

Leeds Long Covid Community Services Pathway – The First Year

Date: 5th October 2021

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- The Office for National Statistics (ONS) Long Covid Study estimates that 1.5% of the UK population were experiencing self-reported “Long COVID” (symptoms persisting for more than four weeks after the first suspected COVID-19 infection that were not explained by something else) at 1 August, 2021. This equates to 12,807 people in Leeds. In addition, another recent study from ONS (Updated estimates of the prevalence of post-acute symptoms among people with coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK: 26 April 2020 to 1 August 2021), released on the 16th September, estimates that 1 in 40 (2.5%) of people who had tested positive for COVID-19 experienced any of the common Long Covid symptoms for at least 12 weeks.
- The Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles Scrutiny Board expressed an interest to understand more about the symptoms and prevalence of Long Covid and also the level of support available locally for those experiencing Long Covid.
- A joint briefing paper has therefore been provided by Public Health, NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group and Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust which provides an oversight of the Leeds Long Covid Community Service model, the demand, activity and performance of the service and detail of the health inequalities evident from data analysis.

Recommendations

Members are asked to consider and provide any comment on the information presented within this report.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

1. The Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles Scrutiny Board held a remote consultative meeting on 15th June 2021 to consider priority areas of work for the forthcoming municipal year. During this meeting, the Board expressed an interest to understand more about the symptoms and prevalence of Long Covid and also the level of support available locally for those experiencing Long Covid.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards affected: All

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

2. Appended to this report for the Board's consideration is a briefing paper prepared jointly by Public Health, NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group and Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust which provides an oversight of the Leeds Long Covid Community Service model, the demand, activity and performance of the service and detail of the health inequalities evident from data analysis.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

3. Representatives from Public Health, NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group and Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust will be attending today's meeting to present the appended briefing paper and address Members' questions.

What are the resource implications?

4. The information provided in this report largely relates to external organisations, which may be subject to other considerations relating to resource implications. Specific matters may need to be taken into account if any additional scrutiny activity is deemed appropriate.

What are the legal implications?

5. This report has no specific legal implications.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

6. The information provided in this report largely relates to external organisations, which may be subject to other considerations relating to risk management. Specific matters may need to be taken into account if any additional scrutiny activity is deemed appropriate.

Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

7. The Leeds Health and Well-being strategy sets out the ambition that Leeds will be a healthy and caring city for all ages, where people who are the poorest improve their health the fastest.

Appendices

8. Appendix A – Joint briefing paper from Public Health, NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group and Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust which provides an oversight of the Leeds Long Covid Community Service model, the demand, activity and performance of the service and detail of the health inequalities evident from data analysis.

Background papers

9. None.