

Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Scrutiny Committee - Adults and Health on Thursday, 8 February 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
Part A – Items considered in public		
A2	Minutes of Previous Meeting	Resolved that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee - Adults and Health held on 7 December 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.
A4	Public Question Time	<p>A late request for a public question from Ray Tostevin, Quicksilver Community Group was received, and the chair allowed him to speak.</p> <p>Ray Tostevin's Question: NHS Somerset ICB have voted unanimously to CLOSE the Yeovil HASU, despite widespread and continuing opposition from the public, patient groups, and NHS staff. At their decision making meeting on 25 January, ICB members also agreed for £1.8million of capital funding from Somerset, to be spent creating a new HASU at Dorset County Hospital in Dorchester. Surely the ICB should be investing to KEEP the Yeovil HASU, NOT close it? This committee expressed serious concerns at the ICB proposals when you met in December. The ICB appear to have ignored those concerns. Will this committee now approach the Secretary of State, using new powers that took effect last week, to officially call in the NHS Somerset stroke reconfiguration plans?</p> <p>The committee resolved to write to the Secretary of State to ask them to use their powers under the Health And Care Act 2022 to intervene in the NHS Somerset stroke reconfiguration plan.</p>
A5	Work Programme	The committee discussed the Work Programme and made the following additions:

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce • Public Health Covid Update • Ambulance Service Update • Dentistry, following indication that model will change • Mental Health • Focus area on cancer community support • Social Care Training (Bridgwater Academy) <p>The committee also requested a list of the annual reports that they would receive so that they could identify gaps.</p>
A6	Healthy Weston	The committee received the presentation and noted it. A discussion followed around staffing improvements, ongoing progress, communications, and the next phase. They requested a further update on Phase 3.
A7	Annual Report of the Director of Public Health	The committee received the presentation from Public Health on Housing as a determinant of Health and noted it. They discussed the complexity of housing provision and the need for an integrated approach.
A8	23/24 Budget Monitoring Report Month 9	The committee received the report and presentation and thanked Mel Lock, Penny Gower, and Emily Fulbrook for their hard work around the budget. They discussed care provider fee increases and expectations for future increases, and what the primary cost drivers were in this area.