



Committee and Date

Health Overview and Scrutiny
Committee

INSERT NEXT MEETING DATE

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2025

**In the Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY2 6ND**

10.00 am - 12.12 pm

Responsible Officer: Ashley Kendrick Democratic Services Officer

Email: ashley.kendrick@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 250893

Present

Councillor Geoff Elner

Councillors Jeff Anderson, Nicholas Bardsley, Bernie Bentick, Heather Kidd (Vice-Chair), Pamela Moseley, Peggy Mullock, Ed Potter and Mary Davies (Substitute) (substitute for Tracey Huffer)

36 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Edward Towers and Tracey Huffer (Substitute: Councillor Mary Davies).

37 Disclosable Interests

There were no disclosable interests.

38 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated, and members raised a query regarding the presentation on the Suicide Prevention Strategy. They identified that the presentation included the ONS figures and interpretations which reported the suicide rate for Shropshire as 12.8 per 100,000 for 2020-2023, compared to the national average of 10.3 per 100,000. The presentation also included the interpretation of those figures according to the national OHID Fingertips methodology that the difference was "statistically not significant". Members highlighted that by interpreting these two figures in another way there was a 20% difference between them and agreed that this difference was very significant to the people of Shropshire. The Executive Director of Health acknowledged this significance and importance."

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2024 as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record.

39 Public Question Time

Public questions had been received from Councillor Beverley Waite, Ludlow Town Council with regards to hospital and health services in Ludlow.

A copy of the questions and the responses provided are available from the web page for the meeting:

[Agenda for Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday, 27th January, 2025, 10.00 am — Shropshire Council](#)

40 **Members Question Time**

Members questions were received from:

Councillor Heather Kidd, in relation to Shropshire's Emergency Services

Councillor Bernie Bentick, in relation to public health measures in response to infection control and two supplementary questions. The responses to which would be reported after the meeting.

The full questions and responses provided at the meeting can be found on [Members Questions - HOSC 27 Jan 2025.pdf](#)

41 **Local Care Neighbourhood Working**

The Executive Director for Health provided an overview of Neighbourhood working in Shropshire highlighting the development of community and family hubs, proactive care, and integration efforts. They emphasized the importance of addressing local needs and working collaboratively with partners.

The program aims to address local needs through data-driven approaches, including place-based needs assessments and vulnerability mapping. Community and family hubs had been established in various locations, offering a range of services and activities tailored to local needs. The program emphasizes integration and collaboration with partners, including primary care networks, voluntary sector organizations, and local authorities.

Future plans were outlined including the expansion of the hub network, developing multidisciplinary teams, and enhancing services for specific populations, such as women and those with mental health needs.

The committee discussed various challenges and priorities, including the need for better engagement with local communities, the importance of addressing mental health and women's health, and the integration of services across different areas.

RESOLVED:

That the progress made with Neighbourhood Working in Shropshire be noted, along with the significant amount of partnership working.

Follow-up tasks:

- Suicide Prevention Strategy: Amend the minutes to reflect the correct suicide rates for Shropshire as 12.8 per 100,000, which is 20% higher than the national rate of 10.3. (MTR-Shrewsbury)
- Emergency Services Crisis: Request monthly reports on urgent care targets, including patient numbers, delayed handovers, waiting times, and deaths in A&E departments until government targets are met. (MTR-Shrewsbury)
- Public Health Measures: Advise on public health measures taken to separate patients with infectious illnesses and the implementation of FFP3 masks for health workers and visitors. (MTR-Shrewsbury)
- Elective Operations: Report on the reduction or stoppage of elective operations in Shropshire acute hospitals until urgent care targets are met and staff are reallocated to urgent care. (MTR-Shrewsbury)
- C. difficile Cases: Provide a detailed report on the current and 2024 monthly average number of C. difficile cases in each hospital and measures being taken to reduce these cases. (MTR-Shrewsbury)

42 Update from the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC)

The committee received an update on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC).

43 Work Programme

The committee identified key areas for future work, including community hospitals, the integration of services, and the need for better communication and engagement with local communities.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: