

**AGEING WELL IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE –
OLDER PEOPLES' HOUSING, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STRATEGY
(Report by the Head of Housing Services)**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the draft Older Peoples' Health, Housing and Social Care Strategy titled 'Ageing Well in Huntingdonshire'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Huntingdonshire has an ageing population. There are currently 20,313 people or 12.9% of the district population aged 65 or over representing the highest population of older people in Cambridgeshire. Huntingdonshire also has the largest number of residents aged over 75, and the 2nd largest population aged over 85 (Source, ONS Census, 2001).

- 2.2 The pensioner population in Huntingdonshire is projected to rise from 20,313 in 2001 to 30,610 in 2016, an increase of just under 50%. (Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group, 2002)

- 2.3 This demographic profile has long-term planning and resource implications for the Council in its role as the strategic and enabling housing authority and the Primary Care Trust (PCT) in their provision of health and social care services.

- 2.4 A joint strategy has been prepared that examines the issues and sets out the actions that the Council, the PCT and its partners need to take to provide adequate services to older people.

- 2.5 The draft Strategy has been the subject of extensive consultation with partners. It was also considered by Councillors and the PCT's Board at a seminar held on 17 May 2005.

3. IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There is an action plan at the end of the Strategy. Some of the actions are straight forward, others will have their own SMART action plan.

- 3.2 Most of the actions can be funded by existing resources. Any actions which require a new funding commitment will be subject to separate bids. External resources will be sought in most cases, for example, through the Department of Health and the Housing Corporation bid rounds. Approval of the action plan does not commit the Council to identifying new resources for implementation.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The ageing population coupled with increased longevity provide the Council, the PCT and partners with future challenges. The Strategy sets out the key issues that need to be addressed.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
- a) approve the Strategy and action plan

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Opportunity Age, Meeting the Challenges of Ageing in the 21st Century, HM Government, March 2005
- National Service Framework for Older People, Dept of Health
- Quality and Choice in Older People's Housing: A Strategic Framework, ODPM
- Section 31 agreement transferring responsibilities for older people's services from Cambridgeshire County Council to Huntingdonshire PCT
- Best Value Review of Sheltered Housing in Cambridgeshire, 2004
- Supporting People Review of Home Improvement Agencies in Cambridgeshire, 2004

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