

EXECUTIVE

Report title	Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel – Reducing Loneliness and/or Social Isolation in Later Life – Service Response	
Executive Member*	Julia Rostron, Executive Member for Adult Health, Social Care and Public Health	
Chief Executive or Director	Erik Scollay, Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration	
Date	4 September 2018	
Purpose of the report	To provide the directorate response to the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel's final report on Reducing Loneliness and Isolation in Later Life	
Summary of the report	The Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel sought to raise awareness of the issues surrounding loneliness and/or social isolation, in the context of later life, and to develop new patterns of thinking. The attached action plan reflects the implementation of on-going arrangements to develop responses to the Panel's recommendations.	
If this is a key decision, which key decision test applies?*	Over the financial threshold (£150,000)	
	Amends the Council's policy framework	
	Affects two or more wards	
	Non-key	X
For the purposes of scrutiny call in procedure this report is*	Exempt under s.12a Local Government Act 1972	
	Urgent	
	Non-urgent	X
If this is a confidential report, which category of exemption(s) from the Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 applies?	The report is not confidential.	
Decision(s) asked for	That Executive approves the attached action plan.	
Impact of decision(s)	Actions will be implemented to reduce social isolation and loneliness in later life for the people of Middlesbrough	

What is the purpose of this report?

1. To provide the directorate response to the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel's final report on Reducing Loneliness and/or Isolation in Later Life.

Why is this report necessary?

2. Loneliness and/or social isolation are exceedingly complex, yet nationally pertinent, issues that can impact upon any person at any point in their lifetime; loneliness is not discriminative (Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness, 2017). In order to ascertain the Local Authority's current position regarding loneliness and social isolation and to explore these issues further, the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel held meetings on 20 September 2017, 23 October 2017, 13 November 2017, 20 December 2017, 17 January 2018 and 12 February 2018.

What decision(s) are being asked for?

3. That Executive approves the attached action plan and the responses contained therein.

Why is this being recommended?

4. The proposed action plan is appropriate as it will contribute to the reduction of loneliness and/or isolation amongst older adults across Middlesbrough. Additionally, the recommended will contribute to the awareness of issues related to loneliness and/or isolation through improved awareness training for our staff.

5. No stakeholder consultation was required.

Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended

6. No alternative decisions were considered as the recommendation by the SCASSP was straightforward to implement and there are no significant resource implications.

Impact of recommended decision

7. Implementation of the recommendation will contribute to the reduction of loneliness and/or isolation amongst older adults across Middlesbrough.

Legal

8. None identified

Financial

9. None identified

The Mayor's Vision for Middlesbrough

10. The completion of the actions contained within the action plan are clearly in alignment with the Mayor's Vision commitment to ensuring a safer Middlesbrough and contribute to the Council's key theme of Social Regeneration.

Policy Framework

11. The proposed action has no impact on the Council's policy framework.

Wards

12. The Panel report, resulting in the attached action plan, concerns all of Middlesbrough's citizens in later life; the action plan therefore relates to all wards.

Equality and Diversity

13. Age is one of the protected characteristics identified by the Equality Act 2010. Many individuals covered by the protected characteristics of the Act will have an increased likelihood of loneliness and/or isolation as a consequence of their protected characteristic; anything that challenges loneliness and isolation is therefore to be supported and in support of the aim of equality.

14. No Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Risk

15. The implementation of the SCASSP recommendation will reduce the incidence of loneliness and/or isolation amongst older adults in Middlesbrough.

Actions to be taken to implement the decision(s)

16. The actions identified within the action plan will be implemented and progress reported to the Panel.

Appendices

17. There are no appendices.

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date
Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel	Final Report of the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel – Reducing Loneliness and/or Isolation in Later Life	5 June 2018