

Agenda Item No:

**Corporate, Adult Services &
Social Inclusion Select
Committee**

3 June 2008

**OLDER PEOPLE'S ACTION PLAN – SAFER STOCKTON PARTNERSHIP
CONTRIBUTIONS**

1. The purpose of this briefing note is to assist the scrutiny review of the Older People's Action Plan, with specific response to the three actions for the Safer Stockton Partnership, listed on page 5 of the Plan.

2. Develop multi-agency strategies to safeguard older people from neglect and abuse.

Exploratory discussions are taking place with Paul Green, the Adult Protection Co-ordinator, and colleagues from CESC about how best to protect people with learning disabilities, and maybe also those with mental health problems, from abuse in the community, in the context of a number of documented homicides over the last few years across the country. The initial emphasis is likely to be on making sure that practitioners in learning disability and mental health services and in community safety are aware of the issue and of one another's roles, and how to access services. Paul Green is organising an event on 13 June to fulfil these purposes.

The multi-agency Offensive Incident Procedure is currently under review, with a view to making it more user friendly. One of the new features will be a standard to respond to incidents reported by vulnerable people, including those who are vulnerable on the grounds of old age, within one working day.

3. Prevent people being the victims of commercial crimes in their own home

- (a) Two pilot 'No Cold Calling Zones' were implemented in 2007/08, targeted on neighbourhoods with concentrations of older residents. A copy of the evaluation is attached as Appendix A.

- (b) A Doorstoppers/ Operation Strongbow volunteer programme has been developed to deliver "Beware the Bogey Man" training to vulnerable groups by mature volunteers. The scheme has been the subject of a successful lottery bid via Community Service Volunteers (a national charity) and their Retired and Senior Volunteers Programme (RSVP) and Stockton Home Safety Association and training of volunteers by Trading Standards and Licensing staff is to commence shortly. The programme will provide advice to individuals and groups on how to reduce the risk of being victimised, and will go live at the end of June.

- (c) Trading Standards, through the NETSA Scambusters Team, have designed and distributed a range of posters and a leaflet warning of the dangers of doorstep callers. (Please see Appendix B for examples.)

4. Fear of crime among older people Community Safety Plan 2008-2011

- (a) Targets in relation to item 3 above and to reducing fear of crime in terms of fear of walking alone outside, to be measured via MORI 2008, have been included in the new Community Safety Plan for the Borough.
- (b) Relevant extracts from the analysis of the Community Safety Audit 2007 are attached for information. These show that the net positive impact on feelings of safety for people aged 55 and over was greater than for the average of all respondents of all ages, and that people in this age group were also more likely to feel well informed, and to answer the questions, than respondents of all ages.

Responses to the Question 'After reading this magazine, do you feel Less Safe, More Safe or No Different?', analysed with reference to the views of older people.

	Less Safe	More Safe	No Different	Blank
55-59	2.9% 6	18% 32	60.5% 124	18.5% 38
60-64	3.5% 10	14.5% 42	59.2% 171	22.8% 66
65-75	2.0% 9	18.6% 82	56.7% 250	22.7% 100
<u>Over 75</u>	<u>6.0% 12</u>	<u>19.0% 38</u>	<u>46.0% 92</u>	<u>29% 58</u>
All 55 and over	3.3% 37	17.2% 194	56.4% 637	23.2% 262
All ages	2.9% 116	12.4% 499	56.6% 2,276	28.1% 1,130

Responses to the Question 'Do you feel well informed on what the Council is doing to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour?', analysed with reference to the views of older people.

	Yes	No	Blank
55-59	54.6% 112	33.7% 69	11.7% 24
60-64	52.6% 152	26.3% 76	21.1% 61
65-75	55.8% 246	26.3% 118	17.5% 77
<u>Over 75</u>	<u>57% 114</u>	<u>17% 34</u>	<u>26% 52</u>
All 55			

and over	55% 624	26.2% 297	18.9% 214
All ages	44.6% 1,744	29.2% 1,175	26.2% 1,052