

MOTION ON NOTICE

City Council

**LONG COVID**

An estimated 1.3 million people living in the UK (2.1% of the population) were experiencing self-reported long COVID as of 2 January 2022.

Long COVID symptoms adversely affect the day-to-day activities of 836,000 people, with about one third of these reporting that their ability to undertake their day-to-day activities has been “limited a lot”. The most common symptoms reported are fatigue, loss of smell, shortness of breath, and difficulty concentrating.

Long COVID is reported as most common in working aged people; females; key workers in health care; social care, teaching and education; people living in deprived areas; and people with another activity-limiting health condition or disability. Because of this, long COVID is likely to hit Plymouth residents particularly hard.

Long COVID is a poorly understood condition, and there are no agreed and accepted treatment approaches. Health service delivery must take account of the new pressure from long COVID, including the reduced quality of life and economic impact.

This council acknowledges the need to investigate and mitigate the detrimental impact of long COVID and long-term conditions.

This Council agrees:

- The Leader to write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to ask them to:
- Invest in research to find treatments for long COVID
- Ensure access to long COVID clinics and services after routine COVID testing ceases
- The Leader to write to Dr Sarah Wollaston, Chair of the Integrated Care Partnership, asking her to ensure that the forthcoming Primary Care Strategy includes an action plan for long COVID and long-term conditions
- To examine the local long COVID provision via the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Proposed by: Councillor Dr Charlotte Cree

Signature: Approved by email

Seconded by: Councillor Dr Pam Buchan

Signature: Approved by email