ongoing mental health of our pupils and staff. Thank you so much for this opportunity to support our school community and the simplicity of the application & whole process." Sarah Roberts, Headteacher - Eckington CE First School*
15. In addition to investing in schools, Public Health will continue to work with the NHS to prevent illness. For example, on vaccination rates (e.g.MMR), which became challenging during the COVID pandemic. The aim is to ensure rates are high enough to achieve herd immunity (90-95%) keeping children and the wider population safe.
16. Finally, Public Health will work to improve the coordination of services and support for children and families across different agencies, including the NHS. To this aim, a Best Start in Life Partnership has been launched and will focus on the development of a systemwide, preventative approach during the early years (0-5) to improve outcomes for children and families.

### Health and Wellbeing

17. The Corporate Plan describes clearly the challenges faced by Worcestershire's ageing population and the ambition to support people to remain healthy and independent for

as long as possible. Therefore, in the next 12 months Public Health will be rolling out a new service that provides a holistic health improvement programme aimed at enabling adults to stay active, socially connected, and safe from crime as they get older.

18. The “Healthy Worcestershire” programme will be operated out of a range of community venues and be delivered via structured, professionally led sessions. These will be delivered weekly and include a range of supportive activities:
19. Firstly, sessions will incorporate an evidence-based physical activity programme targeted at improving strength and balance. The focus will be on preventing falls and maintaining participants’ mobility, health and confidence. The group-based sessions will be interactive, led by trained professionals and supplemented with lifestyle advice including support with weight management and for other positive health behaviours.
20. Secondly, the sessions will incorporate a strong focus on community safety, including advice and sessions on how to avoid fraud, doorstep crimes and internet-based scams. These sessions will be tailored to the local area based on up-to-date intelligence from the Police, Trading Standards and Community Safety Partnerships.
21. Thirdly, the emphasis within both the health and community safety elements of the programme will be on building social connections. This value of this was a clear theme among the many local people who participated in our community engagement surveys and focus groups:

*“I joined a couple of groups to meet someone new twice a week. It motivated me to do more physical activity.” Local Resident, Public Health Focus Group*

22. The sessions themselves will be enjoyable, incorporating activities that provide a positive experience for attendees so that they will want to keep coming back, having created friends and social networks with other attendees. In addition, social prescribing techniques will be utilised which signposts participants to other local community activities and projects, such as walking groups, arts and music projects or volunteering opportunities.
23. In line with the overall approach to Public Health, the Healthy Worcestershire programme will supplement the professionally led activities with a community development approach. Grants will be made available by Public Health to help facilitate the local community build and enhance the choice of community activities available in each area where sessions take place.
24. The Healthy Worcestershire programme will blend the efficiency of a county-wide approach with significant tailoring and ownership at a local community level. This will be reflected in the branding and promotion of the programme as well as the content and focus of the sessions.
25. In addition to the Healthy Worcestershire programme, Public Health will be working on specific projects to encourage ‘entry level’ activities and programmes into popular sports and activities. This will serve to drive forward the aim in the Corporate Plan of getting more people living active lives. For example, already in the planning stage is a collaboration with the Wythall Community Organisation and the Bromsgrove & Redditch Athletics Club. The aim of the project is to break down the barriers between the established running community (e.g. clubs, events etc.) and the many people who, despite having an interest in running, feel anxious about joining in. Public Health will be



working with these organisations to establish a new 5km and 10km running event with a clear focus on getting new people into running. In the lead up to the event a range of 'Couch to 5k' training courses will be established, run by trained volunteers, which will use the Wythall 5km as their 'graduation event'. If successful, this model of working will be rolled out to other areas of Worcestershire.

26. In May 2023, a new prevention and early intervention service 'Your Health' commenced across the County in partnership with NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire. New bespoke, fit for purpose roving vans will offer communities easier access to registering with a GP Practice, health checks, vaccinations (also integrating with a newly formed infectious disease response services), wellbeing, mental health advice and more. This initiative will aim to bring health services to the most vulnerable populations, accessible without being registered with a GP and without an appointment.
27. Across Worcestershire there are approximately 870 Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). Public Health is working to review and improve community access to these lifesaving devices, alongside vital CPR training. Work programmes focused on increasing access include:
- undertaking an audit of AEDs in the county and directly contacting guardians of devices that are registered with the British Heart Foundation as being publicly available to ascertain validity of the information, ensuring that where possible these can be used in the event of an emergency;
  - the launch of a new Council dedicated webpage providing information and signposting to funding for AEDs, including backstop grant funding should an organisation or community group not be able to purchase via other routes;
  - proactively contacting community organisations to encourage provision;
  - grant funding wall-mounted publicly available AEDs on key Police stations across the county, where not already installed; and
  - promotion via Council communications regarding maintenance of AEDs, British Heart Foundation RevivR training, and national Restart a Heart Day.

### Open for Business

28. Over the next 12 months Public Health will be stepping up its support to local businesses with the aim of maintaining a healthy and productive workforce in Worcestershire. The Council's [Work Well Live Better](#) Programme will include a range of initiatives and resources that employers can take advantage of, all based on the latest evidence and guidance.
29. Public Health has established a Workplace Wellbeing Network. Once local businesses have joined the network they will have access to a range of resources, including a workplace health survey and needs assessment, a resource hub, training, and an events calendar (including showcasing events, breakfast networking meetings and lunchtime bitesize sessions). Public Health will also be encouraging businesses to become ambassadors, showcasing their work by offering peer support and the sharing of resources.
30. Targeted support for businesses will be available for those most impacted by health-related issues or inequality. The support and interventions available will be tailored to meet the key health and wellbeing needs of the business and its employees.
31. A key determinant of where people choose to relocate their employment or business is crime and community safety. Over the next 12 months the Council will deliver a range

of new programmes, in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner, aimed at making Worcestershire a safer place to live and work:

32. Firstly, work will take place with schools to design and deliver new projects aimed at preventing young people becoming involved in crime or substance misuse. Funding will be made available to deliver both direct crime prevention projects (e.g.: focused on knife crime or gang involvement) and projects aimed at promoting factors proven to reduce the risk of crime involvement (e.g.: sports activities and increased self-esteem).
33. Secondly, Public Health will enhance its work on crime and abuse in some of the most challenged areas of the County. For example, recently awarding a community development grant in Westlands, a more deprived housing estate in Droitwich which has higher than average crime rates. Over the next 12 months, a committee made up of residents, local voluntary sector groups, school staff and other local professionals will utilise this funding to develop the area, prevent substance misuse, deliver domestic abuse support, and otherwise make the housing estate a better and safer place to live.
34. Thirdly, and as discussed above, crime prevention will also be incorporated into the Council's health improvement work with older adults. As far as the Public Health team is aware, Worcestershire will be the first area in the UK to combine programmes delivering falls prevention classes and healthy living support with information and advice sessions on door-step crime, internet fraud and other community safety issues.
35. Finally, Public Health will also work to ensure Worcestershire maintains a good variety of high-profile events which benefit local businesses, tourism, and the national profile of the County. For example, Public Health are already in talks with Steve Cram and Paula Radcliffe about the future of the Worcester "City Run" Event that brings a large number of people into Worcester City Centre over a two-day period each year. Both famous athletes are part of the organising group behind the event and have agreed to work with Worcestershire Public Health in the promotion of the event and the accessibility of its "Families on Track" initiative.

### The Environment

36. Research indicates that spending time in open green space is crucial for good health and well-being. Therefore, a key priority for Public Health in the next 12 months will be to make sure that the Council's investment in the local environment benefits as many local people as possible. In line with the community development approach to Public Health, the Council will deliver on this priority in collaboration with local voluntary and community sector groups.
37. For example, Public Health has started a new partnership with the Worcester Environmental Group and has plans to support a range of their projects. This will include helping to promote the new Wild About Worcester Way, which makes use of some of the area's most accessible walking routes, including the new foot path between Diglis Bridge and Duck Brook. Public Health has produced an interactive 'Strava' map of the route aimed at increasing the use of the route, as well as a digital fly-through animation of the whole 12- mile circuit.
38. As already mentioned, Public Health is making grant funding available to schools for health and well-being projects. Over the next 12 months, these will include environmental projects such as school tree-planting initiatives and other work aimed to maintaining or enhancing the local environment.

39. Finally, Public Health will be working to increase the use of Worcestershire's parks for community events and health promoting activity. For example, already underway is the establishment of a new "Junior Parkrun" in Diglis, funded by Public Health and delivered in collaboration with the Global Parkrun Organisation and local community groups and volunteers. Aside from getting kids active, these events have a proven ability to increase the use of parks by adults and enhance community connections.

### **Public Health Ring Fenced Grant**

40. As part of HOSC's budget monitoring responsibility, the Committee receives information on the Public Health Ring Fenced Grant (PHRFG) twice a year. The Council receives this annual grant, for use on prescribed Public Health functions (details of which were shared with HOSC in July 2022 and are available under 'background papers').

41. For the financial 2023/24 the PHRFG totalled £32,236,000. This represented a real-term reduction from the 2022/23 value of £31,217,923.

42. Public Health is currently spending over and above the income from the PHRFG, in line with a planned use of reserves. However, these reserves will be largely depleted by the end of 2024/25. A summary position is provided at Appendix 3.

43. To offset any future financial pressures, efficiency plans have been put in place by the Director of Public Health. These include the cancellation of recruitment to several vacancies and the integration of various services into a single provider delivery model. Proposals for the co-funding of primary prevention work have also been submitted to the Integrated Care Board.

### **Purpose of the Meeting**

44. The HOSC is asked to:

- consider and comment on the information provided on Public Health's activity over the past 12-months, its priorities, and plans for the coming 12 months; and
- determine whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

### **Supporting Information**

Appendix 1 – Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Year One Progress Report

Appendix 2 – Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy Outcomes Framework

Appendix 3 – Public Health Ring Fenced Grant Summary Position

### **Contact Points**

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## **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

### **Agenda and Minutes of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

[Agendas and Minutes of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) on: 13 January 2023, 17 October, 8 July and 9 March 2022, 3 November, 21 September and 19 July 2021, 19 September 2018

All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.

# Being Well in Worcestershire, the story so far...

## Worcestershire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy - Year 1 Update

In September 2022, Worcestershire's Health and Wellbeing Board launched its Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Being Well in Worcestershire. The Strategy sets out a vision and key priorities for our partnership work to help improve the health and wellbeing of our population and reduce inequalities over the next 10 years. We have made good headway since our strategy was launched. This document updates on some of the progress made in Year 1 and the fantastic work that has been happening. We would like to thank everyone who has contributed.



Work to improve health and wellbeing in Worcestershire is overseen by our Health and Wellbeing Board, a system-wide forum that brings together a range of health and care partners. Since the strategy's development, several other strategies and work programmes have identified mental health as a key priority and work continues around the system to improve this and understand further needs, this includes:

- Herefordshire & Worcestershire Integrated Care Strategy
- Worcestershire Learning Disability Strategy
- Carer Friendly Worcestershire - All Age Carers' Strategy
- Mental Health Needs Assessment

### OUR STRATEGY SAYS:

We will take a whole population approach to improving mental health and wellbeing and preventing mental ill health across Worcestershire.

## Reviewing the evidence

A Mental Health Needs Assessment (MHNA) has been carried out by reviewing national and local evidence, engagement, and research. The findings will help to shape services, more effectively allocate resources, and develop creative interventions to support people's mental health and wellbeing. Key findings include:

- **Mental health and wellbeing have been challenged in recent years**  
Across the country, the pandemic and ongoing cost of living pressures have contributed to lower levels of wellbeing and growing numbers of people experiencing mental health challenges. Encouragingly, there are some improvements in the most recent data.
- **Physical and mental health are closely linked**  
In general, people who experience mental health challenges are more likely to also have worse physical health. As part of recovery from mental health conditions, there are opportunities to support people to make healthy lifestyle choices and access healthcare where needed.
- **Wide opportunities exist to support good mental health and wellbeing**  
Promoting good wellbeing can reach widely, including in schools and workplaces, and across communities. Recognising that some groups of people are more likely to experience poorer mental health can help target efforts to prevent mental ill health and provide early support where needed.
- **Collaboration is key**  
No single group or organisation can address all the factors that influence mental health and wellbeing. Effective collaboration across health and social care, public health, the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, and with communities themselves is essential.

The needs assessment highlights a series of ten recommendations. These are being reviewed and considered by the Being Well Strategic Group for implementation. [Click here](#) to access the full report.

# Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing

## Signposting to mental health support

The Now We're Talking campaign is raising awareness of mental health support and how it can be accessed in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Now We're Talking resources for children, young people, and adults help people identify what they can access by themselves; including advice to maintain positive wellbeing, help if you're feeling stressed or anxious, and contact details for urgent and emergency services.



We Are One by Theresa Attard

## Local NHS encourage young people to 'Reach Out' for mental health support

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust teamed up with a local band 'Split Second' and the Artists Clubhouse, to promote mental health support for young people through a new song 'Reach Out', a series of busking events and 11 free family-friendly digital art posters. Levi Husbands, who wrote Reach Out and is a Guitarist in Split Second said:

*"Lockdown had a big impact on my own mental health which led me to the NHS and the writing of this song. We hope anyone who hears the track is encouraged to 'reach out'".*

## Preventing Suicide

Suicide prevention remains a national and local priority. The death of someone by suicide has a devastating effect on families, friends, workplaces, schools, and communities and every life lost to suicide is a tragedy. Worcestershire's Suicide Prevention Partnership Group oversees activity taken to prevent suicide. Over the past 6 months, there has been continued work in Worcestershire to raise the profile of suicide prevention and encourage health seeking behaviours among all ages.



**NOW WE'RE TALKING**  
FOR HEALTHY MINDS

Training schemes, signposting and communications campaigns are providing more community-based prevention support for people across the County.

The Orange Button Scheme trains community members to support individuals who may be having thoughts of suicide.

Targeted prevention campaigns to address the inequalities in suicide rates among the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities and middle-aged men. This includes the Hold out a Hand and Acting Together to Prevent Suicide campaigns.

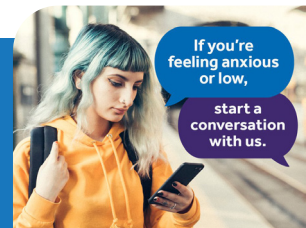


**255** Orange Button wearers across the county

**95** people trained in suicide prevention since November 2022

## The WOO text service for real time support

SHOUT is a free, confidential 24/7 text messaging service. In September 2022 a local key word was created, and residents are now able to text the word "WOO" to 85258 and have a text conversation with a trained volunteer. The volunteers offer real-time support to people who are anxious, stressed, depressed or suicidal.



Text 'WOO' to 85258  
Free, confidential support, 24/7

## Providing the Best Start in Life

Over a quarter (28.7%) of mental health conditions throughout life are attributable to adverse childhood experiences (MHNA 2023), of which poor parental mental health and substance misuse are recognised. The Best Start in Life programme provides support early on for parental mental health, infant feeding, maternal obesity, parenting and community support.

Since April 2022, the number of women who smoke when their baby is born has fallen in Herefordshire and Worcestershire from 10.8% to 8.8%, which is just below the England average of 8.9%. Increased Carbon Monoxide (CO) screening, service referral rates and a new postnatal support service are enabling healthier parents in Worcestershire!

### OUR STRATEGY SAYS

We will support people to start well, live well and age well so they can live a greater proportion of their lives in good health.



## New school challenge fund supports innovative health and wellbeing projects

We want good mental health and wellbeing to become embedded into the culture of every school. To this end, Worcestershire County Council has created a Public Health grant scheme for schools, which enables them to innovate and create new ways of improving physical or mental health within their communities. To date, this includes sensory and outdoor wellbeing spaces, therapy dogs to work with pupils, active play equipment, and emotional coaching.

## Dementia Centre at Worcestershire County Museum

The popular reminiscence dementia-friends' sessions at Worcester County Museum have been upgraded. Now, Age UK's weekly Dementia Centre is being held at the museum. The two organisations are providing support to those living with dementia and their families to adjust to the changes, help slow the progression of dementia and encourage a positive outlook. Participants said: "Mum comes back very happy" and "It makes life easier and helpful".



## New 'Your Health' bus is taking primary care to the community

A new mobile treatment bus is taking health care to our most vulnerable residents and communities with low uptake rates. Two outreach teams will be heading out across Worcestershire in the 'Your Health' buses to deliver health checks, screening to support early diagnosis of health conditions, vaccinations and some treatments. Teams will also be providing health education, lifestyle advice and signposting to wider services, ensuring residents can access the health and care they need.

## Progress in reducing harm and drug-related deaths

Important substance misuse work, led by Cranstoun, is helping to reduce the harmful effects that substances may cause as well as the number of drug-related deaths across the county.

Working with peer groups, access to harm reduction services has increased. This includes further enhancing the needle and syringe programme and increasing the availability of naloxone (a medication which can reverse the effects of an overdose of opioids like Heroin).

Over **500 Naloxone packs** distributed to reduce opioid overdoses

Over **700 packs** distributed through the Needle & Syringe Programme

# New Wellbeing Support Available Through GP Practices



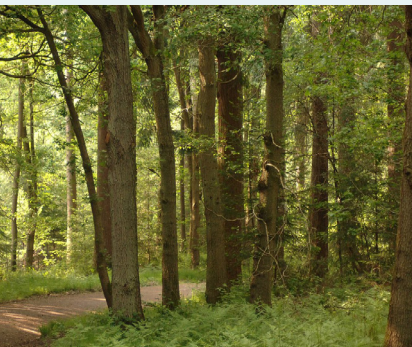
## New 'Circle Group' in Malvern is helping people to cope better and feel happier

The new 12-week group is aimed at anyone who is feeling isolated, anxious, lacking confidence or depressed. Malvern Town Primary Care Network (PCN) is working with local VCSE partners to provide the 'Circle Group'. With input from the group, each session is built around a different wellbeing activity like yoga, sound baths or gardening; with options to be signposted to similar longer term community activities. Participants make new connections within the group in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere while developing the tools to help them cope better and feel happier.

## Supporting Veterans and their families

The Worcestershire Armed Forces Covenant Partnership helps service personnel, veterans and their families access a range of support including healthcare and mental health support, housing, employment, and transitions to civilian life.

Over 40 GP practices are now 'Veteran friendly', and both the Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health & Care NHS Trust are now 'Veteran Aware' organisations.



## Optimistic Living in Wyre Forest

Wyre Forest Health Partnership PCN is working with a local VCSE partner, Simply Limitless, to provide Optimistic Living, a 12-week programme of one to one support for those seeking support to improve their confidence and wellbeing.

Mental health support is wrapped up as part of the wider support offer, which is helping participants increase their confidence and improve their wellbeing. One participant said: "I feel less doom and gloom, more relaxed and I am better at putting things into perspective!"

## Working better together

### District Collaboratives

This is a new way of working and represents a shift in how communities and health and care providers work together to combine resources and drive local initiatives. So far, partners across the six District Collaboratives have worked together to support and deliver a range of programmes for Worcestershire residents, including:

- Wellbeing hubs in Droitwich and Evesham.
- Newsletters for GP patients signposting to wellbeing support.
- New roles including Family Coaches, Children's and Families Social Prescribers, Emotional Support Practitioner to provide more mental health and wellbeing support.

### OUR STRATEGY SAYS

We will continue to align and support local partnership strategies that contribute to improving mental health and wellbeing.



## Research begins to understand and strengthen the brilliant Worcestershire VCSE

With around 2700 organisations, the VCSE sector, with its strong links into communities, has a crucial role to play in keeping people connected and healthy! Starting in June 2023, 'Understanding and Strengthening the Worcestershire VCSE' is a research and evaluation project that will inform new community powered health and wellbeing projects for the people of Worcestershire. Find out more through the new [VCSE alliance page](#).



## Being Active

### Building strength, stability, and social connections

The Living Well for Longer programme is providing strength, balance, and flexibility sessions for over 50s in Worcestershire. Residents have more opportunities to build strength and attend social groups, with Strong and Steady Exercise Classes and free Resistance bands. [Click here](#) to find out more or pick up a resistance band at your local library.

**71 people** trained from over **27 organisations**, including the VCSE, church groups and sport and leisure facilities to deliver exercise classes.

Over **35,000** resistance bands have been **provided to the public**, either directly or through classes to help people get active at home.



**LIVING WELL  
FOR LONGER**  
IN WORCESTERSHIRE

#### OUR STRATEGY SAYS

We will enable people to improve and maintain their own health and wellbeing and make healthy lifestyle choices.

*“The programme has been especially beneficial for my legs. Prior to coming to the resistance band exercise classes, I couldn’t walk far without relying on my walking stick or holding onto my husband. I can now walk unaided and can walk 2km on a good day. My mental health and wellbeing has improved too”-*

Mary, referred to the 12-week resistance bands programme by her fall clinic instructor.



### Increasing physical activity opportunities for young people

Locally, physical activity levels in children have risen to be significantly higher than the national average. **Four of six** of the most active areas in the region being right here in Worcestershire! Even more new opportunities are on the way for **children and young people** to stay active:

Junior Park Run – A new, free, volunteer led park run for children aged 4-14 will be held at Diglis Playing Fields (Worcester) every Sunday morning. To find out more, please [visit junior parkrun](#).



With thanks to **Bromsgrove Junior parkrun**.

## Healthy Local Environments

**Over 4,200** volunteer work party hours at Countryside sites

Countryside Sites Volunteer **Work Parties** are running weekly or bi-monthly where members of the public can come along and work alongside Countryside Service staff on projects such as hedge laying, woodland management, and orchard restoration.

In the last year, many volunteers have had the opportunity to meet new people, get fresh air, exercise and learn new skills. Taking part provides moderate physical activity, improves muscle strength, relieves stress and can help combat depression.

#### OUR STRATEGY SAYS

We will continue to protect our environment and promote the positive benefits it has for our mental health and wellbeing.



# Communities

## Grants for community health initiatives

**Droitwich Wellbeing Hub** has received a community grant to enable partners and local residents to work together to develop activities and programmes that improve mental health, wellbeing, and isolation. A short film from the voice of the local residents is being produced to share community stories and positively promote the Westlands estate.

**The Hollywood and Wythall Stronger Together Mental Health Support Group** is a great example of a community led peer support group. The group was founded by a retired local resident with lived experience of mental health and a passion to increase social connectivity. The community grant will enable the group to support local residents to improve their mental wellbeing through inclusive activities such as yoga and gardening as well as training members of the community in low level mental health support.

**OUR STRATEGY SAYS**  
We will work to improve our communities and places, ensuring that good mental health and wellbeing is central to everything we do



## Increasing social connections through community builders

Community Builders are supporting local communities to recognise their strengths and develop activities, groups and social connections.

*“As a Community Builder I am able to go out and listen to the needs and passions of people living locally, connecting like-minded people to bring their ideas to life. By doing this we can reduce isolation and build confidence making a more resilient community”* - A Community Builder in Worcestershire.

A great example of community building in action is the creation of ‘Ruby Tuesday’s’, a successful letter-writing group based in Cutnall Green. With the support of a community builder, a local resident, with a passion for handwritten letters, developed the group to help people connect over a shared interest and put a smile on the faces of those who may appreciate a note dropping through their door.



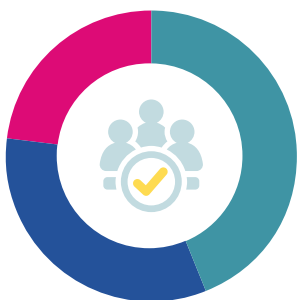
## New Worcestershire Health Champions newsletter received by over 1500 Champions!

All Worcestershire Health Champions are receiving a new look newsletter with information on local health campaigns, resources and training opportunities. Worcestershire Health Champions are people who want to make a difference in their communities by sharing health and wellbeing messages, either in their personal or professional lives. Anyone can be a Champion, [sign up here](#).



## Making new connections with Worcestershire Libraries

Connect groups and online bubbles, delivered by Worcestershire libraries are giving people the chance to develop local, community connections in a welcoming space or safe online environment. Activities are wide ranging and have continued to grow. To find out more, visit the [library events and activities page](#).



**50%** experienced an increase in self-confidence.

**72%** felt more connected to local community.

**96%** of participants reported an increase in social interaction.

# Developing Skills, Jobs and Opportunities

## Supporting Apprenticeships

In March 2023, **Worcestershire Apprenticeships** (WA) launched its new online portal to support young people, parents, and employers to apply online to multiple providers of apprenticeships at any one time instead of the current one provider at a time process, aiming to increase apprenticeship recruitment and the participation across the county through greater success of applications.

## Skills Bootcamp

Worcestershire has received a £1million skills boost! The county has been awarded additional funding from the Department for Education to expand its **Skills Bootcamp** programme. Skills Bootcamps offer free training to anyone in Worcestershire over the age of 19 with a guaranteed interview at a local employer at the end of the training. Bootcamps are available in bricklaying, plumbing, painting and decorating, air source heat pump installation and maintenance, nursing, social care, digital and more.

## 510 adults access Multiply maths support



**Multiply** has supported 510 residents aged 19 and older who do not have a maths GCSE at Grade C (or equivalent). Multiply courses are free to access and can help those looking to progress at work, who need help with daily tasks such as supporting a child with their home learning, or simply managing their money better to cope with cost-of-living situations.

### OUR STRATEGY SAYS

We will work to improve access to quality jobs, training, and volunteering opportunities.



**100 WA accounts created**



# Healthy and Inclusive Workplaces

## Community Wellbeing Role Network

Over 40 people attended the first meeting of the new Community Wellbeing Role Network, including Lifestyle Advisors, Social Prescribers, Community Health Connectors, and Mental Health Link Workers.

**Worcestershire VCSE Alliance** will be providing quarterly get togethers and monthly check-ins for informal peer support, giving people in community wellbeing roles across the county a chance to connect and learn with peers.

### OUR STRATEGY SAYS

We will work with businesses and organisations to promote inclusive, healthy, and productive workplaces.

## INclusive Worcestershire

INclusive Worcestershire, launched in 2023, supports those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to achieve their career outcomes. This year, it ran an inclusive employment conference to highlight Disability Confident opportunities, the breadth of support available to local businesses, and share 'best practice'. More events are planned for 2023.



## The Stay Connected pledge

The Tackling Loneliness Partnership has developed a new **Stay Connected pledge**, which aims to help put an end to loneliness by encouraging organisations to help people feel more connected, less isolated, and ultimately healthier. Since the 2023 relaunch, over 26 organisations have made the pledge. Any organisation can join Stay Connected and help their employees, customers and local communities make and maintain positive social connections.



## Workplace Health Programme

The new Workplace Health Programme will support employers across Worcestershire to improve the health and wellbeing of their employees. It will include a Workplace Wellbeing Network and further targeted support for businesses most impacted by health inequalities.



## Housing and Health

### Community Mental Health Link Workers

Community Mental Health Link Workers will help to improve the mental health and wellbeing of those experiencing homelessness or those at threat of homelessness. The new Link Workers will be hosted by VCSE organisations and will assist with care navigation, access to services and strategies to manage anxiety, depression, and sleep disturbance, and access to support networks within their communities.

#### OUR STRATEGY SAYS

We will continue to improve access to healthy, safe, affordable, and warm homes that support a better quality of life and good mental health and wellbeing.

### Housing and Mental Health Groups

Housing and Mental Health partnership groups are being established at a District level to understand services, resources and build relationships to support one another in meeting the needs of the local population, as well as understanding gaps in provision.

### Professionals Portal for Housing Providers

The Professionals Portal has been launched to help anyone working in Herefordshire and Worcestershire access basic information and tools around supporting those struggling with mental health or suicide. The portal provides access to free online training around mental health and wellbeing, aims to raise awareness of self-care and highlights useful resources for a range of issues, such as for those experiencing homelessness.

## Looking forward to 2024...

Alongside existing and emerging work, we will focus on:

### Shaping the Best Start in Life

The new Start for Life offer will be refreshing the current parenting and community offer, including preconception support and the development of Family Hubs across Worcestershire.

### Continuing to tackle loneliness and social isolation

Although less people in Worcestershire report feeling lonely 'often or always' than the **national average**, we are not being complacent. We know from talking to our communities that the pandemic increased loneliness and isolation across all age groups, but particularly in the elderly, young people and those living in rural areas. The Tackling Loneliness Partnership brings together representatives from District Councils, the NHS and the VCSE sector and aims to build local initiatives which help tackle the issue. A new action plan for the partnership will look to address this in 2024.

### Improving your health through creativity

Engaging with arts, creativity and culture can have hugely positive effects on mental health and wellbeing. Working with partners, new creative programmes will support people to talk about and access mental health support.

### Celebrating community stories

So much amazing work to encourage good mental health and wellbeing is happening across the County. To capture it all, working with District Councils and VCSE organisations, we'll be telling the stories of our brilliant communities.

★ *Created with thanks to Worcestershire partners and communities*



## Appendix 2: Worcestershire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy Outcomes Framework (October 2023 Review)

| Measure             | Data Set  | Description   | Value | Year    | Next Release               | Updated in 2023 |
|---------------------|---|---|-------|---------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Adult wellbeing     | <a href="#">Office for National Statistics (ONS) Personal wellbeing</a>   | Anxiety   | 3.08  | 2021-22 | TBC (expect late Oct 2023) | No              |
|                     |   | Happiness   | 7.45  | 2021-22 | TBC (expect late Oct 2023) | No              |
|                     |   | Life Satisfaction   | 7.52  | 2021-22 | TBC (expect late Oct 2023) | No              |
|                     |   | Worthwhile  | 7.73  | 2021-22 | TBC (expect late Oct 2023) | No              |
| Adult mental health | <a href="#">Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) Depression incidence and prevalence</a>  | QOF prevalence (18+)  | 15.7% | 2022-23 | TBC (expect Sept 2024)     | Updated         |
|                     |   | Incidence   | 1.4%  | 2022-23 | TBC (expect Sept 2024)     | Updated         |
| Child mental health | <a href="#">Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID)</a> , Source: <a href="#">Department for Education Special educational needs</a> | % of school pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) who are identified as having social, emotional, and mental health as the primary type of need | 2.6%  | 2022-23 | Jun-24                     | Updated         |
| Measure             | Data Set  | Description   | Value | Year    | Next Release               | Updated in 2023 |
| Best start in life  | <a href="#">Early years foundation stage profile</a>  | % of children achieving a good level of development at the end of reception   | 65.0% | 2021-22 | 30 Nov 2023                | No              |
|                     | <a href="#">Early years foundation stage profile</a>  | % of children with free school meal status achieving a good level of development at the end of reception  | 45.8% | 2021-22 | 30 Nov 2023                | No              |
|                     | <a href="#">Health visitor service delivery metrics experimental statistics</a>   | % of infants who are totally or partially breastfed at age 6-8 weeks old  | 47.6% | 2021-22 | TBC (expected Nov 2023)    | No              |
|                     | <a href="#">National Child Measurement Programme</a>  | % of children aged 4-5 years classified as healthy weight   | 77.6% | 2022-23 | TBC (expect Oct 2024)      | Updated         |

|                            |  |   |         |                 |  |               |
|----------------------------|--|---|---------|-----------------|--|---------------|
| <b>Healthy behaviours</b>  | <a href="#">Active Lives data tables</a>                         | % Physically active adults  | 68.5%   | 2021-22         | 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024  | No            |
|                            | <a href="#">Active Lives data tables</a>                         | % Physically active children and young people   | 50.0%   | 2021-22         | 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023  | No            |
|                            | <a href="#">Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF): Smoking</a> | Smoking prevalence in adults (18+)- current smokers (APS)                                 | 11.0%   | 2022            | 11 July 2023 then quarterly  | Updated       |
|                            | <a href="#">OHID: Alcohol related admissions</a>                 | Admissions per 100,000  | 523     | 2021-22         | Published annually. Last published Sept 2022. Expect Update Sept 2023                                      | No            |
| <b>Loneliness</b>          | <a href="#">PHOF: Loneliness</a>                                 | % Adults (16+) who feel lonely 'often/always' or 'some of the time'                       | 22.5%   | 2019-20         | Last published April 2021.   | No            |
|                            | <a href="#">Active Lives data tables</a>                         | % Adults (16+) who feel lonely 'often/always' (Herefordshire and Worcestershire combined) | 4.7%    | 2021-22         | 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024  | New & updated |
| <b>Overall health</b>      | <a href="#">ONS Health State Life expectancy</a>                 | HLE at birth - Male   | 65.3    | 2018-20         | Estimated release date Jan 2024  | No            |
|                            |  | HLE at birth - Female   | 66.2    | 2018-20         | Estimated release date Jan 2024  | No            |
| <b>Education</b>           | <a href="#">GOV.UK NEET and participation</a>                    | % 16–17-year-olds not in Education, Employment or Training (or unknown activity)          | 6.50%   | AD year 2022-23 | Published 6th July 2023, next update 2024  | Updated       |
| <b>Employment</b>          | <a href="#">Nomis Claimant count by sex and age</a>              | % Unemployed  | 2.9%    | Aug-23          | Figures updated on Nomis monthly but also updated <a href="#">here</a> on day of release                   | Updated       |
| <b>Income</b>              | <a href="#">Nomis: Gross weekly pay</a>                          | Median gross weekly pay (full time, male and female)                                      | £622.80 | 2022            | TBA. Data from Annual Survey for Hours and Earnings (ASHE). Last released Oct 2022. Expect update Oct 2023 | No            |
|                            | <a href="#">GOV.UK Children in low-income families</a>           | % children in relative low -income households (under 16s)                                 | 18.0%   | 2021-22         | TBA. Last update was March 2023 so can expect next update March 2024                                       | No            |
| <b>Deprivation</b>         | <a href="#">PHOF: Deprivation score (IMD)</a>                    | IMD 2019 score  | 18.1    | 2019            | Updating to the IMD is now scheduled to be released in Sept 2015   | No            |
| <b>Natural environment</b> | <a href="#">Viewpoint: Use of parks and open spaces</a>          | % panel members accessing parks/open space >5x per year                                   | 63%     | 2023            | Viewpoint survey results normally published each July  | Updated       |

|                         |  |  |       |         |   |         |
|-------------------------|--|--|-------|---------|---|---------|
|                         | <a href="#">Defra: Modelled background pollution data</a>                  | Annual concentration of fine particulate matter (PM 2.5) micrograms/m3 | 6.3   | 2022    | Data updated annually, at the end of Sept   | Updated |
| <b>Homes</b>            | <a href="#">GOV.UK Statutory homelessness in England</a>                   | Households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act            | 2,906 | 2022-23 | Last updated Sept 2023. Expect update Sept 2024   | Updated |
| <b>Community</b>        | <a href="#">Viewpoint: Volunteering</a>                                    | % panel members volunteering in previous 12 months                     | 43%   | 2023    | Viewpoint survey results normally published each July   | Updated |
|                         | <a href="#">Viewpoint: Strength of belonging</a>                           | % Fairly or very strong belonging to local area                        | 73%   | 2023    | Viewpoint survey results normally published each July   | Updated |
|                         | <a href="#">Viewpoint: Local area satisfaction</a>                         | % Fairly or very satisfied with local area                             | 78%   | 2023    | Viewpoint survey results are normally published each July   | Updated |
| <b>Crime and safety</b> | <a href="#">GOV.UK Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables</a> | Violence offences per 1000 population                                  | 29.4  | 2022-23 | Data for end of financial year is released each July and the next release is scheduled to be July 2023. Quarterly data released each quarter however if rolling yearly estimates are required / useful. | Updated |

Other notable Indicators from the Public Health Outcomes Framework include (for Worcestershire):

| Indicator   | Period  | Rate   | England Average | Rating compared to England Average (Green, Amber, Yellow). |
|---|---------|--------|-----------------|--|
| Adults in contact with secondary mental health services who live in stable and appropriate accommodation  | 2020/21 | 65%    | 58.0%           | GREEN  |
| Gap in employment rate between those with a physical or mental long term health condition (aged 16-64) and the overall employment rate                            | 2021/22 | 4.3    | 9.9             | GREEN  |
| Premature mortality in adults with severe mental illness (SMI)  | 2018-20 | 81.6   | 103.6           | GREEN  |
| Excess under 75 mortality rate in adults with severe mental illness (SMI)   | 2018-20 | 341.7% | 389.9%          | GREEN  |
| The percentage of the population with a physical or mental long term health condition in employment (aged 16-64)  | 2021/22 | 71.9%  | 65.5%           | GREEN  |
| The percentage of the population who are in contact with secondary mental health services and on the Care Plan Approach, that are in paid employment (aged 18-69) | 2020/21 | 15%    | 9.0%            | GREEN  |

These are indicators identified for the outcomes framework at the time of publication of the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2032. A number will not have been updated since this November 2022. They will be tracked over the 10-year life of the strategy.

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# Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel

September (P6) update 2023/24

# Public Health Ringfenced Grant

## Value of the Grant

Public Health Ring Fenced Grant Allocation 2023/24

£32.236m

## Purpose of the Grant

“The grant will be ring fenced for use on public health functions. This may include Public Health challenges arising directly or indirectly from Covid-19”

# Mandated Functions

As part of the grant conditions the below functions are mandatory

- Open access sexual health services
- NHS health checks 5 yearly 40 - 74
- Weighing and measuring of children
- Healthy Child Programme (child development reviews) – health visitors/school nurses
- Public health advice service
- Protecting the health of the local population

# Public Health

## Forecast Outturn PHRFG and Reserves as at Period 6 (September 2023)

The forecast position is an additional spend of £4.358m over and above the £32.236m PHRFG, this is planned funding from reserves for additional activities in the three year plan.

# Key Headlines

The main explanations for the budget variations are planned spend from reserves for:

- Adults Other – Health & Social Care Integration, Enhanced Information & Advice, and a final year of additional funding of Promoting Independent Living, Mental Health Reablement.
- Adults Public Health – Joy project, Being Well, Prevention Response, Physical Activity, Qwell Adult Online Consulting, Domestic Abuse Sanctuary Scheme, Infectious Disease.
- Childrens Public Health – Starting Well contract, final year of increase in spend due to COVID 19, plus additional spend for Speech and language and Public Health Maternity.
- Childrens Other – Youth Provision, Act on It, Family Safeguarding Model, Dawn, Early Help.

# Public Health

## Forecast Outturn PHRFG and Reserves as at Period 6

| BUDGET HEADING                  | PHRFG<br>BUDGET<br>£'000 | FORECAST<br>23/24<br>£'000 | Funded from<br>Reserves £'000 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Income:</b>                  |                          |                            |                               |
| Public Health Ring Fenced Grant | -32,236                  |                            |                               |
|                                 |                          |                            |                               |
| <b>Expenditure:</b>             |                          |                            |                               |
| PH Strategic Functions          | 5,403                    | 4,924                      | -480                          |
| Adults - Other                  | 1,965                    | 2,901                      | 936                           |
| Adults - Public Health          | 6,153                    | 7,137                      | 985                           |
| Adults - Sexual Health Services | 4,562                    | 4,608                      | 46                            |
| Childrens - Other               | 1,418                    | 2,693                      | 1,276                         |
| Childrens - Public Health       | 9,907                    | 11,503                     | 1,596                         |
| Wider Determinants              | 2,828                    | 2,828                      | 0                             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>32,236</b>            | <b>36,595</b>              | <b>4,358</b>                  |

| <b>Public Health Reserves</b>       | <b>23-24<br/>£'000</b> | <b>24-25<br/>£'000</b> | <b>25-26<br/>£'000</b> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Information & Advice                | 100                    | 100                    | 0                      |
| Health & Social Care Integration    | 125                    | 125                    | 0                      |
| Promoting Independent Living        | 308                    | 0                      | 0                      |
| MH Reablement                       | 458                    | 0                      | 0                      |
| Adults Smoking Prevention           | 0                      | 0                      | 0                      |
| Mental Health Adults                | 118                    | 0                      | 0                      |
| Infectious Disease Service          | 33                     | 0                      | 0                      |
| Physical Activity                   | 150                    | 0                      | 0                      |
| Prevention Response                 | 177                    | 0                      | 0                      |
| Domestic Abuse Sanctuary            | 100                    | 100                    | 0                      |
| Community Support - Joy             | 265                    | 265                    | 199                    |
| Being Well                          | 203                    | 208                    | 0                      |
| Sexual Health                       | 146                    | 0                      | 0                      |
| Youth Support                       | 350                    | 350                    | 0                      |
| Dawn Pilot                          | 126                    | 93                     | 0                      |
| Family Safeguarding Model           | 178                    | 224                    | 0                      |
| Early Help                          | 125                    | 125                    | 0                      |
| Mental Health Children              | 497                    | 49                     | 0                      |
| Additional Starting Well Investment | 1389                   | 0                      | 0                      |
| Maternity Support                   | 126                    | 31                     | 0                      |
| Illicit Tobacco                     | 81                     | 59                     | 0                      |
| Asset Based Community Development   | 0                      | 87                     | 0                      |
| Contingency for Covid Back Pay      | 0                      | 0                      | 7                      |
| Transfer to Reserves                | -696                   |                        |                        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>4,358</b>           | <b>1,816</b>           | <b>206</b>             |

# Public Health Reserves

**23/24 Opening balance £9.113m**

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| <b>Public Health Reserves</b>   | <b>23-24</b> | <b>24-25</b> | <b>25-26</b> |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                 | <b>£'000</b> | <b>£'000</b> | <b>£'000</b> |
| Reserves Balance c/f            | 9,113        | 4754         | 2,938        |
| Forecast transfer from Reserves | -4,358       | -1816        | -206         |
| Remaining Reserves at Year End  | <b>4,754</b> | <b>2,938</b> | <b>2,732</b> |

**25/26 Closing Balance £2.732m (c8.5% of annual grant)**



## **HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **13 NOVEMBER 2023**

## **WORK PROGRAMME**

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### **Summary**

1. From time to time the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) will review its work programme and consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.

### **Background**

2. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny. The 2023/24 Work Programme has been developed by taking into account issues still to be completed from 2022/23, the views of Overview and Scrutiny Members and other stakeholders and the findings of the budget scrutiny process.
3. Suggested issues have been prioritised using scrutiny feasibility criteria in order to ensure that topics are selected subjectively and the 'added value' of a review is considered right from the beginning.
4. The HOSC will need to retain the flexibility to take into account any urgent issues which may arise from substantial NHS service changes requiring consultation with HOSC.
5. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutiny of:
  - Local NHS bodies and health services (including public health and children's health).
6. The scrutiny work programme was discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) on 28 April and was agreed by Council on 18 May 2023.

### **Dates of Future 2023 and 2024 Meetings**

- 7 December 2023 at 10am
- 9 January 2024 at 10am
- 19 February at 10am
- 15 March at 10am
- 16 April at 10am
- 13 June at 10am
- 8 July at 2pm
- 9 September at 2pm
- 11 October at 10am
- 12 November at 10am

## **Purpose of the Meeting**

7. The HOSC is asked to consider the 2023/24 Work Programme and agree whether it would like to make any amendments. The Committee will wish to retain the flexibility to take into account any urgent issues which may arise.

## **Supporting Information**

Appendix 1 – Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023/24

## **Contact Points**

Emma James / Jo Weston, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844964 / 844965  
Email: [scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the Proper Officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance), the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[Agenda and Minutes for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 28 April 2023](#)

[Agenda for Council on 18 May 2023](#)

All Agendas and Minutes are available on the Council's website [weblink to Agendas and Minutes](#)

## SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

### Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

| Date of Meeting              | Issue for Scrutiny   | Date of Last Report   | Notes / Follow-up Action   |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 13 November 2023             | Public Health and Prevention   | 13 January 2023<br>17 October 2022<br>21 September 2021<br>19 September 2018<br>(CAMHS) | To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worcestershire Mental Health Needs Assessment</li> <li>• Your Health Service and other public health initiatives</li> <li>• Public Health Ring-Fenced Grant Twice Yearly Budget Monitoring</li> </ul> |
| 7 December 2023              | Update from West Midlands Ambulance Service  | 27 June 2019  | Requested at 11 September 2023 meeting   |
| <b>Possible Future Items</b> |  |   |  |
| Ongoing                      | Integrated Care System (ICS)   | 10 May 2023, 2 November 2022  | Requested at 10 May 2023 meeting   |
| 2023                         | Commissioning Arrangements under the Integrated Care System (ICS)                                |   | Including Pharmacy, Dentistry, Optometry, Specialised Acute, new arrangements for Mental Health, Specialist Mental Health and Prison Health  |
| 2023                         | Community Paediatric Services  |   | Suggested at Agenda Planning 23 August 2022  |
| 2023                         | Screening (Cervical/Antenatal/Newborn/Diabetic Eye/Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)/Breast/Bowel) |   | Suggested at 19 July 2021 meeting  |
| 2023                         | Routine Immunisation   | 19 July 2021  | Suggested at 19 July 2021 Meeting  |
| 2023                         | Hospital at Home Service   | 10 June 2022  | Requested at 10 June 2022 meeting  |
| TBC                          | Adult Mental Health Inpatient Services Redesign  |   | Suggested by Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust on 17 April 2023   |
| TBC?                         | Update on Improving Patient Flow*  | 15 June and 10 February 2023  |  |

|                       |  |   |                                       |
|-----------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| TBC                   | Update on Workforce Pressures                                    | 10 May 2023, 10 June 2022                                 | Requested at 10 May 2023 meeting      |
| TBC                   | Haematology  |   | Suggested at 10 May 2023 Meeting      |
| TBC                   | Neurology  |   | Suggested at 10 May 2023 Meeting      |
| TBC                   | Stroke Services – update   | 17 October 2022   |                                       |
| TBC                   | Update on Dental Services Access                                 | 9 March 2022  | Requested at 9 March 2022 meeting     |
| TBC                   | End of Life Care   | 10 June 2022  | Requested at 10 June 2022 meeting     |
| TBC                   | Prevention Work in Health and Social Care                        |   | Suggested at 17 October 2022 meeting  |
| TBC                   | Glaucoma Services  |   | Suggested at 17 October 2022 meeting  |
| TBC                   | NHS Health Checks Programme                                      |   | Requested at 13 January 2023 meeting  |
| TBC                   | Podiatry services  |   | Requested at 10 February 2023 meeting |
| TBC                   | Long Term plan for WAHT Theatres                                 |   | Requested at 13 March 2023 HOSC       |
| TBC                   | Update on Community Pharmacies                                   | 18 April 2023   | Requested at 18 April 2023 HOSC       |
| TBC                   | Resistance Bands Programme                                       |   | Agenda Planning May 2023              |
| TBC                   | Maternity Services   | 10 May 2023, 17 October and 9 May 2022, 21 September 2021 |                                       |
| TBC                   | Hill Crest CQC Inspection  | 11 October 2023<br>13 March 2023                          | Requested at 11 October 2023 HOSC     |
| TBC                   | Access to Primary Care   |   | Requested at 11 October 2023 HOSC     |
| <b>Standing Items</b> |  |   |                                       |
| When required         | Substantial NHS Service Changes requiring consultation with HOSC |   |                                       |

|              |   |                                 |  |
|--------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
|              |   |                                 |  |
| TBC          | NHS Quality Accounts Quality and Performance                                |                                 |  |
| TBC          | Annual Update on Health and Wellbeing Strategy                              | 17 October 2022                 |  |
| January/July | Public Health Ring Fenced Grant (PHRFG) –<br>Twice Yearly Budget Monitoring | 13 January 2023,<br>8 July 2022 |  |
| TBC          | Performance Indicators  |                                 |  |
| TBC          | Update from West Midlands Ambulance Service                                 | 27 June 2019                    | Further requested at 11 September HOSC |
| March        | Review of the Work Programme  | 13 March 2023                   |  |

\*Scrutiny of patient flow is a continuation of the Scrutiny Task Group in November 2021

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