

Meeting Leicester City Council, Adult Social Care Scrutiny Commission  
Date 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018  
Agenda item  
Title Leicester Ageing Together – programme update

## **Purpose**

1. To outline the aims, ambitions and progress of the Leicester Ageing Together programme.

## **Background**

### The Programme

2. The Leicester Ageing Together partnership, hosted by Vista, is a five year, £5million Big Lottery funded programme to reduce social isolation amongst people over the age of 50 in Leicester.
3. Vista was chosen as the lead organisation by older people and older people's organisations and built a successful partnership of 15 organisations delivering 26 projects in Leicester City.
4. Projects are focussed in Belgrave, Thurncourt, Spinney Hills, Wycliffe and Evington. These target wards were selected as they had some of the highest percentages of people with recognised risk factors for isolation; we work with any at-risk or isolated residents over age 50 within this area.
5. However we are also undertaking some citywide work targeting four groups of people identified as at risk: people with hearing loss, African Caribbean people, people confined at home, and people leaving hospital. These projects are citywide as either their potential sources of referrals – or in the case of older African Caribbean people, their dispersal across the city - did not lend themselves to the community-based approach we are testing in the wards.
6. Leicester Ageing Together works as part of the national Ageing Better programme which is supported by £82million of Big Lottery Funding.

## 7. Leicester Ageing Together's vision is

- a) for older people to be less isolated;
- b) to be actively involved in their communities with their views and participation valued more highly;
- c) for older people to be more engaged in the design and delivery of services that help reduce their isolation;
- d) to ensure services are better planned, co-ordinated and delivered;
- e) to provide better evidence to influence the services that help reduce isolation for older people in the future.

Success is being measured against a set of national and local outcome measures.

### Work to date

- 8. The Leicester Ageing Together partnership has sought to find at-risk and isolated older people through a combination of marketing, referrals from external statutory and community workers, and outreach and support workers.
- 9. The programme has already worked with over 4,500 older people in Leicester, recruited over 1,000 volunteers through a workforce development programme, and has funded over £1.5million of local jobs.

### Learning

- 10. We are collecting information about the experience of everyone we work with. This information is being used in both the local evaluation, undertaken by Nottingham University and the National evaluation undertaken by Ecorys.
- 11. This work forms part of a larger learning network and, at this stage in the programme, with a significant amount of intelligence and learning, we will be looking to share the programme's learning with our wider partners in both statutory, voluntary and the private sector.
- 12. Our local evaluation data already provides information regarding the impact of different approaches, those that appear to be most effective and, importantly,

cost effective. We will build on this using our outcomes data and through other qualitative work, including through the community researchers.

13. We are developing a Learning Library, scheduled to go live in April 2018, to gather all that we have learned, share tools we have found useful and to talk about the strengths, but also the complexities and challenges, that the Leicester Ageing Together partnership approach has been exploring.

14. Learning will also be shared through local seminars and 'brown bag' events, in partnership with local academic institutions.

#### Sustainability

15. Work has already started in looking at opportunities for sustaining the more successful aspects of the LAT programme, although key to this is identifying where the true benefits of the programme lie. We have a particular interest in assessing the impact of our community connectors alongside similar roles being piloted in Adult Social Care.

16. A range of options are being explored through the support and review process with regard to individual service outcomes, delivery models, self financing and external funding.

**Ruth Rigby**  
**Programme Lead**

## Appendix 1

<b>Partner Organisation</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Action on Hearing Loss</b>	<i>Information &amp; Support</i>	Info & practical support with Hearing Aids, screenings, Befriending
<b>Age UK</b>	<i>Anything Goes</i>	Engage with beneficiaries to develop local activities/sessions as required
	<i>Befriending &amp; Mentoring</i>	Variety of support - face to face & phone calls, support to access activities. Ongoing support from Volunteers
	<i>Loneliness Prescriptions</i>	Supporting GP practices to work with lonely & isolated older people
	<i>Men in Sheds</i>	Opportunity to take part in a wide range of practical activities - located City centre
<b>Alzheimer's Society</b>	<i>Singing for the Brain</i>	Singing Sessions for people with dementia and their carers
	<i>CrISP</i>	Information & Signposting for families, friends & carers of those with dementia
<b>Beauty &amp; Utility Arts</b>	<i>Crafting relationships</i>	Various group crafting projects. Delivered in Spinney Ward
<b>CIO</b>	<i>Activities for older South Asians</i>	Day Centre, Lunch clubs, Welfare advice and social activities for S. Asians
<b>Focus</b>	<i>Roots &amp; Shoots</i>	Intergenerational Gardening & Growing projects
<b>Highfields Community Association</b>	<i>Activities for BME Communities</i>	Regular social sessions - arts, information, learning activities
<b>Learning for the 4th Age</b>	<i>Social Prescriptions</i>	Working with the PPG in Evington to offer learning & volunteering
<b>Living Streets</b>	<i>Walking Group &amp; Community Street Audit</i>	This project has now ended
<b>PYCA</b>	<i>Social Engagements Programme</i>	Training & Learning and Relaxation & Exercise sessions. Open days
<b>Papworth Trust</b>	<i>Neighbourhood Guardians</i>	Supporting vulnerable & disabled people. Help to access grants & benefits - ongoing support provided by volunteers
	<i>Neighbourhood Task Squad</i>	Clearing, cleaning and repairing peoples' homes & gardens aimed at reinstating sense of

		security & wellbeing
<b>RVS</b>	<i>Home from Hospital</i>	Low level practical support for approx. 6 weeks when returning from hospital
<b>WEA</b>	<i>Older &amp; Wiser</i>	Community learning sessions and social activities
<b>WISCP</b>	<i>Advocacy</i>	For African Caribbean elders
	<i>Befriending</i>	for African Caribbean elders - regular visits to home to reduce isolation
	<i>Older &amp; Bolder</i>	for African Caribbean elders - training & educational opportunities
	<i>Carers Club Mango Tree Men's Group</i>	For specific groups of African Caribbean elders
<b>Vista</b>	<i>Community Connectors</i>	Asset based community development to support communities to develop services and individuals to access these
	<i>Leicester Ageing Together Core Team</i>	Responsible for programme management
<b>CiTAL</b>	<i>Benefits advice</i>	This project has now ended
<b>Mosaic</b>	<i>IT training</i>	This project has now ended