

Report to:

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

Relevant Officer:

Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Date of Meeting:

28 September 2021

DRUG RELATED DEATHS SCRUTINY REVIEW FINAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To approve the final report of the Drug Related Deaths Scrutiny Review and submit it to the Executive for consideration.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the final report.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To allow the report to progress through the procedure agreed for scrutiny reviews.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is:

- Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

6.0 Background information

6.1 During the Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee Workplanning Workshop held in July 2020, Members identified the issue of drug related deaths as a topic they wished to explore further after discovering that Blackpool has one of the highest levels of drug related deaths in the country.

6.2 It was noted that in 2019 alone there were 31 drug related deaths of patients who were in receipt of services. This was particularly concerning as Public Health England identifies being 'in service' as a protective factor. Many of those who died whilst in treatment for their drug use had underlying health conditions. Conditions such as COPD, Liver disease and heart disease were prevalent in the large majority of deaths. However, the additional conditions could indicate that despite the efforts of treatment services it is the wider health offer that is needed to help prevent deaths. Members also found that there were high levels of non-fatal overdoses Blackpool.

6.3 The recommendations of the review seek to improve the lives of residents who are suffering from drug abuse and the services provided to them and are contained within the attached report, Members are requested to approve the report and its recommendations for forwarding to the Executive.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 3(a): Drug Related Deaths Scrutiny Review Final Report

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 As set out within the final report.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 As set out within the final report.

10.0 Risk Management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, Climate Change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 As detailed within the final report.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.