

Subject:	Task and Finish Group Report – Excess Winter Deaths	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Overview & Scrutiny	Date:	18 th June 2018
Report of:	Chair of the Task and Finish Group – Cllr Lythgoe	Portfolio Holder:	Regulatory Services/ Health, Housing, Communities and Customer Service
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Equality Impact Assessment:	Required:	No	Attached: No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required:	No	Attached: No
Contact Officer:	Jenni Cook	Telephone:	01706 252424
Email:	jennifercook@rossendalebc.gov.uk		

1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)
1.1	That Members note the work carried out by the Excess Winter Deaths Task and Finish Group and the recommendations in the report attached at Appendix 1.
1.2	That the report is put before Cabinet members for their comments.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To inform Members of the work carried out by the Excess Winter Deaths Task and Finish Group.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:
- **A proud, healthy and vibrant Rossendale:** our priority is to ensure that we are creating and maintaining a healthy and vibrant place for people to live and visit.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 Following statistics released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) which cited Rossendale as having the highest number of excess winter deaths in the country (70) for 2015/16, a Task and Finish Group was established. The Group investigated the figures cited and the reasons behind the apparent number of excess winter deaths.
- 5.2 A scoping meeting was held and the subject matter was considered to be suitable to trial the 'Scrutiny in a Day' approach. This involved one planning meeting and then the 'Scrutiny Day' which brought all relevant organisations together at the same time. The event strengthened links with Lancashire County Council, Rossendale Strategic Health Partnership, East Lancs CCG and local organisations and GPs.
- 5.3 The recommendations and draft report were sent to all members of the Task and Finish Group for their approval.
- 5.4 The outcome of the Scrutiny Day and the recommendations will be monitored and the Strategic Health Partnership will be invited back to a future meeting to update on progress.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

Version Number:	1	Page:	1 of 2
-----------------	---	-------	--------

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

6.1 The Cosy Homes Scheme receives £30k per annum from Lancashire County Council's Affordable Warmth Grant, to support individual grants up to a maximum of £3k.

At paragraph 3.6 the attached report mentions the potential application of Disabled Facilities Grants to support the Cosy Homes Scheme. This would be possible if an Occupational Therapist recommends that such work is required to allow a person with a disability to remain or return to their own home. The balance of DFG grant carried forward into 2018/19 was £705k with a further £947k allocation for 2018/19.

7. MONITORING OFFICER

7.1 Any legal implications are covered in the body of the report.

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

8.1 There are no policy implications.

8.2 The report sent to members of the Task and Finish Group for approval and was put before Senior Management Team on 30th April 2018 for information.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 The Excess Winter Deaths Task and Finish Group is now concluded and the report, along with its recommendations, will now be put to Cabinet for their response.

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
Excess Winter Deaths Task and Finish Group Report	Appendix 1