

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**North East Area Council Meeting:
2nd October 2014**

Agenda Item: 8

**Report of North East Area Council
Manager**

North East Retirement and Health and Wellbeing Initiative

1. Background

- 1.1 Following on from discussions at several Elected Member Briefings and Workshops the Councillors from the North East Area Council agreed to consider possible interventions to address the Health and Wellbeing priority for the communities of the North East Area Council.
- 1.2 Four Ward Councillor representatives from the different Wards of the Area Council were identified to form a Steering Group to consider possible projects for retirement and social activities and health and wellbeing interventions for older people across the North East Area Council communities. The Councillors were Councillor Wraith from the Cudworth Ward, Councillor Sheard from the Monk Bretton Ward, Councillor Higginbottom from the North East Ward, Councillor Makinson from the Royston Ward and Councillor Hayward in his capacity as Area Council Chair.
- 1.3 The Steering Group considered possible interventions and decided to obtain further information about the successful 'Older Persons Project' which is currently delivered locally by the Royston and Carlton Community Partnership.
- 1.4 It can be noted that this initiative is in line with the Corporate priorities:
 - Growing the economy
 - Changing the relationship between the council and the community
 - Improving people's potential and achievement

2. Key Considerations

- 2.1 After careful consideration the Steering Group's proposals are to deliver a nine month pilot project to establish a number of Luncheon Clubs across the North East Area Council's communities. It is felt that in the first instance this will help to address social isolation, provide affordable nutritious meals, help attendees to stay independent and provide opportunities to try out new activities.
- 2.2 There will be a minimum of five Luncheon Clubs in total which will include provision at local community locations in Grimethorpe, Great Houghton, Monk Bretton, Cudworth and Royston.
- 2.3 The project Staff Team would be made up of paid Staff and Volunteers. The Volunteers would be recruited within the communities and Wards in which the

project is being delivered. Appropriate training will be given to Volunteers and the number gaining a recognised qualification will be recorded.

- 2.4 The pilot project will be evaluated at six months, and where it is considered to be working well the next steps will be to consult with the residents attending the Luncheon Clubs with a view to widening out the services made available to them.
- 2.5 The additional Services and interventions may include Exercise Groups, Social Groups, Walking Groups, Information Sessions etc., and will be dependant on the feedback from the consultation exercise. This will ensure that the activities offered meet local needs to help to improve health and wellbeing and address isolation.
- 2.6 The pilot project would build upon the experience of the Royston & Carlton Community Partnerships experience of delivering older persons services. In line with the Social Value Act, one of the Area Council's key social value objectives is to develop local capacity and support businesses within this particular geographical area. It is therefore proposed that the Commissioning process is waived for the pilot scheme and that the Contract is awarded to the local Social Enterprise of the Royston and Carlton Partnership in the first instance.
- 2.7 The estimated cost of the project for the initial nine month pilot project will be £20,000.
- 2.8 It is anticipated that the project will help the North East Area Council's ambition towards becoming a `dementia friendly` area.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 **That the North East Area Council approves the nine month pilot North East Retirement and Social Initiative at an estimated cost of £20,000.**
- 3.2 **That the North East Area Council Health and Wellbeing Steering Group monitors and evaluates the project six months from the date of commencement, and the results are then taken to the North East Area Council with recommendations for further local actions.**

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Date:

September 22nd 2014.

Background Papers

The following Background Papers are available on request

- The North East Area Council Area Plan
- Royston and Carlton Community Partnership Project Proposals