

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services)

to

People Scrutiny Committee

on

Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Agenda  
Item No.

Report prepared by: S. Tautz (Principal Democratic Services Officer)

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**In-Depth Scrutiny Report – ‘The appropriate use of reablement for older people (65 and over) when discharged from hospital, to maximise the number of people at home after period of 91 days.’**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee(s): People Scrutiny Committee  
Cabinet Member: Councillor T Harp  
Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)**

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## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the draft report of the scrutiny project – ‘The appropriate use of reablement for older people (65 and over) when discharged from hospital, to maximise the number of people at home after period of 91 days.’

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the report and conclusions from the in-depth scrutiny project, detailed at Section 9 of the report, be agreed.**
- 2.2 **That, in accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 10 (Part 4 (e) of the Constitution), to agree that the Chairman of the Project Team present the report to a future Cabinet meeting.**

## 3. Background

- 3.1 The People Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019 approved a suggestion for an in-depth study to be undertaken to consider the appropriate use of reablement services by the Council. (Minute 172 refers).
- 3.2 In the context of the Southend 2050 Vision, the main focus of the project was to consider:
- (i) Whether the current service offered accessible and effective care, delivered to the right people, in the right place and at the right time.
  - (ii) How the service was delivered.
  - (iii) The experience of residents who used the service.
  - (iv) The views of partner agencies and the level of integration; and
  - (v) Relevant comparative information.

- 3.3 Progress with regard to the review was achieved in the first half of the 2019/20 municipal year, including the development of an action plan, the receipt of relevant presentations and the holding of appropriate site visits. However, the completion of the projects was subsequently delayed from late-2019 as a result of a number of issues including reduced officer capacity in key service areas.
- 3.4 From March 2020, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic also further delayed activity with regard to the completion of the review, reflecting the Council's approach to the handling of the pandemic, including the necessary focus on priority activities and the delivery and implementation of the Coronavirus Act 2020, which changed the lead responsibility for all discharges from hospital to Health. As a result, it was not possible for the in-depth review to be completed by the end of the municipal year and the Committee agreed that it be carried forward into the current municipal year.
- 3.5 The Project Team comprised the following Members: Councillors F Evans (Chair), A Dear, D Garne, M Borton, C Nevin, A Chalk, I Shead and A Thompson. Mr T Watts of the Southend Carers Forum was co-opted as a member of the Project Team and Councillor L Salter also attended meetings of the Project Team.
- 3.6 Officer support for the project was provided by Sarah Baker (Director of Adult Social Care), Lynn Scott, (Head of Adult Social Care), Gemma Czerwinke (Service Manager (Adult Social Care)) and Fiona Abbott/Steve Tautz (Project Coordinators).
- 3.7 An overview of the evidence considered by the Project Team is set out in the report.

#### **4. Scrutiny Review – Conclusions and Recommendations**

- 4.1 The conclusions and recommendations from the review are set out in Section 9 of the final report. These were discussed by the Project Team at its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020.
- 4.2 There are no recommendations arising from the review that have budget implications that require consideration as part of future years' budget processes prior to implementation.
- 4.3 The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to endorse the conclusions from the review, for approval by Cabinet.

#### **5. Other Options**

- 5.1 Not applicable

#### **6. Reasons for Recommendations**

- 6.1 Not applicable

#### **7. Corporate Implications**

- 7.1 Contribution to the Southend 2050 Road Map  
As described in the report
- 7.2 Financial Implications  
Any recommendations with major financial implications will need to go through the annual budgetary process before implementation.
- 7.3 Legal Implications  
None
- 7.4 People Implications  
None
- 7.5 Property Implications  
None
- 7.6 Consultation  
As described in the report
- 7.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications  
None
- 7.8 Risk Assessment  
None
- 7.9 Value for Money  
None
- 7.10 Community Safety Implications  
None
- 7.11 Environmental Impact  
None

## **8. Background Papers**

- 8.1 Project Team notes and as set out in the final report.

## **9. Appendices**

- 9.1 Draft Final Report – ‘The appropriate use of reablement for older people (65 and over) when discharged from hospital, to maximise the number of people at home after period of 91 days.’