Committee: Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 6th September 2017

Wards: ALL

Subject: Report and Recommendations arising from the Tackling Loneliness in Merton Task Group

Lead officer: Stella Akintan, Scrutiny Officer

Lead member: Councillor Peter McCabe, Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People overview and scrutiny panel.

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Recommendations:

A. That the Panel comment on the report and recommendations arising from the 'Tackling loneliness in Merton' task group.

B. That Panel send the report to Cabinet and Merton Clinical Commissioning Group for final agreement.

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1   PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1.   This Panel commissioned a task group to consider how to reduce the levels of loneliness amongst older people. The task group focussed on ways to ways to re-connect hidden citizens to communities. There are people who are not in contact with main stream services and most likely to be isolated.

1.2.

2   ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.

Cabinet is constitutionally required to receive, consider and respond to scrutiny recommendations within two months of receiving them at a meeting.

2.1.   Cabinet is not, however, required to agree and implement recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny. Cabinet could agree to implement some, or none, of the recommendations made in the scrutiny review final report.

3   CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

3.1.   The Panel will be consulted at the meeting

4   TIMETABLE

4.1.   The Panel will consider important items as they arise as part of their work programme for 2017/18

5   FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

5.1.   None relating to this covering report

6   LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6.1.   None relating to this covering report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the legal and statutory implications of the topic being scrutinised.

7   HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

7.1.   It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.

8   CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1.   None relating to this covering report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the crime and disorder implications of the topic being scrutinised.

9   RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

9.1.   None relating to this covering report

10   APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- Report and Recommendations arising from the 'Tackling loneliness in Merton' task group report

11   BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1.