

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 1st July 2021, 6.30 pm

The Lancastrian, Town Hall, Chorley and YouTube

Agenda

7 **Chorley Council's Response to Covid-19**

(Pages 3 - 10)

Deputy Chief Executive to present an update to Members.

Gary Hall
Chief Executive

Electronic agendas sent to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Councillor John Walker (Chair), Councillor Roy Lees (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Sarah Ainsworth, Julia Berry, John Dalton, Terry Howarth, Hasina Khan, Samir Khan, June Molyneaux, James Nevett, Aidy Riggott, William Simmance, Kim Snape and Jenny Whiffen.

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[To view the procedure for public questions/ speaking click here and scroll to page 119](#)

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Council response to Covid-19



Overall themes

- Building on strong foundations – in technology, in work in communities and organisational management
- Commitment and flexibility demonstrated by staff
- A year of challenges – service demands, leisure centres and democracy
- A need for recovery

March 2020: Initial response

- Management of the initial emergency response:
 - Business Continuity Management Team
 - Lancashire Resilience Forum
- Keeping staff safe and services running
- Keeping Members informed and supported



Supporting our communities



Our community resilience framework and existing relationships meant we already knew how to support our communities and work with volunteers to:

- Support over 3,000 households
- Make and receive over 4,700 contacts
- Provide over 1,100 food parcels
- Work with 200 volunteers and 50 community groups
- Established Chorley Together

“Residents managed for as long as humanly possible, called the council, with no one else to turn to.”

As they realise that there is help and it’s really easy to access, you share their elation. You can almost feel and hear the weight being lifted off them, which I have found very rewarding.”



Supporting our businesses

- £40m+ COVID-19 related grants processed for Chorley businesses
- 4,000+ Chorley business support enquiries
- 700+ places taken on our free business support webinars
- 32 places booked for our free business financial health checks
- To date, Chorley Council have delivered / continue to deliver 11 COVID-19 Grant Funds



Testing and vaccines



We played a strong role in supporting the NHS and local Public Health teams

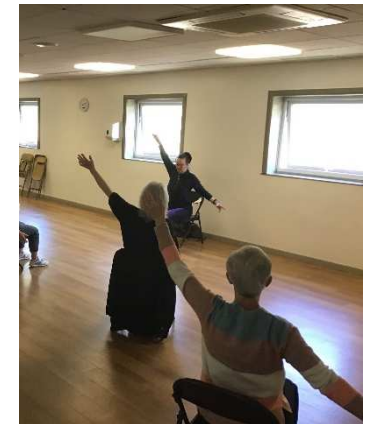
- Facilitating local GP testing and vaccinations on West Street car park
- Establishing and staffing a Lateral Flow testing centre in Buckshaw Village
- Supporting the Friday Street vaccination centre
- Establishing a local Track and Trace service



Core services and key projects

The council has continued to deliver core services and key projects, including:

- Expansion of shared services, undertaking service reviews and agreeing new terms and conditions
- Continued development projects, including Westway, Tatton, Astley Hall and the covered markets
- Bringing the management of the council's leisure centres back in house
- All out borough, PCC and county council elections



Challenges ahead

- Supporting communities to recover – issues with mental and physical health, disruption to education
- Supporting the economy to recover, working with local businesses and other partners
- Returning to the workplace