

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Introduced by the Executive Member for Health, Leisure and Well-Being, Cllr Mark Perks)	Executive Cabinet	09/11/06

## LANCASHIRE PARTNERSHIP – STRATEGY FOR AN AGEING POPULATION

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To agree a Chorley Council response to the Lancashire Partnership – Strategy For An Ageing Population consultation exercise.

### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- The strategy cuts across a number of the Council's strategic objectives. The most direct impact is on the strategic objective to improve equality of opportunities and life chances for all. One of the long-term outcomes for this strategic objective is to improve the quality of life for the Borough's older people.

### RISK ISSUES

- The issue raised and recommendations made in this report involve risk considerations in the following categories:

Strategy	✓	Information	
Reputation		Regulatory/Legal	
Financial		Operational	
People		Other	

- At this consultation stage, the key risk is around alignment between the Lancashire Partnership's strategic thinking and Chorley Council's strategic thinking responding to the Consultation is an attempt to mitigate any risk.

### BACKGROUND

- The development of this strategy was commissioned by the Lancashire Partnership. It was an action identified in the County's Community Plan – Ambition Lancashire.
- The need for the strategy is explained in the document as being:
  - The population of Lancashire is aging.
  - Older people themselves are changing.
  - Government policy is changing.

7. The development of the strategy has involved over 300 older people and staff from organisations across the county. In addition working groups of older people and officers have been directly involved in developing the thinking and proposals for action that underpin the strategy.
8. The Strategy and actions that flow from it will be important to the Council. It will influence the work of the LSP and the Local Area Agreement. The outcomes arising from this area of work will be key in CPA assessment.

## **STRATEGY FOR AN AGING POPULATION**

9. Attached to this report is an executive summary of the strategy.
10. The full report is 208 pages long. Any members who are interested in seeing the full report can access it on the web:

[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/consultation/aging\\_population/index.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/consultation/aging_population/index.asp)

11. In brief there are 5 outcomes within the strategy and each of the 5 outcomes has a number of related aims. They are:

### Outcome 1 – financially and materially secure

- Aims:
- Older people to have an adequate income
  - Older people have the opportunity to work

### Outcome 2 – accessing mainstream services

- Aims:
- Older people have access to information, advice, brokerage
  - Older people have access to services

### Outcome 3 – making a contribution

- Aims:
- Older people are engaged in decision making
  - Older people are contributing to community life
  - Older people are building links with younger people
  - Older people are free from discrimination

### Outcome 4 – health and well

- Aims:
- Older people will be physically, mentally and emotionally healthy
  - Older people will have good social networks
  - Older people will have access to community based activities

### Outcome 5 – safe and supported

- Aims:
- Older people and their carers will receive appropriate support
  - Older people will feel safe in their homes and communities
  - Older people will have decent, appropriate accommodation

## **SUGGESTED RESPONSE**

12. The following points are a suggested response at this stage. Members may wish to comment on the suggestions and refine, delete or add to them, as they see appropriate.
13. Chorley Council welcomes the production of the strategy and recognises the need to enhance the delivery of services for older people in order to ensure that older people have an improved quality of life.
14. The Council feel that the document is very aspirational but that it has to be more pragmatic in its approach. However, the Council recognises that this pragmatic approach may be introduced as the strategic outcomes and aims are translated into local delivery. If this is the case, it would be welcomed.
15. Within Chorley Council's Corporate Strategy we have an outcome to improve the quality of life for the borough's older people. One of the key projects in our Corporate Strategy is the production of a Chorley Older People's action plan. The strategy document highlights the importance of policies for older people being an intrinsic part of a range of organisations strategic thinking. It is crucial that effective partnership working is in place to ensure that our respective strategic priorities are aligned and also resulting in improved partnership working at an operational level.
16. The Council would wish to see a step change in joint working arrangements. From a situation, at best, where agencies are aware of each others priorities and work together on an ad hoc basis: to a situation where we jointly prioritise at an operational level and deliver more seamless services that are jointly designed and commissioned.
17. The strategy, quite rightly, highlights the importance of older people having a range of opportunities to remain active. There is a financial argument that by ensuring people remain active citizens they will require less funding for treatment of ill health. The strategy does not go into any great detail about how resources can be re-allocated from treatment through to prevention and development work. As a District Council that's main focus is around the prevention and development work, we would wish to see a review of how resources are allocated, ultimately would want to see resources being redirected towards the prevention and development work we help support.
18. Chorley Local Strategic Partnership have considered the strategy and are in broad agreement with the comments made by Chorley Council. However, they did raise one specific issue, that the Council would support, around further highlighting of the important role that the voluntary, community and faith sector plays in older people's lives.

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

19. A copy of this report will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 7 November 2006. An update on their discussions will be given at the meeting.

## **COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

20. There are no specific Human Resource implications arising from the consultation. However, in preparing Chorley Council's Older People's action plan the Council will need to be mindful of recent changes in legislation and the objectives of this strategy.

## **COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

21. At this stage there are no direct financial implications for the Council.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

22. The Executive Cabinet are asked to approve the suggested response in this report and to make any amendments or further comments that they feel are appropriate.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

23. So that the views of Chorley Council are considered as part of the final Lancashire Partnership their Strategy For An Ageing Population document.

## **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

24. Not to respond. This was not considered an appropriate option.

JAMIE CARSON  
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND CULTURAL SERVICES

There are no background papers to this report.

<b>Report Author</b>	<b>Ext</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Doc ID</b>
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