



STROUD DISTRICT LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

<http://lsp.stroud.gov.uk>

Meeting held on Friday 4 March 2022
Online meeting

Theme: Health and Wellbeing

Present:

Carole Stubbs (Chair)	Job Centre Plus, Avon, Somerset and Gloucestershire District	Kathy O'Leary	Chief Executive, Stroud District Council
Russell Warner (Vice Chair)	Gloucestershire Area Lead, Federation of Small Businesses	Kelly Richardson	Marketing and Fundraising Manager, Lilian Faithfull Care
Anna Herbert	Chief Executive Officer, OPENhouse	Kerrin Cocks	Strategic Support Officer, GAPTC
Barbara Piranty	Chief Executive, GRCC	Dr Roma Walker	Stroud League of Friends
Beth Whittaker	Stroud Businesswomen's Network	Simon Bernstein	Chief Executive, Longfield
Cllr Catherine Braun	Deputy Leader of Council	Steve Miles	Senior Youth Officer, Stroud District Council
Chris Pockett	Head of Communications, Renishaw	Suzanne Booker	Director of Care, Lilian Faithfull Care
Geoffrey Beckerleg	Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Stroud	Cllr Symon Ackroyd	Mayor of Dursley
Helen Edwards	Deputy Director of Locality and Primary Care Workforce Development, Gloucestershire CCG		

Apologies and absent:

Alison Robinson	Chief Executive Officer, GAPTC	Mary Hutton	Accountable Officer, NHS Glos Clinical Learning Group
Alison Truphet	Executive Director, New Ventures Trust	Max Comfort	Director, Stroud Commonwealth
Ben Falconer	Corporate Communications Manager, Stroud District Council	Maxie Wells	SDYC Principal Member for Health and Wellbeing
Ben Stone	SDYC Leader	Paul Cruise	Stroud Inspector, Gloucestershire Police

David Owen	CE, Gfirst Local Enterprise partnership	Rebecca Fawkes	Local Risk Manager Stroud and the Cotswolds, Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue
David Tate	Director, Silverwood UK	Rob Fountain	CEO, Age UK Gloucestershire
Cllr Doina Cornell	Leader of Council	Sarah Scott	Commissioning Director Adults, Gloucestershire County Council
Eilis Cope	Director, Cope Sales and Marketing Ltd	Siobhan Baillie MP	MP for Stroud
Elizabeth Hall	CE, Citizens Advice Stroud & Cotswolds	Cllr Stephen Davies	Leader of the Opposition, Stroud District Council and Gloucestershire
Fred Barker	Director, Transition Stroud	Dr Stuart Wilson	Head Teacher, Marling
Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP	MP for The Cotswolds	Sue Bailey	Sue Bailey Consulting
Georgia Spooner	2030 Community Action Officer, Stroud District Council	Will Mansell	The Grace Network and Stroud District Furniture Bank
Kevin Hamblin	Group Chief Executive Principal, South Gloucestershire and Stroud College	William Frazer	Group Secretary Gloucestershire, National Farmers' Union
Martin Hughes	CEO, Lilian Faithfull Care		

Guests and Support Officers

Hannah Drew	Health and Wellbeing Officer, Stroud District Council	Hannah Barton	LSP Co-ordinator, Stroud District Council
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1. Welcome, introductions, apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone, a number of apologies had been received and noted.

2. Longfield Community Hospice Strategy and Services – Simon Bernstein, Chief Executive, Longfield (presentation circulated)

Simon joined Longfield as the CEO in November 2019, having worked in the charity sector both nationally and in the South West for over 30 years. Since joining Longfield a new strategic plan has been developed for 2021-24. Simon gave a presentation on the new strategic plan, as well a brief history of how Longfield started.

Wide consultation was undertaken on the new strategic plan, although this was all online due to the pandemic. The feedback received was sometimes challenging to hear but necessary so they could respond accordingly. The consultation informed the development of the new strategic plan which includes an overarching vision, mission and organisational goal, as well as five strategic aims of which three are clinical:

1. Offer wellbeing services to meet more diverse needs in more places
2. Increase the impact of our end-of-life care
3. Provide greater support to families and carers.

Longfield services are available to anyone with a life-limiting illness registered with a Gloucestershire GP, and can be referred by themselves, a family member or friend, their GP, or another organisation. It is recognised that the healthcare situation has worsened due to the pandemic as many people have gone undiagnosed. The Stroud district also has an older than average population which is likely to lead to a greater need for end-of-life care. It was noted that Longfield's services don't exist to replicate those offered by the NHS but are there to enhance them and offer holistic care to patients.

Longfield's day services are now part of a Wellbeing Centre, and they are developing a much wider range of services including art, a garden room, counselling services and support for families and carers. It was noted that their services could be used by many more people, including those with early- to mid-stage dementia.

Longfield are looking to work with other organisations so they can offer more services for more people.

A question was asked regarding Longfield's shop closures during the pandemic and how this affected their finances. Simon responded that whilst they were badly impacted as the shops raise a major part of their funding, they were fortunate to receive some rent rebates and the local community were amazing with their fundraising support.

Longfield recognise that they could do more regarding promotion and community connection and would appreciate LSP members spreading the word. They are recruiting a Community Engagement Officer in the next few months and they will be working with a team of volunteers to do more outreach and meet more patient groups, local charities, etc. GRCC offered their support, and it was also noted that GP practices in Stroud and the Berkeley Vale have TV screens where Longfield information could be shown.

3. Primary Care in Gloucestershire and in Stroud District – Helen Edwards, Deputy Director of Locality and Primary Care Workforce Development, Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) (presentation circulated)

Helen provided an overview of Primary Care in Gloucestershire and the Stroud district. The last two years have been a time of change for GP practices as they delivered the COVID-19 vaccine campaign, then returned to normal, then delivered the booster campaign at short notice. Of those eligible in Gloucestershire, over 87.5% have had a booster vaccine.

In the 2021 National GP Patient Survey, 88% of practices in Gloucestershire were rated as 'good', above the national average of 83%. This was the highest in the South West region.

Although there is a lot of bad press about limited or reduced access to GP services, during June-November 2021, Gloucestershire GP practices saw 11.3% more total

appointments when compared to the same period in 2019. This is equivalent to 22,654 more appointments with a GP. Where clinically appropriate, face-to-face appointments have still been provided.

Gloucestershire has one of the highest levels of online demand for GP services in England, and using the online systems saves GP and clinical time e.g., for requests for repeat prescriptions. There is also an Advice and Guidance service available in roughly 19 clinical specialties, where GPs can receive advice from clinical colleagues and decide on the appropriate pathway without referring a patient. This service has been great for patient flow and getting patients to the right place the first time.

Alongside the COVID-19 booster campaign, Gloucestershire continues to provide an 'evergreen' offer of first and second doses. Planning is also underway for the spring booster campaign and the 'Healthy Programme' for those aged 5-11. Primary care are under contract until the end of March 2022 to deliver the vaccines across 11 sites, including in three sites in the Stroud district: Rowcroft, Beeches Green and Berkeley. The vaccine campaign has been delivered in partnership with many parties and fantastic support from community nurses and volunteers.

Since CCG became an organisation in 2013, they have invested heavily in infrastructure including the Five Valleys Medical Centre in Stroud town centre, a new Minchinhampton GP surgery and major refurbishment and extension of Chipping surgery in Wotton-under-Edge. Development of the Five Valleys Medical Centre was slightly delayed but is now back on track.

Through ARRS (Additional Role Reimbursement Staff) patients can benefit the specialised skills of a variety of different healthcare professionals including pharmacists, health and wellbeing coaches and social prescribing link workers. It was also noted that Gloucestershire are not experiencing the same vacancy rates as other parts of the country.

In March 2021, CCG invested further funding into primary care networks through quality improvement schemes. These include three schemes for children and young people in the Stroud district.

From 1 July 2022 the CCG will be merging to an Integrated Care System, led by an Integrated Care Board and Integrated Care Partnership which will build on the long history of partnership working in the Stroud district. The Partnership is where the third sector are expected to have a greater role to play.

A question was asked regarding how local priorities and the local situation regarding GP services can be communicated to residents, rather than just the national picture. Helen responded that the CCG are very well connected to the team at the Council and are keen to be involved with the development of community hubs. The CCG also have an engagement team who travel around Gloucestershire on a bus to seek people's views. The bus has recently been at Tesco in Stroud, but they are always happy to hear suggestions of other sites the bus could travel to.

Another question was asked regarding the plans for more rural areas. It was noted that there are no plans to get rid of the current model and divest in GP practices.

It was raised that Stroud District Youth Council were co-designing a youth-friendly GP surgery initiative with the CCG, but this was halted by the pandemic. Helen responded that there would be appetite to restart this.

4. Holiday Activity Fund programme – Hannah Drew, Health and Wellbeing Officer, Stroud District Council (presentation circulated)

Hannah provided an overview on the Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) which was delivered across the county with Stroud District Council acting as the area lead. The programme started in Easter 2021 with 650 food boxes that families on free school meals could apply for. This expanded in summer 2021 to keeping children entertained, active, fed, and safe through a variety of activities that were provided across the district.

To ensure this programme reached as many people as possible, there were dedicated pages on the Council and The Pulse websites and a social media campaign. Parents and carers could sign up to an online booking system and book their children onto different activities, allowing the team to see which activities needed additional promotion in real time. Some of the activities were targeted to children in receipt of free school meals, and activity packs, booklets, bags, and growing kits were also provided. The HAF team wanted to complement activities that were already happening, rather than holding one-off activities that the children couldn't do again.

The HAF programme ran again over Christmas 2021 with food boxes being delivered directly to schools. This was a better approach to the boxes being picked up by families at the Council offices and will be pursued moving forwards. Activities were also held including a trail around Stratford Park. The Easter 2022 programme is due to run from 11 April, then there will be a procurement process for the delivery of the summer and Christmas 2022 programmes.

A question was asked regarding raising awareness of the programme. It was noted that this can be difficult when funding and confirmation the programme can run is last minute, as promotion must wait until this has occurred. It is hoped that awareness will be higher this year as those who participated last year will spread the word. Another question was asked regarding how the underlying issues of food and fuel poverty can be addressed in the current cost of living crisis. There is a lot of work underway regarding this wider issue and it is understood that initiatives such as HAF are a short-term solution to a much bigger problem. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to ensure organisations are working together to work towards a solution.

5. Partners' Updates

Dr Roma Walker, Stroud League of Friends:

- Stroud League of Friends have been busy for the last couple of years with COVID-related fundraising as well as BAU at Stroud Hospital.
- They have allocated over £1m funding between Stroud Hospital, the maternity hospital, Weavers Croft and local voluntary organisations. This includes a contribution to the minor injury unit at the hospital, which is a work in progress, surgical equipment, and a permanent gazebo at Weavers Croft to extend their outdoor provision.

- They also continue to fund a respite bed at Horsfall House for 365 nights a year, and anyone can self-refer for this if they are registered with a Gloucestershire GP. This is a longstanding arrangement that they hope to continue.
- They offer free pre- and post-natal yoga and singing which is now back to face-to-face.
- Their support also extends to community organisations, and they have distributed funding to lots of local organisations including Longfield.
- There is a mobile chemotherapy unit that comes to Stroud Hospital one day a week so that local people don't have to travel to Cheltenham, and they are committed to funding this until at least 2024.
- All their funding is possible through generous donations from the community, but despite being such a major funder they are not very well known and would appreciate this group spreading the word.

Chris Pockett, Head of Communications, Renishaw:

- Renishaw continue to be conscious of health and wellbeing, and they recognise that employees' lives are different post-pandemic, particularly with regards to mental health.
- Their COVID committee continue to meet twice weekly.
- They have trained some employees to be mental health ambassadors.
- Ukraine is top of mind and Renishaw have agreed to stop all shipments to Russia, as well as making a significant donation to Ukraine.
- Their half-yearly financial results were announced last month.
- Recruitment is strong and Renishaw is recruiting for a record number of apprenticeships and graduate schemes.
- Like many Renishaw have committed to net zero carbon by 2050 but they realise this isn't ambitious enough and are looking to bring it forwards 5-10 years.
- They would be happy to promote schemes such as those discussed today.
- Local charities, not-for-profits and community groups can apply for support from the [Renishaw Charities Committee](#).

Russell Warner, Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) Gloucestershire Area:

- There are many areas of concerns for businesses with the upcoming changes on 1 April including increased National Insurance contributions and the minimum wage increase.
- These are all challenges which they are looking to mitigate.

Beth Whittaker, Chair, Stroud Businesswomen's Network:

- Beth is standing down as Chair of Stroud Businesswomen's Network at the end of March but will continue in her role with the Paganhill Community Group.
- The Businesswomen's Network are gradually increasing their numbers again having lost members during the pandemic.
- There is a community café at Paganhill's Community Group on Wednesday afternoon. The Long Table have paid to support and train the chef and the café is a 'pay what you can afford' model.

Steve Miles, Senior Youth Officer, Stroud District Council:

- The Youth Council have 22 projects running, with nine relating to health and wellbeing.
- This includes the C-Card scheme which offers free contraceptives, information and advice to young people aged 13-24. This includes mystery shoppers to ensure providers are fulfilling their obligations.
- Young people's mental health is a concerning issue as this is on the increase and there are not enough services to meet the demand.
- They are holding mental health first aid training this spring.

Stroud District Council:

- An annual newsletter, SDC News, has been sent out to all homes in the district and this includes an overview of key projects and areas of work for the Council.
- SDC have agreed an ambitious budget for the next financial year to include the delivery of the new Council Plan.
- There is ongoing work around how we can support those most vulnerable with the increasing financial pressures.
- Temporary accommodation has been secured in Stroud to reduce homelessness.
- There is also extra funding for climate action projects such as improving the energy efficiency of existing Council homes and replacing three diesel garden waste collection vehicles with electric ones.
- There have been some important strategies out for consultation including a draft Canal Strategy and a draft Economic Development Strategy. Feedback from the consultation has been incorporated and the revised Economic Development Strategy is going to Council next week for final sign off.
- The Local Government Association are visiting the Council in March as part of a Corporate Peer Challenge, which will help develop SDC from a good Council into a great Council.
- SDC are flying the Ukrainian flag outside Ebley Mill in solidarity with Ukraine, looking into dis-investing in Russian energy, and supporting those staff affected personally.

Kelly Richardson, Marketing and Fundraising Manager, Lilian Faithfull Care

- Health and wellbeing are top of mind both for staff and those that are cared for at Lilian Faithfull.
- They are looking at promoting the Uplands Day Centre, where there is a bath with a hoist people can use. If anyone has any suggestions of how they can get the word out, please let Kelly know.

Barbara Piranty, Chief Executive, GRCC

- GRCC are looking at a holistic approach to sustainability and other areas of focus include flooding, food and fuel poverty, affordable housing, and digital inclusion.
- More and more services are going online but this excludes a large proportion of people.
- They are relaunching an emergency planning toolkit to cover adverse climate events.
- Barbara has experience working in digital mental health, therefore if anyone would like to have a chat offline regarding this topic please reach out to her.

Geoffrey Beckerleg, Chamber of Trade:

- Through VisitStroud.uk, the Chamber of Trade have curated a series of 'Discover' elements. Some are their own content; others are content that is signposted by them.
- They are working on further Discover campaigns for the summer that will include active tourism through walking and cycling, plus continuing to encourage people into outside spaces and countryside.
- For more details, please visit visitstroud.uk/Discover

Helen Edwards, Deputy Director of Locality and Primary Care Workforce Development, Gloucestershire CCG:

- Three Primary Care Networks in the district are investing their money into children and young people's mental wellbeing, including investment in The Door and Teens in Crisis, and targeting those aged 11+ with disordered eating.
- Those already referred but still on waiting lists can be made aware of these offers.

Carole Stubbs, Department of Work and Pensions:

- Job Centres are now fully open and staffed.
- They can help people looking for work with expenses such as laptops and training to use the internet.
- Anything job-related that might be a barrier – DWP can help!
- They also have mental health first aiders in their offices.

Due to time constraints some people don't always get a chance to introduce themselves at the beginning of the meeting, therefore it was suggested that people could include their name and job title in their name when they join the meetings online.

Please send any requests for future agenda items or suggestions for future meeting themes to Hannah Barton, hannah.barton@stroud.gov.uk

Next meeting

Friday 10 June – venue TBC.

2022 meeting dates

Friday 9th September

Friday 2nd December

The meetings are 9:00am for a 9:15am start, with meeting end by 11:30am.