

OLDER PEOPLE'S PLAN 2008 - 2011 - Q2 UPDATE 2010-11

Cabinet Member	Cllr Ray Puddifoot/Cllr Philip Corthorne
Cabinet Portfolio	Leader of the Council/Social Services, Health & Housing
Officer Contact	Dan Kennedy, Adult Social Care, Health and Housing
Papers with report	Older People's Action Plan 2010-2011

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report	To provide a progress report on the improvements during 2010/11 for older people contained within the Older People's Plan.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The older people's plan assists the Council to deliver its plans to put residents first and to work with partners in delivering the Sustainable Community Strategy for Hillingdon.
Financial Cost	The majority of proposals will be financed from within existing resources. However, some proposals may be financed via funding set aside under the "Leader's Initiative".
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Social Services, Health & Housing
Ward(s) affected	All

RECOMMENDATION

That Cabinet:

- 1. Notes the significant achievements to deliver the Older People's Action Plan during 2010/11 to date to improve the quality of life of older people.**

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

1. The development of the three-year older people's plan 2008-2011 endorses the commitment from the Council and its partners to the continued development and improvement of services designed to create a better quality of life for older people in Hillingdon. The plan supports the council to put residents first and supports Hillingdon in delivering the Sustainable Community Strategy.

Alternative options considered / risk management

2. None considered

Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

3. None at this stage

Supporting Information

4. The Older People's Plan from 2008-2011 is the second three-year plan for older people in Hillingdon, and continues the work of the 2005-2008 plan. On 15 July 2008 Cabinet approved the three-year plan for older people 2008-2011. The implementation of the plan is achieved through annual action plan targets.
5. The three year plan was developed in consultation with older people and a wide range of partners including the Hillingdon Primary Care Trust, Hillingdon Hospital, Voluntary Sector Partners, Police, Ambulance Service and Fire Brigade. This collaborative approach has proved successful and will continue to further improve services for older people in the borough and promote health and well-being in Hillingdon.
6. The Older Peoples Plan 2008-2011 is made up of eight themes which older people have said are important to them. The eight themes are:
 - a. Safety and security
 - b. Preventative care
 - c. Keeping independent and healthy
 - d. Tackling age discrimination
 - e. Planning for retirement
 - f. Housing
 - g. Learning and sharing skills
 - h. Consulting and informing
7. The action plan is regularly monitored and updated. Projects identified by the Leader's Initiative are considered against these stated themes.
8. There have been a number of achievements during the first six months of 2010/11. Highlights include:

Safety and Security

- Free burglar alarms - the provision of free burglar alarms to older people who are victims of crime – by the end of September 2010, 887 alarms had been installed. All older people who receive an alarm said they felt safer in their own homes after an alarm was installed. We are on track to install alarms into 1,500 homes for older people by the end of March 2011. This project has been funded by the Leader's Initiative.
- Fire safety – During the first six months of 2010/11, 652 Home Fire Safety Visits were undertaken. 67% were in priority 1 postcode areas. Priority postcodes are determined by particular needs characteristics of the population living in these postcodes. This includes older people.

Each fire station is provided with a list of priority postcodes in their area and householders are targeted by the fire service for a visit. Each visit involves:

- Providing the householder with general home fire safety advice
- Discussing escape plans in the event of a fire
- Provide and fit a standard smoke alarm

There are 541 priority post codes in Hillingdon which cover all 22 wards. The target for 2010/11 is that 60% of all home visits should be in priority postcode areas.

- Home Safety Awareness – In the six months since 1 April 2010, 6 presentations have been delivered to older people living in sheltered housing. Approximately 70 older residents attended the discussions. Presentations were given by the council's Community Safety Team and the Police Crime Prevention Officer about how to prevent pick pocketing, how to deal with door-step sellers, rogue traders and how to make sure homes are kept safe and secure. From October 2010 onwards, a programme of outreach presentations will be delivered to community groups to continue our programme to raise awareness of keeping safe, including what to do if you have a concern about the safety of a vulnerable adult.

Preventative Care

- Assistive technology / telecare – we are on track to install technology into 450 homes to help keep older people and vulnerable adults safe and living independently. This is an increase compared to 2009/10 when 350 people benefited from telecare. In the first six months of 2010/11 we have received 225 referrals for the service, and installed technology into the homes of 148 older people (of which 25 were underway at the end of Sept). In addition, during the same period, 182 people benefited from new Careline installations to help them live independently.

Keeping Independent and Healthy

- Extending the Brown Badge Parking Scheme – The Brown Badge Parking Scheme offers older people a designated place to park their car / vehicle which means older people are closer to amenities. All 22 Council-owned car parks have Brown Badge parking bays. We are continuing to work enthusiastically with various private car park operators in the borough. Since 1st April 2010 we have successfully installed a total of 15 fully operational Brown Badge Bays in the following venues; Beck Theatre, Cranford Park, Harefield Business Park in Uxbridge and at the new Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre. A total of 5,507 Brown badges have been issued to the end of September and new applications are received daily.
- Free Swimming – to help older people keep fit and active, free swimming sessions have continued to be made available to all people aged 60 years or older. The take-up of this new initiative has been tremendous – nearly 30,000 free swims were provided during 2009/10 and in the first six months of 2010/11, 16,274 free swimming sessions have been provided.
- Allotments - Three adult education 'on allotment' programmes were run this Spring in partnership with Adult Education with a total of 26 participants. We are expanding the programme with DASH to include disabled participants in 2010 -11. During the second quarter, allotments have been promoted through a 'Taster Session' with assistance from DASH. We successfully secured press and broadcast coverage for the council's allotments. ITV's local news 'London Tonight' ran a piece promoting

allotments focusing on the sites in Hillingdon. Hillingdon People also run a full page article promoting allotments.

Tackling Age Discrimination

- Providing Support Through the Economic Downturn – Between 1st April and 10th September 2010 (Q1 & Q2) a total of 130 advice surgeries were held across the borough. In addition to the weekly 'Ageing Well' sessions new bi-monthly surgeries have been established in sheltered housing schemes. In the north of the borough, 2 have been established in Harefield, 3 in Northwood and 1 session each in Northwood Hills, Ruislip and Eastcote. In the south 2 additional surgeries have been established in Hillingdon and 1 session in each Hayes and Townfield. The Age UK outreach worker is currently liaising with an over 60's club in the Sipson area on plans to deliver local advice sessions.

Planning for Retirement

- Information about Planning for Retirement – an article is scheduled for a future edition of Hillingdon People signposting residents to further information.

Housing

- Improving Housing Conditions for Older People – we have continued to improve the homes of older people. During the first six months of 2010/11 this included: improvements to the central heating systems of 47 homes (the target is 70 homes) occupied by older people; improved insulation measures in 187 homes (the target is 500 homes) and essential repairs to a further 33 homes (the target is 75). The improvements are helping older people to remain living in their own home. All targets to improve the homes of older people are expected to be met.
- Specialist Extra Care Housing – The Council is actively progressing the development of extra care housing using funding from the Homes and Communities Agency. Extra care housing will be able to provide support and care for people with more complex needs as an alternative to residential care settings. Our partner Registered Social Landlords have started work on the scheduled extra care schemes at the RAF West Ruislip Site, and Triscott House. These schemes are expected to become available during 2011/12.

Learning and Sharing Skills

- Volunteering opportunities – an article is scheduled for a future edition of Hillingdon People.

Consulting and Informing

- Dedicated Information for Older People - information for older people has been improved, with a dedicated page for older people in every edition of the Council's publication for local residents (called 'Hillingdon People').
- Supporting Hillingdon's Older People's Assembly – dedicated to older people, the Assembly have engaged in a number of key discussion items in the last six months. This includes discussion about primary health care services and priorities for adult social care and housing.
- Leaders Initiative – Supporting Older People - During Q1 and Q2 the Leaders Initiative has continued to fund a broad range of voluntary and community

organisations that provide services to help older people remain independent, active and healthy. Key projects include:

- Barnhill Community Association received a total grant of £2,365 to expand its range of social events and day trips for older people attending the weekly senior citizens club.
- Yiewsley Cornerstone Centre was awarded £1,960 to run their weekly social club for a period of 49 weeks to provide an opportunity for older people to socialise, remain active and learn new skills. Events will include regular IT training sessions, exercise classes and informative seminars.
- Age UK Hillingdon has been supported to by the Leaders Initiative to deliver the Hillingdon 60+ fair, which provided information, advice and activities for older people in the centre of Uxbridge in October 2010.

9. A full progress update of the action plan during 2010/11 is attached under appendix one.

Financial Implications

10. The majority of proposals will be financed from within existing resources. However, some proposals may be financed via funding set aside under the “Leader’s Initiative”.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

11. The 2008-2011 Older Peoples Plan was welcomed by older people as positively continuing to raise their value and profile and as an opportunity to improve the lives of older people in the community.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

12. Engagement with older people to review the 2008-2011 plan will contribute to identifying future priorities for development. The Older Peoples Assembly in Hillingdon receive progress updates on delivering the promises set out within the Older Peoples Plan.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

13. A corporate finance officer has reviewed the report and its financial implications, and is satisfied that these reflect the resource implications for the Council for the implementation of the Older People’s Plan. Corporate Finance is satisfied that the majority of the proposals will be contained within existing budgets but that some proposals may be financed by funding set aside under the “Leader’s Initiative”.

Legal

14. Under the Council’s Constitution the Cabinet has the appropriate powers to agree the recommendation proposed at the outset of this report. There are no other significant legal implications arising out of this report to bring to Cabinet’s attention.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL