

healthwatch

Stoke on Trent

Independent Strategic Advisory Board

Friday 19 December 2025 10am

Virtual session via MS Teams

Minutes

	Item
1	Welcome and Apologies Present Bamidele Atiba (BA - ISAB) Lloyd Cooke (LC - ISAB Chair) Ruby Greene (RG - ISAB) Sophia Leese (SL - Staff) Clare Trenchard (CT - Staff)
	Apologies Simon Fogell (SF - CEO)
2	Declaration of Interests No one added any additional interests.
3	Minutes and Action log from Public Board Meeting 29 April 2025 Collectively agreed these minutes were a correct record.
4	Work Programme Project Updates SL advised the ISAB that the surveys are now live for three projects for this year: CAMHS ASD & ADHD assessments: https://engagingcommunities.welcomesyourfeedback.net/fshyb7 Adult's ASD & ADHD support: https://engagingcommunities.welcomesyourfeedback.net/qz0an5 Access to Adult's Mental Health services: https://engagingcommunities.welcomesyourfeedback.net/gp6r7r In response to feedback from ICB colleague, we added two questions to the surveys. We now ask where people were diagnosed and which GP practice they are registered with. This will enable us to pick up trends relating to particular providers.

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	<p>Focus groups have been scheduled for January and February (online and in-person). The online focus groups will be led by SL and CT. The in-person focus groups will be led by CT and our volunteers. The in-person focus groups will include an hour's drop-in to enable people to share other feedback. To try and make them accessible to most people, there are lunchtime and evening sessions.</p> <p>RG offered to support the in person focus groups, if available on the dates chosen.</p> <p>The report will be completed by the end of March 2026.</p>
	<p>Action</p> <p>CT to share focus group schedule with ISAB members</p>
5	Meeting feedback reports by ISAB members/staff/CE
	<p>CT introduced her report and highlighted that co-production is now being talked about in system-wide meetings, which is a step forward. But, there is not a consistent definition or understanding of what co-production is and how to do it. CT identified opportunities around dementia and care homes for the next financial year.</p> <p>LC shared similar experience around co-production and offered to put CT in touch with a member of his team, who is also experiencing the same issues.</p> <p>LC reported that Stoke-on-Trent has highest dementia diagnosis rate in England: https://www.msn.com/en-gb/society-culture-and-history/social-issues/stoke-on-trent-has-highest-dementia-diagnosis-rate-in-england/ar-AA1Sqlgj?ocid=BingNewsSerp</p> <p>RG reinforced the need to involve people with lived experience.</p> <p>BA acknowledged it was difficult to get people to share their experience but we need to continue to encourage them to do it as without it we can't make a positive change. We especially need to look at involving people of colour.</p> <p>BA advised the ISAB that Staffordshire University's health and care programme welcomes guest lecturers and this may be an opportunity for Healthwatch. He also spoke of his work to professionalise care work.</p>
	<p>Action</p> <p>LC to introduce CT to Linda Smith, operations manager of CareLink, as she has been involved in some system frailty work.</p> <p>LC also suggested CT meet with Georgia Kliment-Temple, who is working across the City council and ICB.</p>
6	Health and social care intelligence/feedback update - public issues
	<p>SL introduced the latest Insight & Impact reports and put the links in the chat. These reports have replaced the newsletter. She reported a greater variety in the feedback received recently.</p>
7	Contract monitoring report
	<p>SL introduced the contract monitoring report for the first six months of the financial year.</p>

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8	Decisions to be made by the advisory board
	There were no decisions brought to the board this time.
9	Volunteer recruitment drive - focus on E&V Teams and outreach volunteers
	<p>CT explained there will be a focus on recruiting more volunteers to conduct enter & views and to support our outreach work. SL will be leading on this and we are aiming to have volunteers recruited and trained by the end of this financial year, in order to start a programme of visits from April 2026. Anyone already trained but yet to complete the required shadow visits will have the opportunity to under-take shadow visits early in the new year.</p> <p>This approach was supported by the ISAB members, with LC suggesting that Staffordshire University students may be interested. BA agreed and that he would speak with CT.</p>
	<p>Action</p> <p>CT and BA to speak about promoting volunteering opportunities amongst Staffordshire University students.</p>
10	Any other business
	<p>RG expressed sincere thanks to SL for all her hard work over the year.</p> <p>SL extended the thanks received to Deb Faulks, who has been very supportive.</p>
11	Date and Time of Next Meetings
	The proposed dates were agreed.