

Rutland Health and Wellbeing Board: 12 July 2022

Chair's Statement

The pace of change in the world around us is considerable and it is clear we will all need to be agile and resilient over the coming months.

We are meeting today just 12 days after the **launch of [LLR's Integrated Care Board](#)** headed up by Andy Williams. This is the successor body to the CCGs, and we wish them every success in their lead role to ensure the availability and quality of health services for 1m+ people across LLR, working with partners including all of us around this table. The Integrated Care Partnership, here called the **LLR Health and Wellbeing Partnership**, is a new system-level governance group that will help to inform/steer/assure/coordinate developments and support ongoing coherence and synergies between system and place. Some of you joined the **development session** held at Leicestershire County Council on 30 June where stakeholders from the ICB and three LLR Health and Wellbeing Boards reviewed our shared priorities and how we can work together most effectively. Local people will be pleased to hear that **access to services** was a prominent shared priority to come out of that discussion.

You will be aware that there have also been some changes at the Council since our last meeting. The **Council's new leader, Lucy Stephenson**, now presides over an **alliance Cabinet** made up of Conservatives, Independents and Greens. She has launched a **[Council Leader's blog](#)** on the Council's website to enrich the dialogue with local stakeholders and the public. I am proud to have been invited to continue to serve in her Cabinet as **Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care**, alongside Cllr David Wilby who retains the portfolio for Education and Children's Services, and to be able to continue to lead the important work of this Board. I would also like to welcome Ian Crowe, our Armed Forces representative to the Board.

The Council's new **five-year corporate strategy was approved by Council on 4 July**. This was informed by the Future Rutland Conversation and is also closely aligned with and supports our Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. I will share links to this on the Council's website so that you can take a closer look. The Council has also just launched an **[Issues and Options consultation](#)** which runs until **16 September 2022** on the new **15-year Local Plan** and is the first of three consultations in this planning process. The current consultation is focussed on how we should tackle 12 important planning issues, a number of which impact directly on health and wellbeing. I will share a link. Do take a look and share your views.

Other **open consultations or engagements** HWB members and the public are invited to take part in are listed on the **[Rutland Information Service](#)** on the page '**[Get involved have your say](#)**', notably:

- One closing tomorrow relating to End of life service needs in Rutland and Leicestershire.
- Two open until 22 July on the LLR draft Carers' Strategy; and the national approach to Special Educational Needs and Disability, and.
- One closing on the 6 August on the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment, which of course we are discussing today.

In our communities, **Covid rates are rising again** (estimated at 1 in 25 people across England in w/e 29 June), and this is translating through into some increase to outbreaks in care homes,

and also rising numbers of people in hospital with Covid, although the majority of these patients are in hospital for other primary reasons. Intensive Care/High Dependency Unit patient rates remain low at the moment, as do deaths. A cautious approach is recommended at this time. Some health settings have recently reintroduced mask wearing. In social care, the [Covid-19 supplement](#) remains in place, guiding on infection prevention and control, including the appropriate use of PPE.

More pressing now for most of our population are the **spiraling living costs** that I highlighted in my last statement, with price rises far outstripping any growth in incomes, and hardships affecting a wider range of people. Fuel prices in particular are affecting both life at home (where we expect they will really bite this winter) and the ability to travel, including to work and school. There are no easy answers. The important thing now is to ensure, while we look further ahead in trying to tackle these issues, that people know where they can turn if their financial stability is deteriorating. [Citizens Advice Rutland](#), working alongside the Foodbank, are an important partner with the Council in this, running the Council's crisis fund and providing vital information and advice. Over the past 12 months CAR have helped to make gains of £1.7m in benefits or debt write offs for local people, a tremendous contribution to local wellbeing.

After the pandemic, it is heartening to see Rutland's **towns and communities gradually returning to normal life**, with the summer marked by traditional town and village feasts and fetes, school sports days and proms, as well as other larger scale events that speak to our collective identity. The **County Show** resumed on 6 June, putting Rutland's rural and farming community front and centre. Then, Rutland's first **Pride event** was held in Oakham on 27 June, a celebration of our diversity, with hopefully many more to come. **Birdfair**, in turn, returns to Rutland from 15-17 July in the new guise of [Global Birdfair](#) after a two-year gap, this time at the Showground. As one of the premier international not for profit conservation events, it reminds us of further pressing concerns we must tackle as a society.

As we embark together on delivery of our **Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Rutland** – and we will be talking about this more later – it is welcome that **Census datasets have started to be released**, supporting the refresh of our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which underpins all our work here. The [demographic update](#) confirms that Rutland's population has **grown by nearly 10% over the last decade to 41,000**, faster than the growth rate for England (6.6%) and for the East Midlands (7.7%). Areas to the South of us have growth even faster (c14%), while growth is slower to the North. In spite of this growth, **Rutland's population remains one of the most sparse in the East Midlands**, with a density equivalent to a football pitch per resident! It is also **ageing faster than in most places**: alongside neighbours to the South of us, we are among only 32 out of 309 local authority areas with a growth in over 65s of more than 30%, over 10% more than the England average, while the working age population is growing at a slower rate. This brings us back to the importance of our work in ensuring that health and wellbeing services meet the needs of our changing population, including through the prevention and postponement of ill health.

Direct Links

LLR Integrated Care Board: <https://leicesterleicestershireandrutland.icb.nhs.uk/>

Council Leader's blog: <https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/my-councillors/council-leaders-blog/>

Rutland County Council's new Cabinet: <https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/council-news/leader-confirms-details-of-new-alliance-cabinet/>

Rutland County Council Corporate Strategy 2022-27: https://future.rutland.gov.uk/corporate-strategy-2022-27?_ga=2.206438480.296887011.1657530063-1468314536.1578303103

Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation: <https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-services/planning-and-building-control/planning/the-local-plan/the-new-local-plan/issues-and-options-june-2022/>

Consultations and Engagements relevant to Rutland:

<https://ris.rutland.gov.uk/kb5/rutland/directory/advice.page?id=q2noyQgq1vc>

Office of National Statistics Covid 19 update:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/articles/coronaviruscovid19/latestinsights>

Covid 19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-covid-19-supplement/covid-19-supplement-to-the-infection-prevention-and-control-resource-for-adult-social-care#introduction>

Rutland Information Service: Money matters – where to start:

<https://ris.rutland.gov.uk/kb5/rutland/directory/advice.page?id=lfGa70N-rOA>

Citizens Advice Rutland – debt advice: <https://citizensadvicerrutland.org.uk/problems/debt-budgeting/>

Global Birdfair: <https://globalbirdfair.org/>

Rutland Health and Wellbeing Strategy: <https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-services/health-and-family/health-and-nhs/health-and-well-being-strategy/>

Census – demographic update for Rutland;

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censuspopulationchange/E06000017/>