

## **Title of report: Stroke Services**

**Meeting:** Health, Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

**Meeting date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

**Report by:** The Statutory Scrutiny Officer

### **Classification**

Open

### **Decision type**

**This is not an executive decision**

### **Wards affected**

(All Wards);

### **Purpose:**

The report attached at Appendix A provides an update on NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICS on stroke services across Herefordshire and Worcestershire. This includes a paper on Improving Stroke (including TIA) Services across Herefordshire and Worcestershire, September 2022. The committee is asked to consider and comment on the information provided and seek assurance that the wider public engagement undertaken on this will be focused on delivering the required improvement further inform possible solutions.

### **Recommendation(s)**

That the committee is assured that the wider public engagement undertaken on improving stroke services across Herefordshire and Worcestershire will be focused on delivering the required improvement further inform possible solutions.

### **Alternative options**

1. The alternative is for the committee not to consider issues for stroke services across Herefordshire and Worcestershire and the wider public engagement on improving stroke services across Herefordshire and Worcestershire, which would provide less opportunity for local accountability and engagement with the committee on this important issue.

### **Key considerations**

2. Key considerations for the committee to consider are the key issues and challenges for stroke services across Herefordshire and Worcestershire, as outlined in the report and the extent to

which stakeholder consultation will be designed in a way to help drive the improvement of stroke services for residents. The committee is asked to consider and comment on the information provided and seek assurance that the wider public engagement undertaken on this will be focused on delivering the required improvement further inform possible solutions.

3. Scrutiny committees have statutory powers to make recommendations to the Executive, as appropriate, and the Cabinet has a statutory duty to respond to scrutiny recommendations. They may also make reports and recommendations to external decision making bodies, including NHS bodies, which also have a statutory duty to respond (to provide an Executive Response).
4. Once an Executive Response has been agreed, the scrutiny committee shall receive a report to receive the response and the committee may review implementation of the executive's decisions after such a period as these may reasonably be implemented (review date).

### **Community Impact**

5. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, the council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts, and encourages constructive challenge, and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review. Topics selected for scrutiny should have regard to what matters to residents.

### **Environmental Impact**

6. This is an information report and no there are no direct environmental impacts.

### **Equality Duty**

7. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:
8. A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –
  - a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
9. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

### **Resource Implications**

10. There are no resource implications arising from this report, however, resource implications should be addressed in the consideration of this issue by the committee and in consideration of any scrutiny recommendations that may be envisaged as a result of the committee's consideration.

## Legal Implications

11. The council is required to deliver a scrutiny function. The development of a work programme which is focused and reflects those priorities facing Herefordshire will assist the committee and the council to deliver a scrutiny function.
12. The Scrutiny Rules in Part 4 Section 5 of the council's constitution provide for the setting of a work programme, the reporting of recommendations to Cabinet and the establishment of task and finish groups within the committee's agreed work programme.
13. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

## Risk management

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
There is a reputational risk to the council if the scrutiny function does not operate effectively.	The arrangements for the development of the work programme should help mitigate this risk.

## Consultees

The Chair of the Health, Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

## Appendices

Appendix A Stroke Services paper by the Director of Communications and Engagement (NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board)

Appendix 1 – Improving stroke services across Herefordshire and Worcestershire – Issues Paper

## Background papers

None identified.