

GCC Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting 8th March 2022 (Councillor Dilys Barrell)

A full recording of this meeting is available and can be found in the “Online meetings” section of the Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) website. The public information pack which includes the power point presentations is also available now and can be found on the GCC website. The minutes will be available soon. These will give you much more detailed information. This was a joint meeting of the Health O and S Committee and the Adult Social Care and Communities O and S Committees. Health and Social Care are very much bound up with each other – problems in one section will affect the other, so it is particularly important that both are able to work together.

There were three Scrutiny Items: Gloucestershire Urgent and Emergency Care Winter Sustainability (One Gloucestershire)

There has been increasing pressure on Emergency Departments leading to delays in ambulance handover times. Recent national guidance has reduced the flexibility in using staff to respond to operational pressures. I asked a question in regard to this and was told that it is not an ideal situation. “Cohort areas” were being used to care for patients, releasing some ambulance crews to go and answer new emergency calls. Ambulance crews are now no longer able to staff these areas, but bank paramedics have been able to come and help.

Child Measurement Programme

Since the pandemic there has been an increase in obesity in children. There is a health inequality issue here. Various measures are underway to improve this situation. I mentioned the work done by Cheltenham’s “No Child Left Behind” programme and all such work was welcomed.

COVID-19 Temporary Service Changes: Memorandum of Understanding Update

Of particular relevance to Cheltenham the Aventa Birthing Centre is open again enabling Cheltenham children to be born in Cheltenham! The High Care Respiratory Department, Medical Day Care Unit, and Stroke services all remain at Cheltenham General Hospital at present.

There were three Health Information Items – please see presentations for detailed information:

NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (GCCG) Performance Report

One Gloucestershire Integrated Care System Report (ICS)

NHS GCCG Clinical Chair and Accountable Officers Report

There were four Adult Social Care and Communities (ASCC) information reports:

ASCC Quarter 3 Performance Report 2021/22

This report covers a variety of areas. It was good to hear that GCC is in the process of drafting a new Road Safety Policy and establishing a new Road Safety Forum bringing together relevant agencies to address road safety issues.

Also of interest and worth reading are the **Chief Fire Officer Report**, the **Adult Social Care Report** and the **Public Health Report**.