

LONGLIST OF INDEPTH TOPICS SUGGESTED BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES 2018/19
PROPOSED TOPICS FOR TASK GROUP IN-DEPTH REVIEWS

Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	<p>Suggested topic: The impact of social isolation for the Council</p> <p>Reason for Review: Social Isolation and loneliness impact upon individuals' quality of life and wellbeing, adversely affecting health and increasing their use of health and social care services. The current trend in vulnerable adults becoming socially isolated is not acceptable particularly as we are promoting whole system working with programmes such as the STP. Furthermore the Medway Health and Wellbeing Board prioritised social isolation and developed a 'Strategy to reduce Social Isolation 2014-2018'.</p> <p>It was estimated that across the Medway 2014 population aged 65 and over that 12% were socially isolated which would result in an estimate of 4,698 people over 65 years old being lonely and this risk has increased since then. However this is not an exclusive problem to the older population.</p> <p>The strategy outlines clear methods that the Council was using at the time to reduce social isolation across the authority including Medway Matters, Medway Community Hubs Programme, Better Medway Health Champions, and Making Every Contact Count. However with the launch of the Adult Social Care strategy there is cause to integrate new ways of working with the need to reduce social isolation.</p> <p>Potential for impact on one or more sections of the population? Yes – cross cutting. Social isolation is not exclusive to those over 65 years old. There is a need to reduce social isolation in more rural areas of the authority as well as with those who have high levels of need or deprivation.</p> <p>Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners? Yes – There is currently a strategy for action and it has been marked as a priority by the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes? Yes – this is a cross cutting theme and supports the Council's priorities "Medway: A place to be proud of" and "Supporting Medway's people to realise their potential". It also supports our way of working "Working in</p>
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partnership where this benefits our residents”.

Will the review duplicate other work?

No - it is understood that there is no further work going on to examine the root causes and actions for combating social isolation.

Is it timely/ do we have the resources?

Yes – the approach will help target resource to secure outcomes for the aimed cohort.

Will the review provide scope for service improvement?

Yes – will help secure a strong whole Council approach. It will provide the opportunity to link in with a ‘hard to reach’ cohort of residents within Medway. It may provide wider opportunities to stop isolation outside of the ‘adults’ cohort and cause a ripple effect for better outcomes for young people and their families.