

## **Report to Cabinet**

**January 2021**

**Exceptional Pressures: update**

**Report by the Chief Executive**

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### **Summary**

West Sussex County Council continues to respond to the period of exceptional pressure on our service provision including the latest and most extensive wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, seasonal flu and winter disruption. The pressures on the services, especially adults and children's services and public health remain significant and increasingly acute. Action to ensure we are always focussed on the highest priority activities is being maintained. We are ensuring the ongoing COVID-19 response is managed in an integrated way with the other challenges potentially facing the authority and its partners over the next few months.

Attached at Appendix A is the latest priority update on our response. 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.

Disruption at ports and on the road network due to the end of the EU transitional arrangements has been limited in West Sussex to date. We are monitoring any subsequent changes through our business as usual systems.

The Appendix provides information on the Sussex Resilience Forum's decision to declare a Major Incident; COVID-19 cases in West Sussex; schools; care homes and other priority issues.

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