

Covid-19 Multi-Agency Briefings



Key areas for discussion:

Strategic leads from across the region are attending fortnightly multi-agency briefings currently hosted by the Police. This is a forum to come together to share challenges and to highlight risks. It also provides the opportunity to recognise areas of good practice and to give credit to those services who have adapted and “risen to the challenge” during this pandemic.

The latest briefing was held on Tuesday 2 June and the following areas were discussed:

- The increased use of remote consultations during the pandemic and the possibility of using this platform in the future was brought to the attention of this group. Safety and governance issues were discussed as well as examples and evidence of the positive engagement of some service users. NHS guidance on assessing mental capacity during the pandemic was shared with the group.
- An update was given on the status of Weston General hospital which at the time of the meeting remained closed to new admissions. Patients were being taken to Taunton and Bristol with the local authority managing discharges and repatriation. The AD, Adult Social Care, NSC noted that the outbreak had been well managed by partners and Covid-19 positive cases were decreasing.
- There has been a 20% decrease in Safeguarding Adult Concerns over the last six weeks.
- Complex safeguarding issues relating to adults unable to adhere to the restrictions was raised and discussed.
- Concern was noted that people with learning disabilities are being excluded from whole home testing.

- A ‘wrap around service’ of support is being developed for anyone who is identified as homeless and who wants to engage with services in North Somerset. A letter from central government is available to download here: [Luke Hall, MP](#)
- Demand on police resources is as high, if not higher than pre-Covid, this is, in particular with anti-social behaviour which is impacting on the elderly.
- The police are seeing an increase in domestic abuse referrals impacted by drug and alcohol use, and financial hardship.
- Moving forward, the group agreed to focus on the recovery and restoration phase, highlighting areas of good practice arising during the pandemic, to use in the future.

The Anti-Slavery Partnership Covid-19 Bulletin (June) is available for you to download here: [ASP June](#)