

SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4TH JULY, 2018

SUBJECT MEALS ON WHEELS PROVISION

Purpose:

To inform and update members of progress made in connection with the meals on wheels service as requested by members at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19 April 2018.

To consider and comment on the following issues:

Considerable progress has been made in undertaking the reviews of 214 individuals in receipt of the meals on wheels service with alternatives agreed to meet people's needs.

There is regular monitoring of the transition plan in consultation with RVS. A briefing note has been prepared for local councillors as the review process commences in their locality.

Reasons:

For the committee's Information as requested.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. J. Tremlett (Social Care & Health Portfolio Holder)

Directorate

Name of Head of Service/Report
Author:

Neil Edwards

Designation:

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Services

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4TH JULY, 2018

SUBJECT

MEALS ON WHEELS PROVISION

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

The purpose of the report is to update Members on the plan developed by the department in connection with the changes to the Meals on Wheels service so as to reassure Members that the needs of each and every service user throughout the county is being considered and that the joint transition plan runs smoothly.

As previously noted, the Council was advised by the RVS that it intended to withdraw from the provision of a Meals on Wheels service in Carmarthenshire. The service was to end no later than October 2018.

In view of the fact that the department needed to review 214 individuals and the service was to finish by October 2018, the department allocated two officers to review the service users so that the review process could begin promptly. Service users would, therefore, be moved onto alternative services as soon as was considered appropriate. This was a pragmatic decision based on the total number of individuals requiring review and for some this has meant they are already accessing alternatives.

The purpose of the review is to assess the needs of each individual and offer various choices to the person. It is also an opportunity in line with the new approach adopted by RVS to promote greater independence and social interaction for the individuals while developing, where possible, community based initiatives to support the individuals and their local communities.

The review process began in May in the Teifi Towy Taf locality ("3Ts" locality) and has meant we have offered alternative arrangements as we have reviewed the individual.

In total, 72 individuals have been reviewed as follows:

- **Teifi- 18 individuals**
- **Taf- 7 individuals**
- **Towy- 33 Individuals**
- **Carmarthen Town- 14 individuals**

Based on the review outcomes, most individuals that were in receipt of a meals on wheels service have either said they would manage themselves or have accessed local business to assist with delivering a hot meal. Very few have required further RVS support.

The intention is to commence reviews in the Llanelli and, thereafter, the Aman Gwendraeth area. Prior to doing so, a briefing has been prepared for the relevant local Councillors, advising the Councillors that we would be pleased to hear from them should they know of any community group or have any ideas as to how best to support the individual.

As part of the project plan, meetings are taking place regularly with RVS and there is a weekly telephone discussion between the Authority and the Regional Manager to advise of all review outcomes. RVS state that their support will be tailored to offer a range of practical support, companionship, volunteering opportunities and activities. RVS state:

“we want to give older people- whatever their level of ability the tool to help them shape and have more control over their later life experiences. To achieve this we will use an evidenced based approach programme aimed at nutrition, gentle exercise and cognitively stimulating activity in social environments”

Some examples of the possible choices continue to include:

- Frozen meals delivered by Wiltshire Farm foods and an RVS volunteer (a befriender) popping in to help heat the meal at a suitable time and having the additional time to socialise. Wiltshire Farm Foods operates across the whole county.
- RVS Volunteer/Befriender picks the individual up and takes them to a local pub (pub clubs) / café for a meal.
- RVS Volunteer/Befriender picks the individual up to attend a lunch club.
- RVS to establish new activity and lunch clubs.
- Local business delivering meals.

As the Reviewing officers proceed to Llanelli and Aman Gwendraeth, we would equally wish to emphasise, while discussing these options above, that each and every individual receiving a meals on wheels will be reviewed and that a discussion will take place as to how best meet their needs.

Please be assured that we will continue to review and monitor the individual outcomes and avail ourselves of every opportunity to develop the options for social dining, working with community groups and/or supporting other ideas that are presented for consideration.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?	NO
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: N Edwards

Interim Head of Integrated Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: N Edwards

Interim Head of Integrated Services

1. Local Member(s) - A briefing note has been prepared for local councillors as the review process commences in their locality.

2.Community / Town Council – N/A

3.Relevant Partners - N/A

4.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THERE ARE NONE

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
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