

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY - PROPOSAL FORM

Name of Councillor:	Maddy Bunker
Topic:	Mental and physical wellbeing of the older population of Bromsgrove District.
Specific subject areas to be investigated:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health and wellbeing ▪ Community Facilities and Activities ▪ Housing and Cost of Living
Reasons why this subject should be considered:	<p>The greatest increase in population in Bromsgrove is projected to be in the older age groups of 60-69 (42% between 2004 – 2029) , 70 – 79 (50%) and 80 + (123%) (Mott McDonald Bromsgrove Evidence Report 2007).</p> <p>One in six of today's elderly said that they felt "often or always lonely". The researchers calculated that by 2021 the number of people over 65 who had no weekly contact with friends, family or neighbours would rise by 33 per cent to as many as 2.2 million (National study; Home Alone)</p> <p>10 % - 15% of people over 65 suffer from depression. 2% of older people live in nursing or residential homes in 2004 (Commissioning Strategy for Older People in Worcestershire)</p> <p>Older people have stated that they want support to live independently preferably within their own homes or home like alternatives. They would like advice and information on housing options and services. (Coming of Age, Audit Commission)</p> <p>Older people are a specific priority of the Community Strategy and they will be affected by the outcomes of the other priorities such as: Communities that are safe and the Town Centre Regeneration.</p>
Evidence to support the need for this particular investigation:	As Above
Council priorities it links to:	Not a council priority at the moment but I would expect that part of the role of the task group would be to assess whether the council priorities need to be adjusted to take into account the change in demographics. This might be done by an assessment of each existing priority to see that they could be delivered to meet the needs of older people.
Possible key outcomes: (i.e. what do you anticipate could be achieved?)	To develop a strategic plan for older people in Bromsgrove District to ensure that the services provided by the Council and its partners are responsive to the emerging challenges of the changing demographics.

Please indicate if any of the following apply to the proposed subject area:

Poorly performing service	
An area of concern identified by internal or external audit process	
Identified as a key issue in the Sustainable Community Strategy	✓
Contributes to the aims of the Council Plan	
Key interest to the public (e.g. low levels of satisfaction with the service/featured in local media)	✓
It affects more than three wards within the District	✓
It affects Bromsgrove District and one or more areas outside the District	✓
High level of budgetary commitment	Potential
Pattern of overspending or underspending	
Contributes to priority area of central government	✓
Proposed new policy for the Council	Potential

Please return completed forms to: Della McCarthy, Scrutiny Officer,
Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, Bromsgrove District Council
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