

Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 21st November 2023

Subject: Reference from the Employment Opportunities for People with Autism Task Group

Lead officer: Octavia Lamb, Interim Policy and Scrutiny Manager

Lead member: Councillor Caroline Charles, Chair of the Task Group

Contact officer: Octavia Lamb x4728

Recommendations:

1. That Cabinet considers the report and recommendations (attached in Appendix A) arising from the scrutiny review of Employment Opportunities for People with Autism.
 2. That Cabinet agrees to the implementation of the recommendations.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To present the scrutiny review report on Employment Opportunities for People with Autism for endorsement and seek approval to implement the review recommendations.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. This task group was established by the Council's Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel. Following suggestions received during the topic selection campaign, the Panel agreed to undertake a scrutiny review of Employment Opportunities for People with Autism to consider how the Council can best support people with autism transitioning from education to employment.
- 2.2. The recommendations of the review are set out in Appendix A.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1. The Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account the views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.
- 3.2. Cabinet is constitutionally required to receive, consider, and respond to scrutiny recommendations within two months of receiving them at a meeting.
- 3.3. Cabinet is not, however, required to agree and implement recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny. Cabinet could agree to implement some, or none, of the recommendations made in the scrutiny review final report

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1. In carrying out its review, the task group questioned senior council officers as well as hearing from local residents.

5 TIMETABLE

- 5.1. The timetable for delivery of the action plan is set out in appendix A.

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. None for the purpose of this report. None for the purposes of this covering report. It is envisaged that the recommendations in the attached report will not have any major resource implications. However, any specific resource implications will be identified and presented to Cabinet prior to agreeing an action plan for implementing the report's recommendations.

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. None for the purposes of this report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the legal and statutory implications of the topic being scrutinised.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. None for the purposes of this report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the crime and disorder implications of the topic being scrutinised.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. There are no risk management and health and safety implications as a result of this report.

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- 11.1. Appendix A – Recommendations

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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