

**Written response to question / issue
raised at Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny
Panel (25 February 2021)**

Meeting Date: 25th February 2021

Public / Private*: Public

Minute Reference: Minute HWSP.22/21 – A Year of Responding to the COVID 19 Pandemic

Written response to: Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel
Policy & Communications Manager

Written response from:

Resolution / Question:

Minute HWSP.22/21 – A Year of Responding to the COVID 19 Pandemic

3) That the Policy and Communications Manager circulate to the Panel minutes from the recent Welfare Reform Board meetings.

Response:

The last set of minutes, attached, were signed off at the Welfare Reform Board meeting on 28th April 2021.

Date: 29/4/21

Carlisle Welfare Reform Board
Microsoft Teams Meeting
3 February 2021 2pm

PRESENT

Carlisle City Council	Tammie Rhodes, Cllr E Mallinson, Cllr P Nedved, K Osborne, R Bascombe, M Ward, G Oliver, A Bell (notes)
Castles and Coasts	P Taylor
Cumbria County Council	J Kent
DWP	S Byrne
Carlisle District Credit Union	M Johnston
Foodbank	D Pitkeathly
Ingeus	A Lengden – special guest

APOLOGIES

Carlisle City Council	D Crossley,
Riverside	G Brough
Impact Housing	L Preston
Citizens Advice Carlisle & Eden	A Auld
Cumbria County Council	Cllr D Earl, L Elsworth-Barnes

Anthony Lengden from Ingeus give an update on the Work and Health Programme in Carlisle. Presentation attached with the minutes.

It was suggested a separate conversation between **TR/SB/AL** to discuss working closely with these initiatives.

Any questions please send email to [REDACTED](#)

TR thanked Anthony for his presentation, the group found it interesting and keen to work closely with Ingeus. TR asked Mandy Johnston from Carlisle District Credit Union to give a presentation at the next meeting **MJ**

Part 1 – Introduction

i. TR welcomed all to the meeting, some new members were in attendance and introductions were made.

ii. Minutes, actions and matters arising –

TR said all actions from previous meeting have been completed, if anyone has any edits or additions please contact TR

iii. Agreement on priority actions –

GO said 15 priorities received across various agencies; GO/TR will split these down as some were the same key themes. The group will then focus on the top priorities.

GO thanked all for their input. As Mandy Johnston is a new member GO will give call her and ask if she would like to feed into this process, also Anthony Lengden from Ingeus
GO

iv. Wider county group update – no update

Part 2 - Welfare Reform Issues and updates

i. Trends / data overview – no data

ii. Emerging Issues and updates

SB DWP update attached with minutes

DP Foodbank update –

- Foodbank are moving to Tower Court on West Tower Street, at the former Edenside Carpets store.
- There is a new manager in post, Shane Byrne is keen to speak to her.
- Foodbank Hub Programme developed out of Covid they continue to meet emergency need.
- TR said individuals present to Foodbank with wider ranging needs and if this is now being collated and shared there is an opportunity for wider officer involvement.
- Foodbank data will be circulated to group. It is one year of comprehensive data, breakdowns parts of city and the issues and challenges being faced in the city

RG update

- Business grants are the main focus
- Council Tax Hardship Scheme – no details yet if it will continue
- Test & Trace support for self-isolation payments
- DHP spend projecting overspend. Additional submission required to give more details on DHP spend – covid issue.

JK Referrals still being received by Adult Social Care. Continue to help with contact tracing

KO Still operating remotely and dealing with clients, it is working well. DWP online forms useful

PT Continuing as normal, all staff still working from home. DWP on-line forms useful but some clients still reluctant to move to Universal Credit.

MJ Credit Union has worked throughout all online. Clients can apply online to join also access to affordable loans. Payments can be paid into clients account on the same day.

MW said digital inclusion has not been the issue they thought it would

TR update

- Homelessness continuing to work as normal. Strategic homelessness assessment all done remotely, this is easier and more efficient for clients than making appointments face to face and people not always turning up.
- Homeless accommodation available 24 hours to deal with emergencies
- Homeless Accommodation and Outreach Staff (Rough Sleeping) are being treated as priority for vaccinations.

- Carlisle Homeless Prevention & Rough Sleeping Strategy making its way through the committee cycle. Executive 08 February, Full Council 02 March, due to be launched in April. Establish subgroups to be involved in key priorities

AOB

TR - A report is to be sent to Health & Wellbeing Overview & Scrutiny – Covid response. What have we been doing and focussing on? Anyone with key data to be included in the report please pass to GO/TR by Wednesday 10 February **ALL**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING –

TBC via Microsoft Teams