

Loneliness and Social Isolation Select Committee Recommendation Progress Update

Recommendation	Progress to date	Status
<p>1) The Committee recognises that loneliness and social isolation are not issues that affect older people exclusively. The Committee recommends that the Adult Social Care and Health Directorate leads further investigations into the prevention or reduction of loneliness and social isolation amongst specific groups of people who are also likely to be impacted, such as young people, disabled people and carers</p>	<p>Lead officer has been identified. Field work with identified groups of people who use Adult Social Care and Health services, organisations who support people who might use those services and local communities/groups to identify opportunities and options to prevent and/or reduce loneliness and social isolation across Kent will be undertaken.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>2) KCC should produce a corporate strategy aimed at tackling loneliness and social isolation in Kent. The strategy should set out clear objectives, as well as roles and responsibilities, and should strengthen coordination and collaboration between KCC services.</p>	<p>Corporate Management Team agreed that relevant elements of this recommendation would be discharged through the development of the civil society strategy and work on developing the civil society strategy is underway. The civil society strategy will set out or highlight the role of the VCSE in tackling social isolation and will highlight KCC's commitment to work such as social prescribing, community wardens/community connectors</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>3) KCC should organise a high-profile event to launch its strategy. This should involve partner organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors. A key objective of this event should be to promote closer collaboration in order</p>	<p>A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

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to prevent or reduce loneliness and social isolation in Kent		
4a) KCC should work with the Government, local partner agencies and the voluntary sector to enable Kent residents to access, from both a single online source and a single contact number, information on services, activities and support that could help to reduce their risk of feeling lonely	A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.	In Progress
4b) KCC should also consider the opportunity of volunteering in the Government's pilots to explore how better use of data can help to make it easier for people to find local activities, services and support	A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.	In Progress
5a) The Committee fully endorses the social prescribing model, which enables organisations to refer people – including those who suffer from loneliness - to a range of services that offer support for social, emotional or practical needs.	A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.	In Progress
5b) The Committee also endorses the pilot to assess the effectiveness of Kent Community Wardens acting as “community connectors” and playing a central role in the identification, referral and support of people who suffer from loneliness and social isolation. The Committee recommends that, if necessary,	A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.	In Progress

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<p>funding should be found to ensure that this project is completed.</p> <p>If the pilot is successful, an understanding will be needed of how the role of Community Wardens would fit alongside social prescribing structures in the county.</p>		
<p>6) KCC's Public Transport team should investigate the feasibility of expanding the Kent Karrier service, and should continue to offer financial support and information to those who wish to introduce or expand a community transport service.</p>	<p>A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>7) KCC should work with the Government to develop a Kent-focused campaign to raise awareness of the issues of loneliness and social wellbeing. The campaign should provide information including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the negative consequences of loneliness and social isolation • the support that is available and how to access it. 	<p>A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>8) KCC should sign up to the Government's pledge to support its employees by addressing loneliness and building social connections</p>	<p>A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

Recommendation	Progress to date	Status
	the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.	
9) KCC should also encourage local employers across all sectors to adopt the pledge to support their own employees' social wellbeing and health.	A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.	In Progress
10) KCC should adopt the Government's standard approach to measuring loneliness, which is based on the UCLA Loneliness Scale, and should encourage partner organisations and service providers in Kent to do the same in order to ensure consistency across the county.	A lead officer has been identified and work on developing a response and plan to this recommendation will be progressed following the Task and Finish Group taking place on 23 July 2019. An update on the work of this group will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 26 July 2019.	In Progress
11) KCC should set up a panel – which should include KCC Members – to monitor the effectiveness of interventions, promote best practice, and review progress against the objectives of the Loneliness and Social Isolation Strategy	The Chair of the Select Committee is leading on setting up a panel.	In Progress