

Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Covid-19 Recovery

24 June 2020

Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. Receives and comments on the County Council's approach to Covid-19 Recovery, as set out in the attached Cabinet report.
2. Comments on the specific issues relevant to the remit of this Committee that should be considered in the development of the Recovery Plan which is due to be submitted to Cabinet in September.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This paper aims to provide an overview of the Council's approach to recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, as set out in the attached paper, considered by Cabinet on the 11 June.
- 1.2 Key to this work will be the development of a Recovery Plan that will be submitted to Cabinet for approval in September. This report seeks this Committee's comments on the approach to the development of the Recovery Plan as relevant to the remit of the Committee.
- 1.3 Following approval of the Recovery Plan, Overview and Scrutiny Committees will continue to have a role to play in recovery, particularly over the longer term as we move into the delivery phase. We will be building consideration of how we best achieve this into our review of scrutiny which we had planned pre-COVID and which we are preparing to restart in the coming weeks.

2. Supporting Information

- 2.1 For the past three months the Council has focused on responding to the Covid-19 crisis, working closely with key partners, locally, regionally and nationally.
- 2.2 Attention is now focused on developing a longer-term plan to support recovery from the crisis. Our Recovery approach includes the following key elements, with further details in the attached Cabinet report:

- Principles and objectives to guide recovery
- Efforts at local, county, sub/regional and national levels
- Phasing of efforts over
 - Foundation: 0-3 months,
 - Consolidation: 3-9 months
 - Acceleration: over 10 months
- Four themes of the recovery approach, focused on:
 - Place, Economy & Climate
 - Community and Voluntary Sector
 - Health, wellbeing and social care
 - Organisation, including the reinstating of services
- Engaging Members, staff, partners, business and the public on our recovery planning.

2.3 We are now in the Foundation stage and focusing on:

- standing up and reinstating WCC services in line with the national guidance about Covid-secure spaces, including workplaces.
- Working with commissioned providers to support the reinstatement of commissioned services in line with national guidance as appropriate. This includes a focus on risk assessments.
- seizing immediate opportunities to support communities/business.
- establishing recovery governance and approach; and
- engaging with the regional approach to setting recovery priorities including participating in the regional citizens' panel.

2.4 The key output from this phase will be a Recovery Plan that is presented to Cabinet for approval in September.

3. Focus of Response and Plans for Recovery

3.1 During the pandemic, the Council has worked flexibly and adapted in many ways to ensure that the residents, communities and businesses continued to receive key services and were supported to cope with the effects of Covid-19.

3.2 Examples of the responsiveness and actions taken by services within the remit of this Committee, include:

Public Health

- Provision of public health advice, policy and guidance in the establishment and operation of Warwickshire's Shielding Hubs which provide support for vulnerable residents during the pandemic.
- Establishing befriending support for shielded individuals experiencing loneliness.

- Public Health expertise and support for regional, sub-regional and Council wide responses for Covid-19, including developing guidance, briefings and support for local services such as schools.
- Helping the development of our public campaigns and web-information to help residents to access advice on staying well, isolating and seeking appropriate support during the pandemic.
- Supported the housing of rough sleepers and developed a standard operating procedure for a partnership response to support symptomatic individuals in temporary accommodation, including provision of comfort packs.
- Swift adaptation of health protection advice and social care services to move to a seven-days a week service.
- Sourcing and supporting the supply of PPE for care homes.
- Commissioned arts-based interventions to support the wellbeing of shielded individuals and other vulnerable groups at risk of loneliness or negative mental health impacts.
- Working with the Department of Health and regional partners to manage Warwickshire's role as a pilot for the national Test and Trace programme.
- Working with partners to put in place appropriate infection, prevention and control measures to deal with any future local outbreaks of Covid-19.
- Supporting recovery planning through a review of changing population health and care needs (through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment work programme) to understand the implications for services and population support/needs in the short, medium and longer term.
- Informing recovery planning by engaging with the population to understand changes in perceptions of services, means of accessing services and the impacts of the pandemic on individuals and specific geographic and demographic groups which have been particularly affected by COVID-19.
- Supporting the development of place-based reset, recovery and reform plans through health place partnerships and others such as town centre recovery work.
- Updating Warwickshire's Health and Wellbeing Strategy in light of our recovery planning.

Adult Social Care Delivery

- Speedy mobilisation of Adult Social Care teams to support seven day a week working to ensure continued support for customers.
- Rapidly and successfully adapting ways of working, systems and culture to move to mobile working to support customers in different ways.
- Use of video and telephone meetings to support customers.
- Strengthened partnership working and revised hospital discharge processes which enabled quicker discharges.
- Linking vulnerable people in isolation with local community support to reduce isolation and loneliness.

- Going beyond the requirements of the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): hospital discharge service requirements](#) to ensure that Warwickshire residents were supported in the best way possible whilst maintain flow through the acute sites.
- Having up to date guidance available for customers, providers & staff.

People Strategy and Commissioning

- Rapid redesign of commissioned public health and social care services where required to ensure effective service delivery throughout the pandemic.
- 1-1 and mutual aid calls with our range of commissioned providers to provide ongoing support and guidance and to give a platform for issues to be escalated and resolved.
- Joint working with health partners and Coventry City Council with a focus on safeguarding staff and vulnerable residents; support to the care market and supporting discharge to the community. Our twice-weekly system Care task and finish group continues to oversee and drive activity with a focus on 6 areas - Discharge to Care Homes & Discharge to Assess; Community Support; Infection Prevention and Control; Testing; Support from Primary Care and Community Health; and Mutual Aid/Workforce.
- Development and implementation of Warwickshire's Care Home Resilience Plan.
- Market Shape capacity diverted into a number of areas; coordinating financial support to the market; mobilising a workforce for social care providers by recruiting, training and processing DBS for candidates and then introducing them to providers who are short of staff; supporting providers staff and keyworkers to access testing expediently; getting key messages out to the market as guidance and key communications change.
- Out of Hospital support has focused on work to refine and agree the hospital discharge pathways across Coventry and Warwickshire. We have temporary transition/isolation beds in operation, for a period of 3 months, to support safe discharge into the community.
- Support to enable people to maintain their independence at home continues to be prioritised through our community equipment provider and our community meals provider.
- Domiciliary care referrals continue to be responded to positively by the provider market and flow from hospital is currently being maintained.
- Developing and promoting information resources, welfare support and targeted interventions for carers, people living with dementia; people at risk of fuel poverty and people with mental health and wellbeing needs.
- Domestic Abuse, substance misuse and suicide prevention remain priorities and we are focusing on effective communication of messages and continued availability of targeted support.
- Sexual health services are still operating through this period, providing testing and treatment for STIs, and emergency hormonal contraception.

- Social prescribing is available for individuals being discharged from hospital, particularly those who are discharged with no other support packages in place.

3.3 As we emerge from the immediate response phase and move into the delivery phase of our Recovery Plan, there will be a role for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider aspects of recovery as are relevant to the remit of the Committee, particularly in relation to health and social care and aspects of community recovery. It is intended that there will be further opportunities for input from Committee Members as we move into the delivery phase from October onwards and further reports will be brought to the Committee for consideration.

4. Financial Implications

5.1 Work on the change portfolio/Recovery planning will be funded through the Organisational Change fund; the investment funds created in the MTFS are available to support one-off investments which will support recovery effort. The refresh of the rolling five-year MTFS from 2021-22 onwards will be the key mechanism for incorporating longer-term financial impacts of Covid-19.

5. Environmental Implications

5.1 There are no direct environmental implications of the proposed recovery approach. Climate change is one of four recovery themes proposed and is covered through 'Place, Economy and Climate'.

Appendices

1. Appendix 1 -Cabinet Report, 11 June 2020, Covid-19 recovery and reform

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Sushma Soni	sushmasoni@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Sarah Duxbury	sarahduxbury@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Directors	Rob Powell Mark Ryder	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Members	Cllr Izzi Secombe Cllr Heather Timms Cllr Andy Crump	Leader & Economic Development Environment, culture & heritage Community safety, fire & resources

Background Papers

None

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): None. Other members: None