

ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

* - sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic

<p>*Subject of Proposed Review:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To investigate KCC's current public health and social care provision around social isolation• To report on public health and social care strategy with respect to low level mental ill health and social isolation
<p>*Reason for the Review:- (see Note 1 below)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parity of esteem between physical and mental ill health is a national priority and an issue of social isolation brings these together Social isolation can lead to a variety of problems including mental health issues. Addressing these issues could be a route to reducing pressures on health and care services, reducing or preventing health problems.• Prevention of social isolation could lead to an improvement in the well-being of the people of Kent and a reduction of costs to KCC and NHS.
<p>*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish what social isolation is.• Identify who is socially isolated in Kent.• Investigate the extent to which current service provision is effective in dealing with social isolation• Establish if there is a close correlation between social isolation and mental ill health• Investigate the efforts to improve mental well-being at all stages of life
<p>*Scope of the review:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To take statements from witnesses from public health and social care together with Commissioners and Providers. Also, to gain witness statements from the clients and or their representatives who access the services• To produce a report that makes meaningful recommendations pointing towards potential solutions
<p>*Purpose and objectives of the Review:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To identify the strengths and weaknesses of the services on offer to the clients• Assess the scope and nature of social isolation in Kent• Finding ways of addressing social isolation

Proposer of the review - (Please print name and sign)

.....Cllr Ken Pugh (Member).....

Signed.......... Date...30th July 2017

To be completed by the Directorate/Cabinet Member(s)

Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2017/18? (see Note 2 below)

We do not believe that there are any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme.

How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?

KCC is now a public health authority and has responsibility for improving the health and wellbeing of the population of Kent and this extends to mental health and wellbeing in addition to physical health. For this reason there are suitable measures of loneliness and isolation included in the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) and the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF).

How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?

There is a clear link between social isolation and poor mental and physical health. A key element of the Government’s vision for social care, set out in the Care and Support White Paper (2012), tackled loneliness and social isolation, supporting people to remain connected to their communities and to develop and maintain connections to friends and family.

The Five Year Forward view was published in 2014 and sets out the vision and strategy for the NHS. This includes the ambition for parity of esteem. The 2017 ‘Next Steps’ document includes the intention to fund further mental health therapists as part of the implementation of the Five Year Forward View. Recent policy decisions taken in this area e.g. the implementation of the NHS Five Year Forward View include the promise of increased numbers of mental health professionals.

Any review of KCC work on this area could add to the knowledge base on social isolation and mental health, and could identify areas of good practice that could be shared with other authorities and Public Health England. There is considerable evidence on social isolation and mental health in scientific literature as can be seen in the table below.

Risk factors for social isolation	Number of times topic featured in currently used literature
Older People	18
Disability	11
Carer	3
Poverty	5
Transport	11
Mental Health	7
Alcohol	2
Household Status	10
Bullying	4

The table above contains reference to 28 individual publications; some papers deal with more than a single factor of social isolation.

There is evidence that social isolation is more severe in older life, but we believe that a life course approach would be helpful when considering social isolation as there are other times in one's life when social isolation can become an issue. These include, for example, during pregnancy and the perinatal and postnatal periods and during childhood and adolescence.

This review would allow the partnership working between Adult Social Care and Public Health to be explored and would assist in the development of new programmes such as the European research programme on 'Men's Sheds' for which Public Health has just been awarded funding. A review may also allow the mapping of various services that impact on loneliness and social isolation, many of which work in partnership with, or with advice from, Public Health. Some of these services are included in Appendix 1. This appendix is not an exhaustive list, but we believe it demonstrates that this topic review should be widened to include Growth, Environment and Transport and Children, Young People and Education.

There may also be opportunities to explore strategic alliances with partners, including other public authorities (e.g. Fire and Police services), the NHS and the voluntary/charity sector.

How will this review add value to the County Council and residents of Kent?

There will be opportunities to influence the mental health, local care and prevention work streams of the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

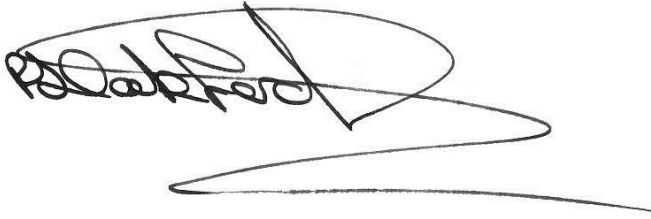
There may be opportunities for greater communication between the Social Care, Public Health and CCG/NHS teams, and other KCC departments which may lead to the identification of synergies, opportunities for partnership working and also lead to further research.

Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe? If yes, please give details:

Not from our perspective, but it might be worth considering the changes to Directorates and, in particular, the appointments of new Directors of Children's Services and Adult's Services.

Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Corporate Director:-

Portfolio Holder's Signature:-



Corporate Director's Signature:-



Contact Officer:- Andrew Scott-Clark	Date:- 29.08.2017
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Notes

Note 1 - Possible reasons for the review

1. Key public issue, identified by
 - Member contact with constituents/member surgeries
 - Contact with key representative bodies/forums
 - Media coverage – Public interest issue covered in local media
 - Focus groups/citizens panels
2. Issue highlighted via previous reviews
3. Issue recommended to another body e.g. Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee, a Cabinet Committee, Directorate or an external body.
4. Poor performing service i.e.:-
 - High level of complaints/dissatisfaction with service
 - Performance standards poor/below target – (evidence from PI's or benchmarking)
 - Identified through external review/inspection (OFSTED/Audit etc)
 - Budgetary overspends
5. Key reports or new evidence published

6. County Council priority
7. Central Government priority/New Government guidance or legislation published

Note 2 - Possible reasons why a review should not be added to the work programme.

1. Issue being examined by
 - Cabinet
 - Scrutiny
 - Officer Group
 - another internal body
 - an external body
2. It has been the subject of a topic review by other Councils from which details of best practice can be obtained.
3. New legislation or guidance expected.
4. **NB:** Before suggesting that a review should not be included in the work programme the following should be considered:-

Could consideration of this issue 'add value' without causing unnecessary duplication, for instance by:

- i) Looking at this issue in conjunction with another group,
- ii) Through appropriate timing of the topic review,
- iii) Through considering another group's findings rather than duplicating the same/or similar activity.

Appendix 1 – Current KCC services, programmes and campaigns with social isolation components; not exhaustive

- Live Well Kent [Mental Health and Wellbeing Service]
- Headstart
- Kent Sheds
- Children's Centres
- Health Visiting Service
- Release the Pressure
- Befriending grants
- Healthy Living Centres
- NHS Health Checks Outreach
- Postural Stability classes [and transport]
- Mental Health Matters Helpline
- Maternity Services
- Community Wardens
- Six Ways to Wellbeing
- Social Prescribing
- Employment Support for people with MH issues
- Get Out Get Active
- Kent Cycling Partnership [Ride Social, Breeze]
- Sport and PA programmes with Housing Associations
- Home Library Service
- Wellbeing Zones [within hub libraries]
- Beyond Words book groups
- Older Persons and People Living With Dementia core offer of services [from 1st April 2018]