

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dearne Area Council Meeting:

Agenda Item

**Report of Dearne Area Council
Manager**

The Dearne Area Council Social Isolation

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1** To update members regarding the developments for social isolation project in the Dearne

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1** That Members of the Dearne Area Council approve the draft specification for a social isolation project in the Dearne
- 2.2** That members contribute 2k per year as a contribution to the Dearne social isolation project.

3.0 Roles and costings

- 3.1** Stronger communities have been successful in gaining external funding for two years in order to pilot a social isolation project that will focus on residents 60+. At previous commissioning intentions meetings in the Dearne social isolation has been discussed as an issue in all area, therefore the perfect area to run the pilot.
- 3.2** The key to the sustainability of this project is that delivery is done in the local area, either by people who live there or on their behalf by organisations who know the community well using an asset based approach. The grant is worth 25k per year with match funding of 2k per year sought from the Area Council
- 3.3** With a large and increasing ageing population and continued feedback from projects supporting (particularly) older people, we know that social isolation and loneliness are real problems for us in Barnsley. Given the nature of the socially isolated client group, the locally available statistical data is not extensive, but whilst working with the provider new data and intelligence can be gathered.

It is expected that in the first year the provider will develop the project by gathering local data and intelligence that will be fed into the Dearne Area Council meetings. They will use an asset based approach and recruit and

train local volunteers that will take on a variety of roles within the community. The roles may include being a “good neighbour, “digital champion, DIYer, or volunteers to develop and deliver new groups for those that are normally isolated. By the end of year one it is expected that the project is delivering against all of its objectives. Year two will be about the continued delivery of the project, increasing and sustaining the projects volunteers, working with partners and evaluating the “next generation” project.

- 3.4 The Area manager will work with the procurement team to put the specification out to advert. Because of the amount we will be able to go out for three quotes which will make it less time consuming. Based on the bid submitted the incoming providers need to be in place by July.

Officer:

Claire Dawson

Dearne Area Council Manager

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Date:

14th May 2018