

Dalriada Pathfinder Partnership	21 June 2016
Corporate Policy and Resources Committee	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Leader and Champion
Outcome	Establish key relationships with strategic partners to deliver our vision for this Council area
Lead Officer	Elizabeth Beattie
Cost: (If applicable)	

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 There are 350,000 older people living in Northern Ireland today (20% of the population), with the over 65's population projected to increase by over 15% by 2021 and life expectancy increasing in those aged 85 years+. Alongside this is the increased number of older people who have one or more long term chronic conditions.
- 1.2 A range of statutory and community/voluntary partners are currently working together to bring forward a new way of working to support older people living with chronic conditions in the former Moyle Council area and are developing a pilot project known as the "Dalriada Pathfinder".
- 1.3 The aim of the Dalriada Pathfinder project is to transform the care and well-being of elderly people currently living in the local community who have a number of identified chronic conditions.

2.0 The "Living Well" Model

- 2.1 The project is based on a "Living Well" approach originally developed in Cornwall Health Trust. This approach involved allocating a voluntary sector co-ordinator to a multi-disciplinary health team working within a GP practice and identifying a cohort of older patients with a number of long term chronic conditions who it was thought could benefit from the Living Well approach.
- 2.2 The Living Well Co-Ordinator carried out a "guided conversation" with the patients who met the criteria set down for the programme. This guided conversation was designed to be proactive to allow the patients to identify their own goals. With the help of the Co-Ordinator they would then come up

with an action plan to meet their goals. This action plan was delivered on their behalf by statutory and community/voluntary sector services.

- 2.3 The aim was to make this a person-centred action plan and the plans often focused on connecting the individual to a range of statutory and community services to improve health, well-being, social participation and combat loneliness.
- 2.4 A multi-disciplinary team within a GP practice provided service specific primary care support, eg community nursing support, social work support, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, etc., for the people on the programme.
- 2.5 Volunteers were also recruited to provide support on a one to one basis or a group basis to help people on the programme become more physically and socially active within their community, for example visiting them at home, taking them shopping, taking them to clubs and societies, to social events, etc.

3.0 The Dalriada Pathfinder Partnership

- 3.1 Taking the “Living Well” model as the basis for a pilot project, the Dalriada Pathfinder Partnership was established to initiate, manage and report on this project in the Moyle area.
- 3.2 The outcomes the Partnership want to achieve include improved health, well-being and quality of life for older people with a number of chronic conditions; facilitate cross sector and community integrated working; and deliver effectiveness in the local health economy.
- 3.3 If the pilot proves successful, then the model will be rolled out across the Northern Health and Social Care Trust area.
- 3.4 At present a project management structure is being developed with a Steering Group established so far. This Steering Group will have overall responsibility for implementation of the project, providing strategic direction and co-ordination.
- 3.5 The Steering Group includes representation from:
 - Northern Health and Social Care Trust
 - Department of Health
 - Health and Social Care Board
 - Public Health Agency
 - Local GP’s
 - Age NI
 - ‘Save the Dal’ Group Representatives
 - Community Sector Representative
 - Integrated Care Partnership Representative
 - Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

- 3.6 GP surgeries in Ballycastle, Bushmills, Cushendall and Cushendun will be the locations for the multi-disciplinary teams involved in the project.
- 3.7 Age NI are funding the Living Well Co-Ordinator post for the project and the funding for the post was to come from JTI Gallagher. Discussions regarding the position of some of the participating organisations with regard to the source of this funding is on-going at present.
- 3.8 Volunteers will be an essential element in the success of the Living Well project and Age NI will be undertaking the task of recruiting, training and sustaining a minimum of 30 local volunteers to work with the older people selected to participate in the pilot project.
- 3.9 Community mapping will also play an important part in the development of the project in order to identify and link local community assets to the aims of the project. A workshop for local community/voluntary organisations was held in Ballycastle on 27th April 2016 to start this process.
- 3.10 Eleven members of the Steering Group recently participated in a fact finding visit to Cornwall to learn more about the Living Well project and how it was working there.