

**Committee and Date**

**Health and Adult Social Care
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**

date

Item

(leave blank)

Public**Responses to questions previously submitted to the committee****Responsible officer**

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1.0 Summary

1.1 This report provides the committee with responses from Shropshire Council to questions asked by a member of the public at the committee's meeting on 25 January 2021.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 The committee is asked to note the report.

REPORT**3.0 Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal**

3.1 This report is for information only. Officers have therefore undertaken no risk assessment or appraisal of opportunities.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 This report is for information only. Its recommendations have no financial implications.

5.0 Climate change appraisal

5.1 This report is for information only. Its recommendations have no climate change implications.

6.0 Background

6.1 On 21 January 2021, a member of the public submitted five questions to the next meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Will the committee please investigate further why the percentages of deaths in care homes in Shropshire from mid-September continued to be higher than CQC comparator areas below for weeks 38-53, while

percentages of Shropshire Covid-19 deaths in hospital were lower? This could be critical if care homes are to be protected from further surges in cases.

- How many of Shropshire's 120 homes have had any gaps in their serial Covid-19 testing timetable (i.e. weekly for staff and monthly for residents) since the beginning of September 2020?
- How many of Shropshire's 120 care homes have, as of today (19.01.21), received the vaccination? What additional safeguards will be put in place if some staff or residents decline the vaccination?
- How many patients with a positive test for Covid-19 have been admitted to and/or discharged from hospital into any of Shropshire's care homes since the beginning of September 2020?
- The Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund (May and July 2020) was allocated on a per-bed basis via local authorities to operators (care providers). Its six measures were intended to reduce infection transmission between and within care homes. In the interests of transparency is the committee able to provide a break down of what proportion of the fund has been used to support each of the six broad infection control measures in Shropshire care homes?

6.2 The work required to answers these questions fully meant that there was not enough time to prepare a response in time for the meeting. Shropshire Council sent its written response to the questions on 24 February 2021.

6.3 The questions and their answers are attached as **appendix 1**.

List of background papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Cabinet member (portfolio holder)

Cllr Dean Carroll – Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Services and Climate Change

Local member

All

Appendices

Shropshire Health & Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee 25 January 2021 – Public Questions from Diane Peacock