Report to Cabinet

December 2020

Exceptional pressures: update

Report by the Chief Executive

Summary

West Sussex County Council is ensuring the ongoing COVID-19 response is managed in an integrated way with the other challenges potentially facing the authority (the end of the transition period, winter flu, and winter disruption etc) and its partners over the next few months.

Attached at Appendix A is the latest priority update. The Appendix provides information on COVID-19 cases in West Sussex; the new tier system of restrictions; the local tracing partnership; attendance at schools and other priority issues.

The pressures on the services, especially adults, are significant and growing. Action to ensure we are always focussed on the highest priority activities is in hand and a review of longer-term projects is underway.

A verbal update will be provided at the meeting to ensure an up-to-date picture is provided given the fast-moving nature of current events and to provide an overview of the action being taken to support staff's resilience and welfare given the level of demands.

The resource implications of the COVID-19 emergency response continue to be assessed. There are significant risk implications. Decisions required to address COVID-19 include assessments in accordance with Council policy and the statutory framework of duties and responsibilities including those relating to Equality, Human Rights, Social Value, Sustainability and Crime and Disorder Reduction implications.

Recommendation

Cabinet will be asked to consider and comment on the Council's response to the current exceptional pressures.

Becky Shaw

Chief Executive

Appendices:

Appendix A – Exceptional Pressures Report