

Report to:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Relevant Officer:	Delyth Curtis, Director of People, Blackpool Council
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Cllr Kath Rowson, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Date of Meeting:	22 nd October 2014

SOCIAL ISOLATION UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide an update on work undertaken following the thematic debate on Social Isolation at the Health and Wellbeing Board on 4 June 2014.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board commission a third sector organisation to engage with the community, public and private sector to develop a vision and strategy to reduce isolation of people in Blackpool.
- The lead organisation will develop a partnership to work collaboratively to develop the plan.
 - The partnership will comprise of third sector representatives and other stakeholders that may have a strong understanding of the needs of isolated people.
 - There will be meaningful and genuine community engagement with groups representing isolated people.
 - The strategy will produce a plan and recommendations to meet priority outcomes identified.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The recommendation supports the Governments agenda of helping older people most at risk of longer-term loneliness and social isolation to remain active.
- 3.2 The reduction of social isolation is a priority for the Health and Wellbeing Board for all ages. Social isolation and loneliness can cause people's health to deteriorate and the need more intensive forms of support from health and social services in the long term.
- 3.3a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.4 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not to commission services

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

- Safeguard and protect the most vulnerable
- Improve health and well-being especially for the most disadvantaged

5.0 Background Information

5.1 At the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 4 June 2014 a thematic debate on Social Isolation in Blackpool took place.

5.2 Val Raynor, Head of Commissioning and Contracts for Children's and Adult Social Care and Judith Mills, Public Health Specialist led the debate, presenting an overview of the effects of social isolation and a summary of the current situation.

5.3 The debate highlighted the need for a multi-agency approach to driving this agenda forward with the community at the heart of this.

5.4 It was agreed that a small sub group (task and finish) should be set up to explore the way forward. This sub group was to include:

- Val Raynor – Blackpool Council
- Richard Emmess – CVS
- Arif Rajpura – Public Health
- Sue Harrison – Blackpool Council, Childrens
- Andy Roach - due to the need to link to the Better Care Fund

5.5 Since then Commissioners have continued with mapping the work which is already happening in Blackpool and have identified Social Care Commissioned Services that reduce social isolation either directly or indirectly. The Blackpool4Me website continues to be developed. Val Raynor has made contact with the Voluntary Sector, Fairness Commission and Community Radio to further understand how Blackpool is working to address social isolation. Colleagues from Neighbourhood Policing have made contact and expressed a desire to be involved.

5.6 There is still work to be done with regards to mapping services provided by other departments within the Council including Public Health, private enterprise and Clinical Commissioning Group.

5.7 Val Raynor has met with members of the sub group along with other key stakeholders in order to agree the scope of the work to be commissioned as described in 2.1

5.8 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 Procurement legislation will be adhered to.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 Resource requirement from Commissioning and Contracts to monitor the project.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 Equality Impact Analysis is not required at this stage. The project will contribute to ensuring fair access to community, private and statutory services which support the social isolation agenda.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Funding for the project £25,000. Operational Resilience.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None identified

11.0 Ethical considerations:

The recommendation is in line with the Council's values.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Not applicable

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

