

**Derbyshire County Council**

**Cabinet Member -Health and Communities**

**12 November 2013**

**Report of the Strategic Director, Cultural and Community Services**

**DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING ZONES IN LIBRARIES**

**1. Purpose of the report:**

To inform the Cabinet Member – Health and Communities – of plans to expand provision of Health and Wellbeing Zones in Libraries.

**2. Information and analysis:**

2.1 Health and Wellbeing Zones are clearly designated areas within libraries offering a range of information on health and wellbeing. Each Zone includes a range of resources, including books, leaflets and other health promotion materials. Comfortable seating is provided to enable library users to consult the material and engage proactively with health professionals who frequently utilise the Zones to promote awareness of their services. Health and Wellbeing Zones enhance the library service's well developed information role by providing information and guidance to customers on health and wellbeing related issues.

2.2 The first two Health and Wellbeing Zones were established in 2009 at Shirebrook and Eckington Libraries. Provision has since extended to a further 16 libraries. Many of the Zones are sited in libraries which serve communities with significant health inequalities. Zones have also been developed in some of the County's larger libraries. Libraries which currently have a Health and Wellbeing Zone are :

- Alfreton
- Ashbourne
- Bolsover
- Brimington
- Buxton
- Chesterfield
- Clowne
- Eckington
- Glossop
- Heanor
- Holmewood
- Ilkeston

- Long Eaton
- Ripley
- Shirebrook
- South Normanton
- Swadlincote
- Whaley Bridge

- 2.3 Health and Wellbeing Zones were developed with the financial support of partner organisations. The main partners were/are Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust (PCT) and the County Council's Adult Care Department. The development of Health and Wellbeing Zones in libraries and other locations forms part of the Adult Care Department's Prevention Strategy and in addition to the library based provision, Zones have been developed in three Care Centres, a GP surgery and a Community Care Hospital.
- 2.4 Provision at some Health and Wellbeing Zones has been extended through the provision of computerised information kiosks. These ipad terminals have touch screen technology and enable users to easily access key websites which support health and wellbeing. In addition, the kiosks provide links to information on jobs, housing and advice services. These terminals are currently sited in 14 of the existing 18 Zones. They are provided with the support of North East Derbyshire Citizens Advice Bureau.
- 2.5 Many health professionals have taken the opportunity to promote their services in Health and Wellbeing Zones. Agencies supporting oral health, sight support, dementia care, smoking cessation and alcohol reduction have all used Zones promote initiatives to local people. In addition, health professionals have used libraries for health checks, including BMI and blood pressure and weight monitoring.
- 2.6 At its meeting on 30 July 2013, Cabinet approved the report 'Revenue Outturn 2012/13 (Council Services).' The report included budgetary provision to extend ipad information kiosk provision to further sites and increase the number of Health and Wellbeing Zones in libraries.
- 2.7 It is proposed to extend information kiosk to cover those libraries which already have a Health and Wellbeing Zone but no kiosk. This will enhance provision at the following libraries :
- Brimington
  - Eckington
  - Swadlincote
  - Whaley Bridge

2.8 It is also proposed to establish new Health and Wellbeing Zones in a further 9 libraries. These Zones will include a full range of health and wellbeing resources, including books, leaflets and an ipad information kiosk. Provision at 2 of these 9 libraries has been funded by the Adult Care Department. The libraries which will benefit from this development are :

- Clay Cross
- Creswell
- Dronfield
- Gamesley
- Killamarsh
- New Mills
- Newbold
- Sandiacre
- Wirksworth

**3. Other considerations:**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

**4. Background papers:**

Adult Care Prevention Strategy.

**5. Key Decision:**

No

**6. Call-in:**

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

**7. Strategic Director's recommendation:**

That the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities notes the plans to expand the provision of Health and Wellbeing Zones in libraries as outlined in the report.

**Martin Molloy**  
**Strategic Director**  
**Cultural and Community Services**