

Report to Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board

11 March 2024

Subject:	Scrutiny Review of Loneliness and Isolation
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1 Recommendations







- 1.1 That the Board consider the Scrutiny Review of Loneliness and Isolation report.
- 1.2 That the Board determine any recommendations it wishes to make in relation to the Scrutiny Review of Loneliness and Isolation.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Working Group has now concluded its consideration of the evidence gathered throughout the review. The Board is therefore requested to consider the report on the review and determine any recommendations it wishes to make.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	Best start in life for children and young people	<p>Loneliness and isolation can affect people of all ages and can have a detrimental effect on health and overall quality of life.</p> <p>Supporting people to have meaningful social relationships is not just crucial to people's physical and mental health. It also affects their engagement in the workplace and wider community cohesion.</p> <p>Successfully tackling loneliness and isolation in an evidence led way, will therefore support the delivery of all of the Council's Corporate Plan objectives.</p>
	People live well and age well	
	Strong resilient communities	
	Quality homes in thriving neighbourhoods	
	A strong and inclusive economy	
	A connected and accessible Sandwell	

4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Tackling loneliness and isolation is already a government priority, and the government published its strategy - *A Connected Society: A Strategy for tackling loneliness-laying the foundations for change* - in 2018. However, the problem has been exacerbated since 2020, as a result of the measures put in place to limit the spread of covid-19.
- 4.2 Research so far by the Working Group has shown that many organisations across the public, private and voluntary and community sector are undertaking initiatives that try to tackle loneliness and isolation.
- 4.3 The findings of the review are set out in the attached Scrutiny Review of Loneliness and Isolation in Sandwell report.



5 Implications

Resources:	Individual recommendations that arise from the Review may have implications, but these will be discussed and reported to Cabinet in due course.
Legal and Governance:	
Risk:	
Equality:	
Health and Wellbeing:	
Social Value:	
Climate Change:	
Corporate Parenting:	

6 Appendices

Appendix One – Scrutiny Review of Loneliness and Isolation in Sandwell
Appendix Two – Summary of Evidence Gathered

7. Background Papers

Appendix lists hyperlinks to evidence gathered to date.

