

# **Report to Communities Select Committee**

**Date of meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017**



**Subject: Impact of an Aging Population**

**Officer contact for further information:** J Chandler (01992 564214)

**Committee Secretary:** A. Hendry (01992 564246)

---

## **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

**That the Communities Select Committee receives a progress report on the implementation of the Impact of An Ageing Population Action Plan.**

## **Report:**

1. In 2015/16 the Council carried out a comprehensive study into the impact of an ageing population in the Epping Forest District, which generated over 40 recommendations for the Council and a range of statutory and voluntary sector partners, to address. These were translated into a detailed action plan, which has been in progress since October 2016 and this report seeks to provide an update to the Communities Select Committee, on the progress and successful implementation of key areas of work.

2. ONS 2012 - based principal projections suggest that the district is already made up of around 52,000 people aged 50 and over, of which nearly 2000 residents have dementia, and it is predicted that by 2025, these numbers will increase to 58,000 people aged over 50, and 3,500 people living with dementia.

3. Although we had an overview of these population projections for the District, the study enabled us to increase our understanding of our future resident population and provided the opportunity for the Council to consult our existing older residents, on their expectations and service needs as they age, providing an insight into preferences and choices that they would ultimately make, in respect of their future lives in the Epping Forest District.

4. Over 300 local people of 55 – 95 years of age, from a range of demographics and areas of the district were consulted on a face to face basis as part of the study, along with all key EFDC staff and professionals from West Essex Clinical Care Commissioning Group, Essex Public Health and Age Uk. The focus of the consultation was on three main themes and these were;

- Health and Wellbeing;
- Living in the District; and,
- Communication and Engagement

5. Structured consultation sessions were provided for a series of focus groups, which included very elderly (and less active residents), physically active older people and older people already involved in some form of voluntary activity across the district. This provided a good cross section of views and input, and consistency was applied to each session, based around each theme of discussion.

6. All statutory and voluntary sector partners involved in the study were delighted with the work undertaken, as the findings have been used to improve and develop their own services to the public.

7. Many of the actions stated in the Ageing Population Action Plan, have been successfully implemented and 'closed', but the plan also includes longer term development activity and service provision and it is planned to report progress on these, on an annual basis.

8. The attached Action Plan provides details of all actions and progress to date.

**Reason for decision:** On production of the Study Report, it was agreed that the Communities Select Communities would receive updates on the progress made on the Ageing Population Action Plan.

**Options considered and rejected:** N/A

**Consultation undertaken:** N/A

**Service review:** N/A

**Resource implications:** There have been no increases in budget required from the Council, to date.

**Personnel:** A range of staff within the Council are responsible for delivering on actions and particularly the Council's Community, Health and Wellbeing Team.

**Land:** N/A

**Community Plan/BVPP reference:** The study was a Corporate Plan priority.

**Relevant statutory powers:** N/A

**Background papers:** Impact of An Ageing Population Study full report and Executive Summary.

**Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications:** N/A

**Key Decision reference:** (if required) N/A