RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. | Q

meeting date:

24 MARCH 2014

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MEALS ON WHEELS/LUNCHEON CLUBS

submitted by:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

principal author: DAVID INGHAM, PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report provides committee with an update on the provision of Meals on Wheels Service and other Luncheon Clubs in Ribble Valley
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - Community Objectives The provision of services supports older and more vulnerable people in the community and provides a point of contact for those residents with other partner agencies
 - Corporate Priorities The service helps make peoples' lives safer and healthier
 - Other Considerations None

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 There has been an ongoing review of the provision of a Meals on Wheels Service and Luncheon Clubs in Ribble Valley
- 2.2 Substantial progress has been made in identifying the extent of the current provision.
- 3 INFORMATION
- 3.1 Improving accessibility to services for residents living in rural locations is an issue, which needs to be addressed urgently, to avoid impacting on the cost of delivery of health and adult social services in those areas. People are living longer. If frail, older people are to continue to lead independent lives in their own homes they need to be able to access services and activities locally. This helps avoid isolation from the stimulus of social contact leading to repercussions for mental health.
- 3.2 Volunteers could address some of the issues that have been raised and the sorts of skills that the community possess were encouraging. For example, 30% have experience of working with vulnerable people and 45% have good administration and people skills, making them adequately equipped for helping to run and staff a local community voluntary enterprise.
- 3.3 2,500 meals were provided on the meals on Wheels Service from April 2013 to 31 December 2013. 102 RVS volunteers supported the project covering Clitheroe, Mellor,

Whalley, Chipping, and Hurst Green but there are currently only 13 recipients

- Luncheon clubs are supported at Chatburn (Methodist Church), Longridge Hospital (Ribchester), Mellor (Methodist Church), Whalley (Methodist Church Hall), Pendle Club, Clitheroe (Appendix 1)
- 3.5 LCC & RVBC would like RVS to continue to provide the current meals on wheels service with the existing service users until the end of June 2014 (as a maximum period) to enable current users of the service to continue to receive a service and for RVS to work with the existing users of the current service to access and find suitable alternative community based service provision, which meets their needs
- 3.6 LCC propose to identify the needs of the existing service users of the meals on wheels Service and find alternative service provision.
- 3.7 Any changes from current service provision will be brought back to members for their consideration.
- 3.8 LCC & RVBS will jointly produce a communications plan which will include a set of key messages for:
 - Existing service users and their families;
 - RVS staff and volunteers:
 - Elected members:
 - LCC Social Workers / Care Connect staff.
- 3.9 RVBC intend to
 - Maintain the current meals on wheels service until at least June 2014.
 - Support new and existing drop-ins and luncheon clubs
 - Enable local good neighbour schemes and activities in community centres.
- 4 CONCLUSION

4.1 That Committee note the contents of this report.

DAVID INGHAM

PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS (1)

For further information please ask for David Ingham, extension 4549

REF: Author/typist/committee/date

Appendix 1 Luncheon Clubs

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