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| Subject: | Task and Finish Group Report: North West Ambulance Service for Rossendale | Status: | For publication |
| Report to: | Overview and Scrutiny Committee | Date: | 1 st February 2016 |
| Report of: | North West Ambulance Service Task and Finish Group | Portfolio Holder: | Customer Services and Health |
| Key Decision: | <input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> General Exception <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Equality Impact Assessment: | Required: | No | Attached: No |
| Biodiversity Impact Assessment | Required: | No | Attached: No |
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| 1. | RECOMMENDATION(S) |
| 1.1 | That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approve the North West Ambulance Service for Rossendale Task and Finish Group report. |

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To inform the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the outcome of the task and finish group's work in relation to the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) report.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:
- **Responsive Value for Money Services:** This priority is about the Council working collaboratively, being a provider, procurer and a commissioner of services that are efficient and that meet the needs of local people.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 At the request of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, a task and finish group was established with the following terms of reference:
- To seek the views of Rossendale people on their experiences with the emergency ambulance service (999).
 - To review Rossendale's performance of the North West Ambulance Service against Category R1 and Category R2 and A19 targets (see Appendix A, paragraph 3.3).
 - To review the current position/usage of the Community First Responders/Air Ambulance for Rossendale.
 - To undertake a visit to the following:
 - Rawtenstall Ambulance Station
 - Stacksteads Ambulance Station
 - The 111 service in Bolton and 999 Control Centre in Broughton
 - To make recommendations to the North West Ambulance Service on the findings of the Task and Finish Group.

- 5.2 Meetings were held between April and October 2015, during which time the task and finish group heard from the North West Ambulance Service, East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group, Community First Responders, and numerous staff during the site visits to the Rossendale Ambulance Stations, 111 Call Centre, 999 Call Centre and the Accident and Emergency Department at the Royal Blackburn Hospital.
- 5.3 Once the final report had been produced, representatives from the North West Ambulance Service, East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group, and East Lancashire Hospitals Trust were invited to attend the final meeting of the task and finish group on 26th October to discuss the report and its recommendations in more detail.
- 5.4 The report detailing the recommendations of the task and finish group is attached at Appendix A.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 6.1 There are no material financial implications for Council.

7. MONITORING OFFICER

- 7.1 No legal implications for the Council.

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 8.1 No policy or HR implications for the Council.
- 8.2 The report set out in Appendix A has been produced in consultation with the NWAS Task and Finish Group.
- 8.3 The recommendations have been sent to the relevant partner organisations asking for their comments and responses. To date the Council has received three formal responses and these have been attached at Appendix B and C.
- 8.4 The final report has been amended accordingly in response to the comments made by the North West Ambulance Service and also the East Lancashire Hospitals Trust.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The work of the task and finish group has concluded, and the findings and recommendations are being presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval.