

Housing, Wellbeing, Leisure and Early Intervention Policy Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Housing, Wellbeing, Leisure and Early Intervention Policy Committee of South Norfolk Council held at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton on Wednesday 4 July 2018 at 3.30pm

Committee Members Present: Councillors: F Ellis (Chairman), D Bills (Vice-Chairman), J Hornby and N Legg

Apologies: Councillors: S Blundell, J Overton and A Pond

Cabinet Member in Attendance: Councillor: Y Bendle

Officers in Attendance: The Director of Communities and Wellbeing (J Sutterby), the Healthy Living Manager (S Cayford) and the Evaluation and Monitoring Project Officer (T Thomas)

19 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Housing, Wellbeing, Leisure and Early Intervention Policy Committee held on 22 January 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

20 SOUTH NORFOLK HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

Cllr Bendle introduced the report, reminding members that the objective of the South Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Strategy was to set a framework for officers over the next three years. She advised that the detail contained in the Strategy was not “set in stone” and would be evolved and adapted to incorporate any internal or external changes over the period. Members were asked for their comments and encouraged to highlight any relevant points they felt should be included.

The Healthy Living Manager presented her report, advising members that the Strategy had looked to harness the opportunities of collaborative working amongst the Council's staff and partners to improve health and wellbeing and had engaged services often overlooked in its discussions to develop innovative ways to address wellbeing issues throughout the district. The Committee noted that four key areas of focus were covered in the Strategy; Activity and Healthy Living, Employment and Aspirations, Falls and Frailty, and Mental Health, recognising that there were many factors which affected the quality of life. Members were pleased to note that officers from many services had responded positively, engaging with the process and suggesting ideas.

The Director of Communities and Wellbeing explained that the Strategy explored a different approach to health and wellbeing and assessed the needs of residents and how best to serve them as opposed to being more 'place' focussed. He advised that the South Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Strategy provided a good framework, working well alongside the Leisure Strategy. Members acknowledged that the Strategy was an important 'safety buffer' for all who might need assistance in the future.

The Committee discussed issues such as the wellbeing of residents in areas of deprivation, the re-training of people who lose employment, the prospects for university graduates to achieve 'good' jobs within the district, and the shortage of single-storey dwellings. Members stressed the importance of the Council working in partnership with others and agreed that SNC should strive to support areas within its control and to ascertain where best value could be added.

Members considered the work of the Council and noted the difficulties in calculating, in monetary terms, the savings and benefits delivered by its health and wellbeing achievements. Officers advised that the newly appointed Evaluation and Monitoring Project Officer was starting to look at ways in which the service could be costed. The Committee commended the work of the Community Connectors and agreed that they were reaching people who might have otherwise not been helped. It was suggested that Councillors and officers should try to raise the profile of the Community Connectors within the district.

Following a brief discussion, during which officers agreed that the South Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Strategy should be forwarded to all parish councils in the district, it was:

RESOLVED **TO RECOMMEND THAT CABINET** approves the South Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to support its ongoing implementation.

21. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted that the date for the next meeting would be communicated to members shortly.

(The meeting concluded at 4.35pm)

Chairman