
FALLS COLLABORATIVE

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of an opportunity to participate in a multi-agency project dealing with falls amongst older people, which recently received support at the Rochford Health Partnership Board.

2 FALLS COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

- 2.1 A collaborative is a well established methodology in the health service for spreading and adapting existing knowledge and best practice to multiple sites to achieve a common aim. It consists of a series of learning workshops interspersed with action periods. The basis for the workshops is practical ideas that have resulted in improvements, together with teaching on the techniques for implementation.
- 2.2 Castle Point and Rochford Primary Care Trust (PCT) has been successful in bidding to the NHS Modernisation Agency, and has been awarded £15,000 towards the employment of a Project Manager and the cost of the training workshops for staff from participating agencies. Match funding is required and the PCT, which has committed £7,500, is now seeking contributions from partner agencies, including the Council. No specific sum has been requested, but a contribution would not only help meet the shortfall, but would also demonstrate commitment to the collaborative nature of the project.
- 2.3 The project will be run over two years subject to satisfactory progress, with a target of reducing falls amongst older people by 30%. Part of the work undertaken will involve establishing baseline data and data collection processes, to ensure outcomes can be reliably assessed.
- 2.4 This is a national project, with 20 sites involved, and expert guidance from specialists in the field.
- 2.5 Rochford has a higher relative proportion of older residents amongst its population than many other districts, and reducing falls in that group is an important issue. As the landlord of sheltered accommodation, the Council has a particular interest in securing a reduction in falls as part of its risk management approach.
- 2.6 When this project proposal was explained at the Rochford Health Partnership Board on 10 September, there was a high level of support for it.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Subject to Members indicating support for the project, a contribution of, say, £2,000 could be made from the Housing Revenue Account.

4 RECOMMENDATION

4.1 It is proposed, that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That the falls collaborative be supported as indicated in the report.
(HHHCC)

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Background Papers:

Information from the NHS Modernisation Agency

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