South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

REPORT

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership **Held on**	**Performance and Audit Committee** **Friday 4th March 2022**
Agenda Item	**Item 7**
Title	**Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy**

Summary:

The purpose of the report is to update the Performance & Audit Committee on the progress of the implementation plan of the 2018-2021 Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy.

Presented by	**Phil White– Chair Social Isolation Strategy Implementation Group**

Action required:

That the Performance & Audit Committee notes the contents of this report and the progress of implementing the strategy.

Implications checklist – check box if applicable and include detail in report									
Financial		HR	☐	Legal		Equalities	☐	Sustainability	☐
Policy		ICT	☐						

Directions required to NHS Ayrshire & Arran South Ayrshire Council, or both	1. No Direction Required	☒
	2. Direction to NHS Ayrshire and Arran	☐
	3. Direction to South Ayrshire Council	☐
	4. Direction to NHS Ayrshire and Arran and South Ayrshire Council	☐

Note: Directions box will be completed by IJB Administrator
This box to be deleted for all meetings other than IJB

SOUTH AYRSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP
INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD
Report by Director of Health & Social Care

UPDATE ON PROGRESS: 2018-2021 SOCIAL ISOLATION & LONELINESS STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

1.   PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1   The purpose of the report is to update the Performance & Audit Committee on the progress of the implementation plan of the 2018-2027 Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy.

2.   RECOMMENDATION

2.1   **That the Performance & Audit Committee notes the contents of this report and the progress of implementing the strategy.**

3.   BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1   The Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy was approved by the Integrated Joint Board at its meeting on 4 June 2019. The Strategy is accompanied with an Implementation Plan designed to take forward the three key Strategic Objectives namely 'Prevent', 'Respond' and 'Restore' as well as delivering both local and national outcomes. This is the first update on progress made against the strategy.

3.2   Because of limitations on the availability of those updating our Pentana system this is not a full report on our local activity but provides some update information subsequent to the previous full report in 2021.

3.3   Social isolation & loneliness has been identified as a local priority within South Ayrshire Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) – attached. The governance arrangements for the Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy Implementation Group are provided by the Communities & Population Health Strategic Delivery Partnership incorporated within the Community Planning Partnership structure.

PDF

FINAL LOIP Comm
Planning Partnership

4.   REPORT

4.1   It is proposed that the Performance & Audit Committee considers the interim information that reflects current local activity to support the Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy Implementation Plan 2018-2021.

4.2   Despite the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic much work has continued or been initiated within the linked constraints. Although the group continued to meet during this time, it was clear that the implementation plan could not progress within its current form; this is reflected in the progress report of the plan.

4.3   Each action within the Implementation Plan supports the delivery of one of the three Strategic Outcomes with overlap on occasion. A brief summary of progress against each of the Strategic Outcomes is provided below:

- **Wellbeing Pledge and funding** – Whilst the £64k allocated to support the Wellbeing Pledge covered a range of priority issues some funding was allocated to organisations directly addressing social isolation (for example, Girvan Age Concern) other money allocated is likely to contribute to supporting isolated people (for example work in Ayr North, Broken Chains and Wheelchair Rugby).

- **Locality Based work and PB funding** – Locality Planning Partnerships continue to support local social isolation activity and recent small grant funding (what was originally Participatory Budgeting funding) has been allocated to groups addressing social isolation and loneliness amongst other priority issues.

  Groups receiving funding include:

Ayrshire Cancer Support	Good Companions	Girvan Community Garden
New Life Trust Diamonds	Dundonald Parish Church drop in	Girvan Generation Games
No-one Dies Alone	Loans Community Centre	Walking Football
Breastfeeding Network	Annbank Community Association	Lochside Community Association
Kincaidston Community Association	Doonfoot Sensory Garden	L and M Wellbeing

- **Shielding work** – support for those in high risk clinical groups has continued through local authority, HSCP and third sector work, including the activities supported by VASA set out below

- **VASA programmes** – VASA continue to receive funding from HSCP, Scottish Government Covid Mobilisation resources and some monies from NHS Endowment funding to support social isolation related activity including:

Programme	Information
South Ayrshire Lifeline	Point of contact for support and links to a range of local support options.
Telephone Befriending	Phone based befriending using volunteers to provide light touch regular support.
Up and About	Targeting those who have lost confidence through Covid and isolation to enable them to re-connect with ordinary support activity.
Digital Inclusion	Links to Connecting Scotland programme – distributing digital devices and providing light touch technical support.
Living Well Self Management Training	Initially funded by the Health and Care Alliance, 11 programmes now delivered by lay leaders. Many of referrals have significant social isolation issue.

- **Sheltered Housing programme** – there is now a partially reinstated Sheltered Housing activity programme, although at present this is limited to SH residents only

- **mPower** – mPower has continued to support older people with digital connection and wellbeing plans. As mPower comes to the end of its European funding in May, there is consideration of its legacy including work that has been commissioned where the Health and Care Alliance is carrying out Ayrshire-wide work to identify ways of providing digital support in the future including explicit links to libraries as local hubs

- **SG Third Sector Mental Health and Wellbeing Funding**
  In late 2021 Scottish Government allocated resources to TSIs (in our case – VASA) to lead a third/community sector mental health and wellbeing programme. The guidance from SG included Social Isolation as one of the issues to be addressed. VASA was allocated £340k in 2021/22 and £340k for 2022/23 to support a local programme and 75 expressions of interested were submitted just before Christmas 2021 covering a variety of issues including social isolation.

  39 of these submissions were then invited to put forward a full application and VASA will lead a scrutiny process in early February in order to allocate the funding.

  CPP Conference
  As part of a wider CPP Community Conference in November 2021 there was a Webinar exploring our collective work on Social Isolation: a copy of the slides is attached:

  CPP Conference
  2021 Social Isolation (

  This provided illustrations of the work carried out re older people but also wider work linked to those living with learning disabilities and sensory impairment.

4.4 A 'Position Statement' report has been drafted that reflects back over the previous few years of this work, the progress that has been made with limited resources, and some options about where the work could go in future years. This has been tabled at the CPP Communities and Population Health SDP and the CPP Chairs meeting.

4.5 To reflect the changes in the landscape since the strategy was developed, the strategy has undergone a refresh with a one-year implementation plan for 2021-2022 is being finalised. This one-year action plan will allow action to respond to emerging needs post-pandemic and allow time for a longer-term plan to be considered.

4.6 The capacity to co-ordination of plan requires to be considered following the movement of posts with the HSCP and within Public Health. Both of these posts are considered vital to the progression and co-ordination of this work. Currently there is limited Public Health capacity to support the work and limitations re how HSCP leads the programme. This is set out within the Position Statement paper mentioned above so that CPP Board and others can reflect on how significantly Social Isolation is given priority.

4.7 **Social Isolation Workshop Webinar**

In addition, a Webinar Workshop will take place on 10th March 2022 seeking to re-group the existing work and to reach out to wider constituencies who may support the Social Isolation agenda.

5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

5.1 The report represents an update on the progress made against each of the Strategic Outcomes of the Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy 2018-2027. The Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy supports the Partnership's Strategic Objectives, namely:

- We focus on prevention and tackling inequality
- We nurture and are part of communities that care for each other
- We work together to give the right care in the right place
- We help to build communities where people are safe
- We are an ambitious and effective Partnership
- We are transparent and listen to you
- We make a positive impact beyond the services we deliver

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 **Financial Implications**
There is a need to access resource to support the coordination of this strategy and maintain momentum.

6.2 **Human Resource Implications**
There are no specific human resource implications.

6.3 **Legal Implications**
There are no specific legal implications.

7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with relevant officers from across statutory and third sector organisations, predominantly though the Social Isolation & Loneliness Strategy Implementation Group.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 There are no anticipated risks arising from the content and recommendations of the report.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

10. SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no environmental sustainability implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS