

Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny Committee

10 March 2020

Cabinet Members' Briefings

Cllr Appleyard

Outbreak of novel Coronavirus – Covid 19

Public Information is being routinely provided by Public Health England. Councillors are also receiving regular updates from our Public Health team.

Suicide Prevention Strategy launch

The proposed Suicide Prevention Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset 2020-2023 was launched with partners including Bath Mind at a suicide prevention stakeholder event on 6 February.

The strategy commits partners across Bath & North East Somerset to:

- Reducing suicide and self-harm
- Ensuring that no resident will think that suicide is their only option
- Tackling the stigma associated with suicide and developing community conversations about suicide
- Building community resilience
- Supporting those who are affected by suicide

Preventative Initiative

A new film that aims to help more women with learning disabilities to access breast screening has been made featuring women who live locally to Bath and North East Somerset. The film is based on real experiences of women with learning disabilities told from their own point of view and hopes to give more information to people with learning disabilities and their families and carers about this important NHS breast screening programme.

Nationally there is evidence that women with learning disabilities are not well informed about breast cancer and that uptake of breast screening in this group is low. One in every two women with a learning disability receives breast screening but figures for the general population are two in three.

The film has been produced by Biggerhouse Film in a partnership with Bath and North East Somerset Council, NHS England & NHS Improvement, the Avon Breast Screening Programme and North Bristol Trust. The women were supported throughout the making of the film by Virgin Care Services, Learning Disability Primary Care Liaison Nurses. It is aimed at women with learning disabilities who are eligible for the NHS breast screening programme aged from 50 to their 71st birthday.

Cllr Guy

Future of Culverhay School site

The Council has taken the first step towards deciding the future of the former Culverhay School site in Bath and will be encouraging residents to give their views in due course. The council is developing an initial comprehensive list of possibilities based on its key principles to deliver for residents, prepare for the future and focus on prevention.

The options will need to take into account constraints around planning, resources and sustainability to achieve the best outcome for the community.

Consultants Avison Young have been commissioned to carry out the research and engagement process towards achieving a new future for the site. Avison Young will support the council in developing the shortlist of viable options for public consultation later in 2020.

Bath Studio School site

Last month's budget included a capital proposal to re-develop Bath Studio School, which is due to close in July 2020. It is anticipated that this will enable Aspire Special School to expand to deliver 60 additional spaces for children with Autism and social communication difficulties.

These additional spaces will be delivered in a phased opening over two years and will deliver the type of placement not currently available in B&NES, which is good news for children and young people with these needs and will also help the Council reduce our carbon footprint and reduce the cost pressures of using independent special schools and expensive single passenger transport routes.

Applications for Secondary School places in September 2020

Nine out of ten families in Bath and North East Somerset have been offered a place at their first choice of secondary school for admissions this September.

The Council received 1787 applications for secondary school places for admission into the 2020/2021 academic year.

Ninety per cent of children have been allocated a place in their highest preferred school, making up a total of 1614 children. In 2019 the number of children offered their first place was 88 per cent.

107 pupils have been offered their second preference, 28 pupils their third preference, one pupil has received an offer of their fourth preference school and no

pupils needed to be allocated their fifth, meaning 98% received one of their overall preferences – another increase from last year's 97.2%.

Thirty-seven pupils have not been offered a place at any of their preferences and have instead been offered a place at their next nearest school with a place available, which is known as a referral.

All Bath and North East Somerset pupils who made an on-time application have been offered a place.