

Notes of the Health and Wellbeing Group Scoping Meeting held on 7th June 2016 at Trowbridge Town Hall

Present

Mary Cullen (WC, CEM), Kevin Gaskin (Healthwatch Wiltshire), Farzana Saker (West Wilts Multi-Faith Forum), Julia Latham (Selwood Housing), Polly Andrews (Churches Together), Hayley Mitchell (The Creation Station) Ingrid Gammage (West Wilts Community Club), Catrinel Wright (GP, CCG rep) Claire Thomas (Alzheimers Support), Peter Twigg (WC Adult Social Care), Mary Reed (WCIL), Alan Docherty (Carers Support), Maryrose Mantle (Trowbridge Town Council),

Apologies

Cllr John Knight, PC Mark Hough

1. Welcome and introductions

Mary Cullen welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting to explore the setting up of a Health and Wellbeing Group for the Trowbridge Community Area.

Introductions were made around the room.

2. Carers Support

In recognition of Carers Week, Alan Docherty from Carers Support was invited to give a short presentation about the service and key issues facing carers. Census figures show there are around 11,000 carers in Wiltshire with around 1200 living in Trowbridge. Caring can bring many rewards; however there are also pressures which can include physical and mental strain, social isolation and missed career opportunities. Carers Support provide a range of services to carers including one to one and group support, carers' assessments and time out opportunities.

Alan Docherty was thanked for his presentation. Questions included at what stage someone can ask for support, it was noted that support can be asked for at any stage.

It was also acknowledged that numbers of carers were likely to be underreported, and that this may be particularly the case in relation to BAME communities.

3. Role of HWB Group and Terms of Reference

Mary Cullen gave a presentation on the introduction of Health and Wellbeing Groups across Wiltshire. Health and Wellbeing Groups will be sub committees of area boards and will be a local forum for the co-ordination of services and activities that support older and vulnerable people and their carers in each area. Health and Wellbeing Groups will have a role in identifying needs and issues and supporting the development of new services as appropriate. Health and Wellbeing Groups will represent the views and needs of older people to the area board and make recommendations for use of available area board resources. Membership will be drawn from town and parish councils, voluntary and community groups and health and social care representatives. Health and Wellbeing Groups will meet quarterly and report to the area board. An older persons/carers' champion will be recruited to support this activity.

The benefits of involvement in Health and Wellbeing Groups were also set out including the opportunity to work together collaboratively on shared agendas, to share knowledge skills and experience and to promote each other's services and to work on joint objectives.

Members were positive about the idea of the Health and Wellbeing Group however, emphasised the importance of not just focussing on needs but focussing on assets; the resources, the facilities, the knowledge, skills and opportunities that already exist in communities and how to best harness these.

It was noted re 'Your Care Your Support' that this could be more person focussed rather than trying to fit individuals into services. Community engagement was seen to be key and working with individuals in a person centred way to support them to retain independence and achieve good quality of life. Community connecting, asset mapping and recruiting volunteers working across services e.g. the idea of Wiltshire Friends were all suggested.

Members felt that the Health and Wellbeing Group should be a 'doing' group rather than just a group making recommendations to the area board.

Mrs Saker noted that engagement particularly with BAME communities around Health and Wellbeing had been limited and that this afforded a good opportunity to do more in this regard.

4. Role of Healthwatch Wiltshire

Kevin Gaskin outlined the role of Healthwatch Wiltshire in relation to Health and Wellbeing groups.

Healthwatch will sit on and support all Health and Wellbeing Groups acting in an as required and advisory role. Healthwatch will provide support to appointed Community Area Champions and can provide information, advice or contacts to groups to assist their work. In particular Healthwatch are working with Wiltshire Council in developing

and maintaining the Your care Your Support website which as well as an Information Portal also contains a Service Directory which is a searchable facility to be to post contact information for groups, organisations and services across Wiltshire that meet a health and social care need. Healthwatch are keen to work with Health and Wellbeing Groups to produce comprehensive guides to what's available in their local areas.

5. Needs and priorities across Trowbridge community area

Members were asked to discuss and identify key priorities for the group moving forward drawing on their knowledge and experience of the area.

Key issues identified included

- Need to engage with Older People in Trowbridge, previous work carried out had significant limitations.
- Transport
- Weekend opportunities
- IT skills and access to things like 'Your Care, Your support', idea of pop up info shop
- Mapping what already happens in community centres
- Risk and attitude to risk needs to be explored as this prevents many innovative approaches taking off
- HWB needs good knowledge and information to be able to deal with issues such as Domestic Violence in BAME communities.

6. Next Steps

Mary Cullen outlined the next steps which were to

- Identify who else needed to be on the group, Age UK and Link scheme were suggested.
- Identify a Chairperson, members were asked to think about volunteering for this role
- Appoint an older person's Champion. Members will promote the opportunity.
- Administration, it was agreed that a recommendation could be made to the area board for admin support including minute taking and co-ordination of meetings unless a volunteer could be found for this.
- Agree a topic for the group to start work on. It was agreed that Dementia Friendly Trowbridge would be a starting piece of work, linked to Transport and the Safer Places Initiative. To discuss further with Alzheimers Support.
- Discuss with Wiltshire CIL their 'making people welcome' initiative and how that might be supported by the Group.

7. Date of next meeting

Proposed 25th August 2016, 10.00am (for September Area Board).