

## **Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**18<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

As is the position at present, this was a virtual meeting held by Zoom from County Hall.

The majority of the meeting consisted of various speakers explaining what they have been, and are doing, to reduce the impact of Covid-19.

Mr Simon Trickett gave a comprehensive report based on a number of slides that suggested that we were nearly back to normal with other illnesses being given increasing importance and the number of surgical operations increasing.

Unfortunately at this point I dropped out of the meeting and got back in time for questions.

There were questions on the use of IT and the answer was that it is anticipated that much of its use will continue after the pandemic is over. This led to some concern that IT and other short term actions would become the norm without the necessary consultation and scrutiny. The use of PPE and the access to hospitals has changed in the acceptance that we still need to control the spread of the Covid 19 virus.

There was an acknowledgment that there could be a second spike or even a third.

Questions were asked about the information available that related to deaths in the BAME community that suggested there was some inequality. Comments were made that Local Councils probably had more information on their minority group.

The Chair then asked about the financial situation and was told that the £29M was cleared and that the rest was in the pipe line or on hold because of the pandemic.

Cllr Mike Chalk