PROMOTING INDEPENDENT LIVING TASK GROUP – 4 JUNE 2015

The first meeting of the Promoting Independent Living Task Group will be held at 5.30pm on Thursday 4 June 2015 in Committee Room 1 at the Town Hall, Rugby.

Councillor Ms Edwards
Chairman

A G E N D A

PART 1 – PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. Minutes – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2015
2. Apologies – to receive apologies for absence from the meeting
3. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of:
(a) non-pecuniary interests as defined by the Council’s Code of Conduct for Councillors;
(b) pecuniary interests as defined by the Council’s Code of Conduct for Councillors; and
(c) notice under Section 106 Local Government Finance Act 1992 – non-payment of Community Charge or Council Tax.

Note: Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their interests at the commencement of the meeting (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a pecuniary interest the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.

Membership of Warwickshire County Council or any Parish Council is classed as a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct. A Member does not need to declare this interest unless the Member chooses to speak on a matter relating to their membership. If the Member does not wish to speak on the matter, the Member may still vote on the matter without making a declaration.
4. The role of council's warden service in promoting independent living in the borough: to receive evidence from representatives of the warden service


6. Work programme

**PART 2 – EXEMPT INFORMATION**

There is no business involving exempt information.

**Membership of the Task Group:**

Councillors H Avis, Ms Edwards, Mrs Garcia, Mrs New and Mrs Roodhouse

*If you have any general queries with regard to this agenda please contact Veronika Beckova, Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer (01788 533522 or e-mail veronika.beckova@rugby.gov.uk). Any specific queries concerning reports should be directed to the listed contact officer. If you wish to attend the meeting and have any special requirements for access please contact the Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer named above.*
1. **Introduction**

It was agreed at the first meeting of the task group that the review would focus specifically on older people, defined around their need for support to live independently in their own home, without having to move into residential care. The one page strategy is included with the agenda papers for reference.

The review began with meetings with relevant officers to establish what the council does already and plans to do to support the objective of promoting independent living, and develop an understanding of the council’s contribution within the wider context. The task group has so far considered the work of the housing and corporate property service, leisure services and planning.

2. **Purpose of the meeting**

The task group agreed to invite representatives from the council’s warden service to this meeting. They have been asked to be prepared to talk to the task group about:

- what they currently do to help older people to live independently
- what they could do that they don’t already
- what would they need in order to do this?
- what barriers exist to help people to live independently?
- any insights they have from working with older people about gaps in services

The council owns and manages approximately 1,500 sheltered homes. Sheltered housing offers secure accommodation for older people and people with disabilities, helping residents to carry on living independently.

Wardens at the council's sheltered housing schemes support tenants in living independently and make sure the scheme and its communal facilities run smoothly.

3. **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the task group has been scheduled for 5.30pm on Wednesday 15 July 2015. It has previously been agreed that representatives from older people’s groups will be invited to this meeting to participate in a discussion on the current and future provision of services by the council and its partners to support older people to live independently.

The following is a list of older people’s groups and organisations in the borough that the task group may wish to consider consulting or inviting to the meeting:
• Rugby CORE – consultation group of local older residents
• Age UK Warwickshire – activities, information and support services for older people and their carers in Rugby Borough from The Claremont Centre
• University of the Third Age Rugby – organisation of active retired /semi-retired people who meet to share skills and experience and learn new things while helping others to learn
• The Hoskyn Centre – runs a day centre for older disabled people. Rugby Friendship Centre (for older people) also meets here.
• Rainbow Over 50s Group - multi-ethnic, multi-cultural group formed to provide a platform for people from different backgrounds, who were unable to access facilities offered by established organisations because of language, cultural and food barriers. The group provides an opportunity for members to have their say, share concerns, ideas and activities, support each other, learn and enjoy together.
• Social prescribing project – led by WCAVA in partnership with Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group, running from two local GP surgeries from October 2014. GPs will prescribe social involvement to their patients and the SPP team will engage with the patients to get them involved with local groups and activities.
• Rugby Dementia Support Group – meets at the Claremont Centre
• Rugby Salvation Army Over 60s – lunch club and community café
• Coventry and Warwickshire MIND Dementia Befriending Service
• Hill Street 50+ Club – meets monthly starting at 10.30am and ending with lunch
• Overslade Oasis – 50+ club including lunch, meeting monthly at Overslade Community Centre
• Contact the Elderly – run monthly afternoon tea parties with transport provided

There are a number of other lunch clubs, community cafés and coffee mornings for older people that take place in Rugby, details of which will be available at the meeting.

It is suggested that those invited would be asked to bring evidence to the task group about the sorts of activities and processes already in place which effectively support people to live independently, to identify any gaps in available services and activities, and to consider how these might be addressed and by whom.

This may also be an opportunity to receive feedback on some of the areas raised from the evidence received to date, for example:

• What barriers exist to prevent older people from engaging in physical activity and what opportunities exist for the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Leisure Centre to take their services out into the community?
• What are the housing needs of older residents and how effectively are these currently being met?
• Is there any demand or need for warden services outside of the council’s sheltered housing schemes?
• How should the council respond to the development and growing popularity of extra care housing schemes?

Members are asked to confirm the desired participants and focus of inquiry for the next meeting of the task group.
4. Future work programme

The task group is asked to consider what further evidence-gathering activities will be needed in order to reach robust conclusions and recommendations to support an agreed corporate strategic approach to promoting independent living in the borough.

Debbie Dawson
Scrutiny Officer
May 2015
PROMOTING INDEPENDENT LIVING TASK GROUP REVIEW

ONE PAGE STRATEGY

What is the broad topic area?
Provision for older people who may need support to live independently. This includes physical provision as well as activities and services to promote social wellbeing and quality of life.

What is the specific topic area?
To develop a strategic corporate approach to promoting independent living in Rugby Borough, in support of the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The review will do the following:

1. Establish what the council does already and plans to do to support the objective of promoting independent living, and develop an understanding of the council’s contribution within the wider context.
2. Identify any gaps that the council could reasonably fill, either on its own or by working with partners.
3. Develop a strategic corporate approach to promoting independent living, with clarity about the outcomes the council aims to achieve and the relative priority to be given to this aim at the borough level.

What is the ambition of the review?
That the review will establish members’ community leadership role in relation to health, act as a catalyst to stronger partnership working to support independent living and encourage inventive and innovative solutions.

How well do we perform at the moment?
District and borough councils have a pivotal strategic role in preventing the need for more expensive care and acute admissions, as well as providing services that help improve health and wellbeing.

The council’s corporate strategy contains an objective of “improved health and wellbeing for all age groups and communities.” One of the council’s corporate priorities in pursuit of this is to support independent and healthy living.

The Government’s Better Care Fund is driving an agenda of service integration and pooled budgets and the council is part of the Joint Commissioning Board that is developing a Warwickshire-wide approach in relation to the Fund. The council has also played a strategic role in the county-wide Home Improvement Agency project.

The council is engaged in a range of activities and initiatives to support independent living and promote good quality of life amongst older residents and those with disabilities. The council is also able to influence this agenda, for example through its housing, planning and sports and leisure provisions. However, there is no clear corporate agreement about this council’s role, nor is there a common approach and shared understanding with other statutory, private and voluntary sector partners about respective contributions.
Who shall we consult about the current service and about how we can improve it?
The review may include direct consultation with sheltered housing residents and Telecare
users, as well as with local representative groups. The consultation activity will be
determined once the task group has received initial briefings.

What other help do we need?
Internal officer support from Housing, Sports and Recreation, Planning and Customer
Services
Learning from national good practice

How long should it take?
Complete by the end of the 2015 calendar year

What will be the outcome?
An agreed corporate strategic approach to promoting independent living