

Agenda Item: 06.08



Healthwatch Telford and Wrekin Board Meeting

Date of meeting:

13 January 2016

Title:

Older People & Dementia Report

Author:

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For Information

Executive Summary:

Overview of activity in Telford & Wrekin

Financial Implications:

None specifically

Equality and Diversity:

None specifically

Public Engagement:

None specifically

Legal Impact:

None specifically

HR Impact:

None specifically

Recommendations:

Healthwatch Telford and Wrekin board are recommended to note the contents of this report

Is there a need to consider inclusion in the Corporate Risk Register?

No

Older People & Age UK STW

The year ended with over 300 attending the Age UK STW Volunteers Christmas Lunch at Shrewsbury Football Club and the Staff and Trustees event at St Chads in December. Overall the year had ended better than things looked at the start of 2015. The Board meets quarterly and last met on the 8 December.

The new Telford contract for information and advice started on the 1st October and runs to September 2017 and possibly for a further 2 years. This is the “My Choice” service which helps with access to carers, welfare benefits, and community care, promoting independence, personal budgets and coping with long term health conditions.

This is a partnership between Age UK, Telford CAB, Turning Point, SIAS and Alzheimer’s Society and T&WC. It is an area relevant to Healthwatch.

Meetings are being held about core funding after September 2016 in Telford. Core Funding in Shropshire lasts to March 2017 and Help at Home is due for renewal in March 2016. Shropshire CCG Funding lasts into 2017 but Telford CCG Funding ends in March 2016 and there are discussions. There is also the CAAN Shropshire Information & Advice grouping which continues.

Overall, as with all voluntary sector council funding, the Chancellors Autumn Statement is making further (up to 75%) reductions in Council services funding which will have major implications. Workshops are being held with Day Centre organisers on a new approach. AGE UK STW has had to lose some staff in the year but Ruth Brown from Blist’s Hill is the new Head of Income Generation.

The Shrewsbury Furniture Shop and Trading centre in Pride Hill is doing well but due to differences Age UK is pulling out of the Telford Forge retail venture. New charity shops are planned. The North Shropshire and Shrewsbury supporters groups are doing well and a Telford group is planned. Work is ending on a new “Brand Partnership” agreement with National Age UK. Age UK STW is also moving forward to create “Age Friendly” action in both Telford & Shropshire. Services include advice, advocacy, securing benefits, befriending, day centres, dementia services, living well, men’s football, annual events (like the Okengates Afternoon of Entertainment at The Place, help at home, transport, shops, furniture collection etc. all across Shropshire & Telford.

Health Economy Steering Group for Dementia 18 November, Shirehall, Shrewsbury

The group covers dementia activity across Telford and Shropshire and involves all the main players and developers of dementia strategies and plans. This meeting discussed RAID and hospital support, agreed the HESG Terms of Reference, the implication of reduced levels of support on clients and work on mild cognitive disruption. Also developing work between Telford & Shropshire and the Telford

Strategy and Action Plan also work on dementia in community hospitals and SaTH. Work is also going on in Telford to develop the role of Assistive Technology as one approach to the decline in Social Care budgets - the "At Home" project links 13 West Midlands councils and included a workshop on the 14 December at the PRH and in Donnington & Wellington. Work is also continuing on development of the Butterfly and Patient and Carer Passports and Dementia Friendly Places projects. Dates for the coming year have been circulated and the next meeting is on the 20th January at the CCG in Halesfield.

The Enter & View Committee is responding to the recent complaint and through experience from visits to Care Homes and hospital wards are now realising how frequently dementia and related issues are relevant. Thanks to Barry Parnaby and our Volunteers for introducing us to Admiral Nurses and other guidance on dementia and different types of dementia and behaviours. Now a dementia champion will be part of all E&V visits and we must all deepen our awareness.

Dementia Providers Forum in Telford

In addition to the HESG there are also regular meetings of the Forum usually at Alderbrook House and the group concentrates on being a forum for the direct providers of Dementia services. A number of workshops have been held in 2015 for providers to demonstrate their services and to exchange good practice.

Telford Senior Citizens Forum

Nearly 2,500 older Telford residents are members of the Forum and receive the newsletter. The Forum has recently benefitted from five years Reaching Communities Lottery Funding. The Forum provides a wide range of activities and services including an on line guide to when you should see your GP. On the 20 January there will be an open forum on Future Fit. There are staying well and living well activities.