

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Questions to Portfolio Holders

Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday 8 March 2023

Q1. Received from Cllr Salt:

“Biddulph wishes to develop a Mental Health / Neurodiverse Friendly town. Is there any funding (especially as SMDC has a role overseeing health and wellbeing and Biddulph Town Council does not) that may help support Biddulph Town Council with this initiative?”

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Communities:

“This appears to be a very interesting initiative and something that I believe the District Council would wish to support. This Panel can play an important role in influencing the policies and decisions made by those organisations with responsibility for mental health and neurodiversity. Whilst the Panel does not control any budgets, it can request attendance by those service providers that could potentially assist Biddulph to achieve its aims. With this in mind, I would encourage Cllr Salt – and any other Panel Members – to bring forward any suggestions for the work of this Panel that would assist in the development of the initiative. This would also be a very useful way of ensuring that other parts of the district also benefit from the learning in Biddulph if they wish to take forward similar approaches.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust is the leading provider of mental health services in our District, and they also have responsibility for social care, learning disability and substance misuse services. They are the main budget holders for such services with funding primarily coming from NHS England and the Staffordshire and Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board, which replaced the North Staffs CCG and the other Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups in the middle of 2022. If Biddulph Town Council haven't already approached the Trust, then I suggest that it would be appropriate for them to have those discussions to see if any funding is available via that route.

If there are specific, planned activities that relate to the District Council's functions which can support Biddulph's initiative then I would encourage Cllr Salt and the Town Council to highlight these to District Council Officers, who will look at what support can be provided.”