

## Worcestershire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

As is now usual, this was a virtual meeting held by Zoom from County Hall and was streamed on YouTube.

The majority of the meeting focussed on Covid-19. Most of which seemed positive, However, it was reported that there were long waits for surgery. Members were informed that the second wave was having a bigger impact but was now levelling out. It was reported that there was still pressure on the staff, many of whom were being redeployed as they were being managed on a day-to-day basis.

It was stated that the full restoration was more challenging than was initially expected and so working with the independent sector was still going ahead and it was anticipated that there would be help from the military.

A new initiative had been implemented and virtual Covid wards were being set up under a consultant to allow patients to be sent home a few days earlier.

There then followed questions that acknowledged the hard work of the NHS but highlighted problems when something did not go as expected.

When questioned it was stated that 75% of cases in Worcestershire was from the Kent variant of Covid-19.