
**HEALTH AND WELL BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
OLDER PEOPLE’S STRATEGY REVIEW GROUP**

**Responsible Cabinet Members – Councillor Veronica Copeland, Adult Services Portfolio
and Councillor Stephen Harker, Health and Leisure Portfolio**

Responsible Director – Cliff Brown, Director of Community Services

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To report the findings and recommendations of Members of the Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee Review of the Older People’s Strategy.

Summary

2. Members of the Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee established an Older People’s Strategy Review Group to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan.
3. A wide number of issues have been considered and discussed at these meetings and are described in detail in the Final Report of the Review Group.
4. The report summarises the work undertaken, the findings, and recommendations of those Members participating in the Review.

Recommendations

5. It is recommended that Cabinet accept and endorse the final recommendations contained in the Review Groups Final Report (detailed in paragraph 8 below).

Reasons

6. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons:-
 - (a) Successful implementation will support greater local community health and wellbeing.
 - (b) The focus on seamless support is a key strand of the Government transformation agenda .

- (c) Successful implementation will contribute to the wider prevention agenda.
- (d) The recommendations within the report have been co- produced with the citizens of Darlington

Cliff Brown
Director of Community Services

Abbie Anderson
Ex 2365

Background Papers

All Our Futures: A Strategy for Later Life in Darlington 2008 – 2021
All Our Futures: A Strategy for Later Life in Darlington 2008 – 2021 Action Plan

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder.
Health and Well Being	This report has implications to address Health and Well Being for the residents of Darlington, and specifically for Older People.
Sustainability	There are no issues relating to Sustainability which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address.
Wards Affected	This report does not impact on a particular Ward, but Darlington as a whole.
Groups Affected	The specific group affected is Older People, although improving health and well being affects everyone.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the Council’s Budget or Policy Framework.
Key Decision	This is not a Key Decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an Urgent Decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	This links to the Theme 3 “Healthy Darlington”. Specifically addressing health inequalities to narrow the gaps in health and well-being and life expectancy and plan for an aging population.
Efficiency	This report does not identify specific efficiency savings.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

7. Attached as **Appendix A**, is the final report following the work undertaken by Members of Health & Well Being Scrutiny Committee in Reviewing the Older People's Strategy Action Plan.
8. The Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee agreed the recommendations of the Review Group, which are detailed below:-
 - (a) That the mapping of services be extended to incorporate healthy eating services such as home delivery of meals, luncheon clubs, meals on wheels, etc.
 - (b) That the preventative strategies in place are strengthened and that the low level services are promoted more widely in Darlington.
 - (c) That Officers explore the potential of a more co-ordinated approach to join up services, share information and consider the possibility of pooling resources.
 - (d) That the work undertaken by North East Older Person's Advisory Group be welcomed.
 - (e) That the mapping of healthy ageing programmes is welcomed and that the option of an evolving electronic directory of services be explored to enable older people to view, in local community settings, the activities available to them.
 - (f) That Officers continue to investigate gaps identified as part of the Review in respect of accessibility, co-ordination, awareness and promotion in relation to healthy ageing programmes.
 - (g) That "Well Being on prescription" be further developed and that Darlington One Life and Fit as Fiddle improve their communications to integrate their services to offer a wider range of physical activities for older people.
 - (h) That pre retirement preparation be strengthened in the Investors in Health Awards, as a result of work undertaken by the Review Group.
 - (i) That pre retirement provision be given serious consideration by the Council and local businesses by offering retirement training and financial planning advice.
 - (j) That this Scrutiny Committee presents the final report to Darlington Partnership Board to encourage local businesses to improve their retirement planning.
 - (k) That the final report be shared with the Older People's Partnership Board for endorsement and that the report be circulated as widely as possible to share information and demonstrate to need for joining up of services and activities.

9. The final report was considered by the Health & Well Being Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 16th June 2009 and Members agreed that:
 - (a) That the recommendations as outlined in the final report be forwarded to Cabinet for approval.
 - (b) That the final report and recommendations be forwarded to the Centre for Public Scrutiny and the Joint Scrutiny Members/Officers Network for information.

Director of Community Services Comments

10. The recommendations outlined in the report are fully supported. Their successful implementation will contribute to the delivery of a model of social care which is fit for purpose and supports the direction of travel as identified in “Putting People First” DoH 2007.