

Subject: Safe and Well Update

Presented by: SYFR Area Manager Steve Helps

Purpose of bringing this report to the Board	
Decision	
Recommendation to Full Council	
Endorsement	
Information	x

Implications		Applicable
DHWB Strategy Areas of Focus	Substance Misuse (Drugs and Alcohol)	YES
	Mental Health	YES
	Dementia	YES
	Obesity	YES
	Children and Families	YES
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		YES
Finance		NO
Legal		NO
Equalities		YES
Other Implications (please list)		

How will this contribute to improving health and wellbeing in Doncaster?
<p>At the request of the Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR) and Doncaster Council (Public Health) established a steering group in order to introduce Safe and Well Visits (SWV) enhancing the current Home Safety Check delivered by the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue.</p> <p>This approach is in line with a national move agreed in October 2015 between the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA), NHS England (NHSE), the Local Government Association (LGA), Public Health England (PHE) and Age UK which resulted in a joint consensus statement setting out the intention to work more closely together.</p>

Specifically, the statement focused on ways in which FRS in England could target people aged 65+ through a programme of SWV to identify people at increased risk of fire, falls, frailty, cold homes and hospitalisation with the mutually beneficial aims of reducing fire risk, improving quality of life and reducing winter pressures on the health service.

A multi-agency steering group was established and following staff engagement, training and support from partners a pilot project was carried out by SYFR between September 2016 and March 2017 to introduce and test out a new SWV for people aged 65 and over living in the Doncaster area.

SYFR carries out around 8,000 Home Safety Checks (HSCs) in Doncaster annually, which involve visiting people in their homes, giving fire safety advice and fitting fire alarms. The SWV builds on the existing HSC by tackling a wider range of issues relating to fire risk including crime prevention and falls risk; with the overall aim of *“SYFR to deliver high quality, effectively targeted Safe and Well visits in Doncaster to reduce fire risks, support independent living, help prevent avoidable hospital admissions and excess winter deaths and contribute to improving quality of life for people over 65 living in the DMBC area.”*

The specific objectives of the SWV pilot includes:

1. At risk over 65s are accurately identified and targeted for SYFR Safe and Well visits
2. Fire risks are identified and individual fire risk is reduced effectively
3. Over 65s receive the information they require to enable independent living for as long as possible
4. Over 65s identified as at risk of falls receive appropriate support
5. Over 65s identified as at risk from a cold home receive appropriate support
6. Over 65s identified as at risk of crime receive appropriate support
7. Over 65s identified as requiring a benefits check receive appropriate support
8. The quality of life of over 65s is maintained or improved
9. Avoidable Hospital Admissions are Prevented
10. Excess Winter Deaths are reduced

SYFR and partners have invested both time and resources into developing SWV. To date, 101 staff have been trained to deliver SWV in Doncaster, all of whom have achieved an accredited qualification. The training provided a solid foundation but is viewed as a starting point from which to build.

During the pilot there were 835 visits to older people in Doncaster. However, not all of these visits included Safe and Well elements and only 27% (223) of those visits resulted in a completed SWV. Performance varied across the borough with Edlington Station performing particularly well. The falls element of the Safe and Well visit appears to be working well with 117 referrals made. However, although 25 referrals were made to South Yorkshire Police, these do not appear to have resulted in further support for residents, this is being addressed and options being considered to increase the offer for the delivery of crime prevention activities. There were also low numbers of referrals for cold homes and smoking which raises questions about how well those elements of the current HSC are working particularly through partnership referrals.

The SWV pilot was subject to an independent evaluation with recommendations being considered in order to improve the future delivery of SWV within Doncaster and support the broader role out of SWV across South Yorkshire.

The introduction of Safe and Well Visits supports the broader aims of Make Every Contact Count with information and services being provided to the most vulnerable in order to support safe independent living and reducing the future needs of public services.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to note the contents of the report and make suggestions for further roll out and development of the SWV.