# PROPOSED TOPICS FOR TASK GROUP IN-DEPTH REVIEWS

# Name of O and S Committee

**Suggested topic:** Physical Activity

#### Reason for Review:

#### HASC/RCE CYP

- If physical activity were a pill, it would be one of the most cost-effective drugs ever invented. It can reduce the risk of major illnesses, such as heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and cancer by up to 50% and lower the risk of early death by up to 30%
- Inactivity levels of Medway residents is 29.4% vs a South East region average of 25.4% (source Public Health Outcomes Framework)
- Medway also has a poorer performance on Public Health Framework Indicators related to physical activity such as 1.16 Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise/health reasons
- The governments "Sporting Future A New Strategy for an Active Nation" published in 2016, emphasised the opportunities for improved health and wellbeing of the population through increasing physical activity
- Medway has a good starting point with the following strategies, but lacks a unifying strategic approach
  which addresses all of the calls to action within the governments strategies; <u>Medway Joint Health and
  Wellbeing Strategy 2012-2017</u>, <u>Medway Sporting Legacy 2017-2020</u> and <u>Medway Cycling's Action Plan
  2016/18</u>
- There are great opportunities to maximise the physical assets Medway already has in place (i.e. greenspaces), networks (such as the Medway Healthy Weight Network) and partner agencies already in place and keen to support a cross cutting agenda such as physical activity

### Potential for impact on one or more sections of the population?

Increasing the level of physical activity for the most sedentary populations in Medway, would represent a significant improvement to their levels of physical and mental wellbeing. In addition to positive short and long term impacts on the health and social care system

#### Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners?

This is an issue for a wide range of public, private, public and academic sector partners and only their full involvement will lead to the population level change that is needed.

#### Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes?

A full scrutiny review that leads to SMART recommendations and areas of focus will lead to effective, measurable and demonstrable outcomes

Will the review duplicate other work?

No

# Is it timely/ do we have the resources?

Officers across a range of council services, are actively working on this area and have physical activity topics as an area of work, so resources exist to support the review process

# Will the review provide scope for service improvement?

Yes, lessons can be learnt from other areas who are making progress on this agenda, closer partnership and joined up working, innovation and adhering to the evidence based recommendation that have been produced by experts in this field.

# 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 Suggested topic: The impact of social isolation for the Council

**Reason for Review:** Social Isolation and Ioneliness 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'.

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.

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.

#### 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.

#### Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners?

Yes – There is currently a strategy for action and it is has been marked as a priority by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

#### 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

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.

# 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

Suggested topic: Support and resources for Carers'

**Reason for Review:** This is a Member suggestion which has been put forward due to concerns regarding meeting Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) for Carer Assessments.

The Care Act 2014 created a single, modern law which makes it clear what kind of care people should expect and what they will receive. The Act introduced new responsibilities for Local Authorities in managing the social care needs of their local population. This included new rights for carers, including the right to an assessment of their needs.

The Task Group review undertaken earlier this year "How Far Has Medway Gone in Becoming a Dementia Friendly Community?" heard concerns raised by carers of people living with dementia with regard to difficulties accessing carer support and a lack of flexible respite provision.

Potential for impact on one or more sections of the population? Yes – People of all ages are carers'.

**Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners?** Yes – This is an issue for the Council and partners. The Council has agreed to implement a number of initiatives over a period of time and within budgetary constraints to ensure an overall improvement in provision.

Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes? The topic would support Medway's priority of "supporting Medway's people to realise their potential" which would support the outcome under this priority of "older and disabled people living independently in their homes." It also supports the way of working, "Working in partnership where this benefits our residents." In order to maximise the effectiveness of outcomes, care would need to be taken not to duplicate existing workstreams.

**Will the review duplicate other work?** This depends upon the focus of review. The Medway Adult Social Care Strategy 2016-20 sets out a commitment to support carers to maintain their caring role and stay well. The Delivery Plan of the Strategy includes reviewing support for carers, especially those providing significant unpaid care or those caring for people with dementia and commissioning services that are appropriate for their needs.

Current work related to carers currently in progress includes:

- Carers' assessment, support plan and review forms are in the process of being revised to ensure they
  reflect a personalised, holistic approach to assessing the needs of carers. Further supporting a
  personalised approach to carers' support, the current provision of the Carers' Breaks services is being
  adapted to allow greater capacity to offer a direct payment in place of a commissioned service to allow
  flexible plans to be developed to support the complex individual needs of informal carers.
- The Community Interest Companies of 'WALT' and 'WHoo Cares' are currently running a pilot focussed on improving outcomes for carers through understanding the individual needs, giving carers further input into how they are supported by Adult Social Care and increasing the choice around personalised support that can be delivered in the local community.

The topic of carer support was previously investigated via themed meetings in 2010/11. In addition, some of the recommendations of the Mental Health Task Group in 2014 related to carers.

**Is it timely/ do we have the resources?** The topic could be considered timely, but as stated above, careful consideration is needed to ensure that duplication of existing work strands is avoided and that all initiatives will be delivered within existing budgetary constraints. The review could draw upon existing resources but given constraints close cooperation would be needed with the voluntary sector.

**Will the review provide scope for service improvement?** Yes, review of existing work-streams and previous scrutiny work could identify any gaps.

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

## Business Support O&S Committee

**Suggested topic: Voluntary Sector in Medway** 

#### Reason for Review:

The Council recognises it cannot deliver the three key priorities set out in the Council Plan (Medway: A place to be proud of, Maximising regeneration and economic growth and Supporting Medway's people to realise their potential) alone and needs to work in partnership with other agencies.

To review the services provided by the voluntary sector in Medway; understand the capacity of the sector to deliver services which provide value for money and to also consider the possible impacts on the Council and communities in the event of service or organistational failure in the sector.

The review would look at the voluntary sector across Medway and would not be limited to those voluntary sector organisations which deliver services on behalf of the Council.

A related issue is that, as part of the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership in Medway, there is an expressed intention to commission more support from voluntary and charitable organisations. It is too early to assess the extent of this however.

Potential for impact on one or more sections of the population?

Yes – the potential impacts from this review could be cross cutting.

Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners?

For further discussion

Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes?

For further discussion

Will the review duplicate other work?

No.

Is it timely/ do we have the resources?

Given the potential scope of this review is very large, further consideration needs to be given to assess whether the resources to support this review are available.

Will the review provide scope for service improvement?

Unknown