

Scrutiny Inquiry Panel - Combating Loneliness in Southampton

Thursday, 6th October, 2016
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Conference Room 3 - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor Furnell (Chair)
Councillor Coombs (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Burke
Councillor Laurent
Councillor Murphy
Councillor Parnell
Councillor T Thomas

Contact

Scrutiny Manager
Mark Pirnie
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PUBLIC INFORMATION

Role of Scrutiny Panel Inquiry – Combating Loneliness in Southampton

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee have instructed the Scrutiny Panel to undertake an inquiry into Combating Loneliness in Southampton.

Purpose: To review progress being made in Southampton to combat loneliness and to understand what is being done to reduce loneliness elsewhere, and what initiatives could work well in the City to help people make connections and improve their wellbeing.

Southampton City Council's Priorities

- Jobs for local people
- Prevention and early intervention
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Affordable housing
- Services for all
- City pride
- A sustainable Council

Use of Social Media:- The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting. By entering the meeting room you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public. Any person or organisation filming, recording or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so. Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

Public Representations

At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may address the meeting about any report on the agenda for the meeting in which they have a relevant interest.

Smoking policy – the Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

Mobile Telephones – please turn off your mobile telephone whilst in the meeting.

Fire Procedure – in the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take.

Access – access is available for the disabled. Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

Dates of Meetings: Municipal Year

2016	2017
8 September	19 January
6 October	2 March
17 November	
8 December	

CONDUCT OF MEETING

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The general role and terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, together with those for all Scrutiny Panels, are set out in Part 2 (Article 6) of the Council's Constitution, and their particular roles are set out in Part 4 (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – paragraph 5) of the Constitution.

BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

QUORUM

The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 3.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any "Disclosable Pecuniary Interest" or "Other Interest" they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

- (i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- (ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

(iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.

(iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.

(v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.

(vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.

(vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:

- a) the total nominal value for the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or

- b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

Any body to which they have been appointed or nominated by Southampton City Council

Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature

Any body directed to charitable purposes

Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

Principles of Decision Making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

AGENDA

Agendas and papers are now available via the City Council's website

1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

2 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

3 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

4 DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

5 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)(Pages 1 - 2)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th September, 2016 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

7 MEETING 2 - REACHING LONELY INDIVIDUALS (Pages 3 - 6)

Report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance regarding Foundation Services, specifically reaching lonely individuals, attached.

Wednesday 28 September 2016

Service Director, Legal and Governance

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SCRUTINY INQUIRY PANEL - COMBATING LONELINESS IN SOUTHAMPTON
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2016

Present: Councillors Coombs, Laurent, Murphy, Parnell, Burke, T Thomas and Furnell

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Councillor Furnell be elected as Chair for the Municipal Year 2016/17; and
- (ii) Councillor Coombs be elected as Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

2. **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

It was noted that due to a late change in membership, the Agenda identified that Councillor Whitbread was a member of the Panel instead of Councillor Furnell who was duly appointed at the meeting.

3. **INQUIRY TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Panel considered the report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance setting out the terms of reference and the project plan for the Inquiry.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the terms of reference as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted; and
- (ii) that the outline inquiry project plan as set out in the terms of reference be approved.

4. **INTRODUCTION TO THE INQUIRY**

The Panel considered the report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance setting out the introduction to the review on Combating Loneliness in Southampton.

RESOLVED that the following comments, from the Cabinet Member for Health and Sustainable Living, the Interim Chief Executive of the Campaign to End Loneliness, and Southampton City Integrated Commissioning Unit be noted and used as evidence in the review:

Councillor Shields – Cabinet Member for Health and Sustainable Living

Councillor Shields welcomed the inquiry recognising that loneliness presents a significant health risk that impacts on all ages, even in urban areas where issues such as poverty, new communities and transient housing exacerbate the problem. The inquiry represents an opportunity to make a real difference in Southampton.

Marcus Rand – Interim Chief Executive, Campaign to End Loneliness

Powerpoint presentation giving a broad overview of the prevalence and impact of loneliness, and good practice being employed to tackle loneliness. The framework developed by the Campaign to End Loneliness that highlights the full range of interventions needed from stakeholders across the community to support older people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, loneliness was also introduced. Presentation published as background documents for Members.

Adrian Littlemore – Senior Commissioner, Integrated Commissioning Unit

Powerpoint presentation delivered providing an overview of the work being undertaken in Southampton to combat loneliness. Better Care had been a catalyst for change through focussing on early intervention and support to prevent health issues, and increasing emphasis on self-management and independence. Presentation published as background documents for Members.

DECISION-MAKER:	SCRUTINY INQUIRY PANEL		
SUBJECT:	MEETING 2 – REACHING LONELY INDIVIDUALS		
DATE OF DECISION:	6 OCTOBER 2016		
REPORT OF:	SERVICE DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
AUTHOR:	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY
None

BRIEF SUMMARY

Following the framework for loneliness interventions developed by the Campaign to End Loneliness, the second meeting of the Combating Loneliness in Southampton Inquiry will focus on Foundation Services, specifically reaching lonely individuals.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (i) The Panel is recommended to consider the comments made by the invited experts and community representatives and use the information provided as evidence in the review.

REASON FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To enable the Panel to compile a file of evidence in order to formulate findings and recommendations at the end of the review process.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. None.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

3. Recognising the value of hearing in person from someone who has experienced loneliness, an invitation has been extended to a Southampton resident who has been supported by Communicare, a Southampton based charity, to talk about their experiences of loneliness in the city.
4. This will be followed by a discussion on how to identify people who are lonely. As identified in the report from the Campaign to End Loneliness, *'Promising approaches to reducing loneliness and isolation in later life'*, lonely individuals are difficult to identify because many are also socially isolated, and also because the strong stigma attached to loneliness limits the potential for individuals to ask for help, or readily reveal their needs.

5. There is concern that without explicit targeting, loneliness initiatives will only serve people with a more naturally outgoing nature and those who may be more able to support themselves. It is therefore argued that steps should be taken to ensure that such services are pro-actively offered to those most likely to be affected by loneliness, rather than simply being made universally available.
6. Guidance from the Campaign to End Loneliness identifies three broad categories of approach that are being taken to address this issue:
 - a) Using data to target action - There is a large body of literature on the key risk factors for loneliness and social isolation – which include marital status, and mental and physical health status. These approaches use available data pertaining to these issues to identify areas or households where there is a high incidence of risk factors. This information is then used to target services.
 - b) Eyes on the ground - Some areas have opted to work through human networks. These initiatives work by recruiting and training individuals and professionals within a community, with whom lonely people may be likely to make contact. The training gives them the skills to recognise the signs of loneliness, and to enable them to make appropriate referrals and offer support.
 - c) Links to the health service - Health professionals are often among the few individuals with whom lonely individuals have on-going contact. Approaches are being developed that utilise the knowledge and connections of health professionals to identify potentially lonely individuals and connect them with services.
7. To address each of these issues a number of guests have been invited to attend the meeting:
 - a) Using data to target action – **Sarah Weld, Consultant in Public Health** and **Dan King, Public Health Strategic Analysis Manager** have been invited to provide the Panel with details of the work that we are doing in Southampton, or have planned, to use data to identify and target support to lonely individuals.
 - b) Eyes on the ground - **Ian Loynes, Chief Executive at SPECTRUM Centre for Independent Living** and the **Senior Community Navigator** have been invited to attend the meeting to inform the Panel about the Community Navigator pilot that they are running in the city, in partnership with Southampton City Council, Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group and local third sector organisations. A community navigator is someone that helps people find their way through the many health, care and voluntary services available so they get the right service to meet their needs. They also help people develop a plan that works for them and link people with community resources to support them in taking action to improve their health and wellbeing.
Pat O'Dell, Chair of the Newtown Residents Association has been

invited to discuss the potential of supporting residents associations and other neighbourhood groups to engage communities to combat loneliness.

- c) Links to the health service – **Dr Angus Ferguson**, a GP working at the Grove Medical Practice in Southampton has been invited to provide an insight into the demands placed on the surgery by lonely people and the approaches being developed to connect them with services.

8. Central to success in tackling loneliness are efforts to improve awareness of the issue, both among professionals, and lonely people themselves. **Dawn Buck, Head of Stakeholder Relations and Engagement at NHS Southampton Clinical Commissioning Group** has been invited to provide the Panel with insight into best practice relating to awareness raising campaigns.

9. The guests invited to present information at the meeting will take questions from the Panel relating to the evidence provided. Copies of any presentations will be made available to the Panel.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

10. N/A

Property/Other

11. N/A.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

12. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.

Other Legal Implications:

13. None

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

14. None

KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:

None directly as a result of this report

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	None
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Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
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1.	None	
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