

To the Chair and Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board

JOINT WORKING WITH SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Pat Knight	All	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (SYFRS) conduct between 20,000-25,000 Home Safety Checks annually with approximately 5000 undertaken within Doncaster MBC geographic area. A Home Safety Check traditionally focuses on providing home owners with fire safety in the home, advice and the installation of smoke alarms and, in addition signposting to other services through the Hotspot scheme.

This paper describes the opportunity to broaden the content of the Home Safety Check to include Health and Wellbeing messages and the introduction of preventative activities.

Nationally, work is ongoing between Public Health England, NHS England, Local Government Association, Age UK and the Chief Fire Officers Association, resulting in the production and agreement of a consensus statement on Improving Health and Wellbeing. The consensus statement supports the NHS Five Year Forward View which places greater emphasis on intelligence led early intervention and prevention to support independent living, reduce preventable hospital admissions and winter pressures/excess winter deaths. The introduction of Safe and Well Visits is a key part of this programme.

Within Doncaster a steering group consisting of representatives from Public Health, CCG commissioning, St Ledger Homes, Age UK and SYFRS is working towards the introduction of Fire and Rescue Service led Safe and Well Visits across the Borough.

Taking into account the local priorities identified through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Safe and Well Visit will focus on ageing safely, falls prevention, fire safety in the home and crime prevention, with established signposting pathways in place to enable additional support through the most appropriate partners.

Training of SYFRS staff will be through accredited courses provided by the Royal Society of Public Health with Safe and Well Visits being delivered from 1st April 2016.

EXEMPT REPORT

2. N/A

RECOMMENDATION

3. The Board acknowledge and support the introduction of Safe and Well Visits within Doncaster.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. Historically, the Fire and Rescue Service was a response led service with the majority of its resources and investment used to deal with emergency situations. In the mid 1990's progressive Fire and Rescue Services began to remodel their service delivery by focusing on and investing in prevention activities in an attempt to reduce the number of emergencies and fire related casualties and deaths. The introduction of Home Safety Checks, which aimed to educate home owners in fire related safety and raise the ownership of smoke alarms, is one initiative adopted across the UK Fire and Rescue Service.

Since the introduction of Home Safety Checks smoke alarm ownership has increased from 9% to the current level of above 90% nationally, furthermore accidental fires within the home across South Yorkshire have reduced from 1008 in 2001/2 to 649 in 2014/5.

Within South Yorkshire a clear correlation exists between the delivery of Home Safety Checks and a reduction in accidental fires within the home, see Appendix 1.

SYFRS conduct between 20,000-25,000 Home Safety Checks annually with approximately 5000 undertaken within Doncaster MBC area.

SYFRS deliver a range of preventative programmes in order to reduce the number of accidental fires within the home and in support of the wider Health and Wellbeing agenda. Examples include cadet scheme in partnership with the NHS Routes for you programme, cooking courses to support healthy eating, initiatives around the dangers of smoking and drinking alcohol, a winter warmth programme and work with the Alzheimer's society at Woodlands Cafe.

SYFRS understand the value and benefits early prevention activities provide, especially when prevention activities are focused towards the most vulnerable within society. The use of sophisticated intelligence led software enables our limited resources to be targeted at those identified as most at risk from fire. In addition recently obtained Exeter health data and local housing data sets are enhancing SYFRS's own data sets.

SYFRS currently target the following groups for Home Safety Checks:

- Over 65 years of age
- Live alone
- Have a physical or learning disability
- Have a cognitive impairment, including dementia or memory loss
- Have a mental health issue
- Have a substance or alcohol dependency
- Have adult social care needs
- Are a Smoker
- Are unable to protect themselves from harm for any reason.

There is a strong correlation between SYFRS target groups and individuals who are high users of Health and Social Care services.

As a result there are significant opportunities for SYFRS and Health and Social Care partners who access vulnerable people within the home, to share information and ensure early preventative opportunities are maximised.

SYFRS have introduced a Safe and Well partnership referral pathway which allows partners to refer people for a Home Safety Check. However, we recognise that currently too few partners refer vulnerable people to SYFRS and this is being reviewed and discussed across Doncaster.

The opportunity exists to broaden the scope and content of the Home Safety Check to support the broader Health and Wellbeing agenda, this approach has been supported through a national conversation between Public Health England, NHS England and the Chief Fire Officers Association, leading to the production and agreement of a consensus statement on Improving Health and Wellbeing. The consensus statement supports the NHS Five Year Forward View which places greater emphasis on intelligence led early intervention and prevention to support independent living and reduce preventable hospital admissions, winter pressures and excess winter deaths. See Appendix 2.

Currently, Home Safety Checks undertaken across South Yorkshire support the Hotspot Scheme and include eye sight referrals through a partnership with the Royal National Institute for the Blind (Optimeyes). In support of the consensus statement SYFRS are seeking to introduce a Safe and Well Visits which provides a broader intervention than just fire related advice. To support this aspiration SYFRS are pleased to be working with Health Education Yorkshire and Humber through the secondment of a Public Health registrar who is providing support and guidance to the service. In addition, SYFRS are holding a seminar with key stakeholders across Health and Social Care on the 16th Feb 2016 to highlight the contribution SYFRS can make to the broader health agenda.

Within Doncaster a steering group consisting of representatives from Public Health, Doncaster CCG, St Ledger Homes, Age UK and SYFRS is working towards the introduction of the first SYFRS led Safe and Well Visits in South Yorkshire.

Taking into account the local priorities identified through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Safe and Well Visits will focus on ageing safely, falls prevention, fire safety in the home and crime prevention, with established signposting pathways in place to enable additional

support through the most appropriate partners. Appendix 3 provides a national view of the contents of Safe and Well Visits.

To support the delivery of Safe and Well Visits, SYFRS staff will receive accredited training through the Royal Society of Public Health during Feb and March 2016. Safe and Well Visits will be delivered across Doncaster from the 1st April 2016. The steering group is currently planning the communication plan and evaluation model in support.

The introduction of Safe and Well Checks in Doncaster will enable closer working between key agencies who share responsibility for supporting vulnerable older people across the Borough. The new arrangements will be mutually beneficial by supporting SYFRS to achieve its core aim of preventing fire deaths, whilst increasing early identification and intervention in relation to falls, healthy ageing and crime prevention.

As Safe and Well checks are introduced, learning from the programme will be collated and shared to enable the programme to evolve to continue to meet the needs of older people in Doncaster.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5. N/A

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

6. N/A

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

7.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	<p>The enhanced safe and well check will help address this</p>
	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from</p>	

	<p>a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	<p>Council services are modern and value for money.</p>	
	<p>Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.</p>	<p>The enhanced safe and well check will help address this</p>

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

8. N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. N/A

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

11. N/A

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

12. N/A

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

13. N/A

CONSULTATION

14. N/A

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

Area Manager Steve Helps South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
Dr Rupert Suckling Director of Public Health