

**Title: Adult Social Care Demand task
and finish group - interim report**

Meeting: Health, Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

Meeting date: Monday 14 September 2026

Report by: Statutory Scrutiny Officer

Classification

Open

Report purpose

To provide the committee with the interim report and recommendations of its task and finish group looking into the demand for adult social care in Herefordshire.

Background

1. The Health, Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee agreed in October 2025 to commission a task and finish group to look into the growing demand for adult social care in Herefordshire. The group had the following objectives:
 - a. To understand what is causing the extend of demand for adult social care services provided or commissioned by Hereford.
 - b. To explore the drivers of increased demand for adult social care, and the capacity of the local authority to fund it.
 - c. To identify strategies and work carried out by other local authorities to reduce demand, or to increase revenue to pay for services.
 - d. To make recommendations to the executive on steps that should be taken to reduce service demand and to increase revenue.
2. To support scrutiny by Scrutiny Management Board in light of the recent Care Quality Commission inspection of adult social care services in Herefordshire, the task and finish group chair produced an interim report of the group's findings and recommendations. An updated version of this report is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
3. A final report from the task and finish group will be presented to the committee at its next meeting, which take place on 14 December 2026.

Meeting objectives

4. To note the chair's group interim report and its key themes.
5. To agree the task and finish group's recommendations arising from its inquiry.

Report information

6. The interim report is attached as Appendix 1 to this covering report.

Consultees

7. None

Appendices

Appendix 1: Adult Social Care Demand Task and Finish Group – Chair's Interim Report and Recommendations

Background papers and resources

None identified.