

ADULTS AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

22 OCTOBER 2019

LONELINESS AND CONNECTED COMMUNITIES – QUAD OF AIMS

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider a request that has been received from a Member of this Scrutiny Committee for an item in relation to Loneliness and Connected Communities to be added to its work programme.

Summary

2. A request has been received (**Appendix 1**) from a Member requesting this Scrutiny Committee identify existing actions being undertaken to reduce loneliness and foster connected communities, examine the scope for improved working through cross-organisational/departmental working, both within the local authority and with external partners, and consider additional actions and policies that could be undertaken to improve outcomes in this area.
3. In accordance with the agreed procedure (**Appendix 2**), the request was forwarded to the Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Transformation, for a view on its merits, using the identified criteria.
4. The Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Transformation, would be happy to provide this Committee with an update on the Voluntary Sector Pilot initiatives that are taking place. The Voluntary Sector Pilot initiatives focus on two key issues – preventing social isolation in adults and older people and supporting vulnerable families with children and young people at the earliest opportunity.
5. The Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee received an overview of the planned implementation of these Voluntary Sector Pilot initiatives in December 2018, and that Committee is scheduled to receive an update on progress at their meeting on 31st October 2019.
6. Members are invited to consider the next steps. Options might include establishing a Task and Finish Group, independent of the Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, to receive an overview from the Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Transformation, on the Voluntary Sector Pilot initiatives and determine a course of action, or Members may feel inclined to extend an invitation to the Members of the Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to undertake a more detailed joint piece of work in this specific area.

7. This is not an exhaustive list of options and the Committee may opt to proceed in a different manner.

Recommendation

8. In accordance with the agreed procedure, taking into account the views of the Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Transformation, and the options outlined above, this Scrutiny Committee is asked to make a decision about whether this item should be added to its work programme, and, if so, how it wishes to proceed.

Paul Wildsmith
Managing Director

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report other than those referred to.

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