

**Public Meeting**  
**Engaging Communities**

**Tuesday 11 December 2007. 7p.m. - St John's Hall. Penzance**  
**PROGRAMME**

**Welcome by**

Councillor Mrs Joan Tanner, Chairman of Penwith District Council

**Introduction**

by Councillor Chris Goninan, Penwith District Council's Champion for Health and Older People

**Keynote speakers :**

Dr Carol Tozer, Director of Adult Social Care, Cornwall County Council

The Right Reverend Bill Ind, Bishop of Truro

Tracey Roose, Chief Executive, Age Concern Cornwall

Sue Guard, Director, Penwith Community Development Trust

A number of additional representatives were also invited to be in attendance, if available, to answer questions.

Antek Lejk, Primary Care Trust

Nigel Clarke/David Raymer, Day Care Centres

Alison Richardson, Penwith Volunteer Bureau

Tony Green, Help the Aged

**Question Time Chairman:**

Jim McKenna, Chief Executive, Penwith District Council

**Members of the Engaging Communities Panel:**

Nigel Walker, Executive Member, Cornwall County Council, Blair Thomson, Chairman, Cornwall Strategic Partnership  
Ian Jones, Cornwall Centre for Volunteers

Mark Richardson, Cornwall Rural Community Council

Rev Dr Chris Slake, Chairman, Cornwall Methodist Group

**PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER  
ENGAGING COMMUNITIES  
DR CAROL TOZER DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

**What should people be able to expect?**

- Improved quality of life
- Improved health
- Economic well-being
- Making a positive contribution
- Dignity
- Freedom from discrimination and harassment
- Choice and Control

AND

- To achieve and enjoy

**Facts for Cornwall**

- Over the next 25 years, the population of older people aged 65 and above will increase from 107,700 to 177,400 (65%)
- Between 2001 and 2021 there will be an 11% increase in the total number of adults with learning disabilities
- Between 2001 and 2021, there will be a 36% increase in the number of adults with learning disabilities aged over 60
- By 2028, people aged 85+ (the group most likely to need services), will grow from 14,100 (2005) to 28,600 (2028). This is 103% growth - an additional 630 very elderly people every year
- Restormel and North Cornwall will have the greatest increase in 85+ population
- By 2028, there could be 7,000 people with dementia living in Cornwall and at least 17,740 aged 65+ living with depression.
- Ethnic Minorities currently make up just over 1% of Cornwall's population. (England Average - 9% South-West - 2.29% (2001))

**EFFECT FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE .... IF THINGS STAY THE SAME**

- 6,600 additional assessments/reviews of older people per annum
- another 18,000 hours of domiciliary care provision per annum
- an additional 2,220 places in residential and nursing home care over next 22 years
- 20 extra LD placements per year for the next 22 years (@ average cost £1,000 per week = £22,880,000)

## **CORNWALL - A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE PROVISION**

### **As at February 2007**

- 808 households received 'Intensive Homecare' (over 10 hours & 6+ visits per week)
- 6,927 older people were 'helped to live at home'
- 2,681 adults with physical disability were 'helped to live at home'
- 1,762 people with mental health needs were 'helped to live at home'
- 904 adults with learning disability were 'helped to live at home'
- 2,421 people financially supported in residential or nursing care

### **As at June 2007**

- 792 households received 'Intensive Homecare' (over 10 hours & 6+ visits per week)
- 6,379 older people were 'helped to live at home'
- 2,651 adults with physical disability were 'helped to live at home'
- 1,676 people with mental health needs were 'helped to live at home'
- 867 adults with learning disability were 'helped to live at home'
- 2,423 people financially supported in residential or nursing care

## **THE CURRENT NATIONAL SITUATION**

- Over two thirds of local authorities already only provide services to those at substantial or critical levels of needs

### **During 2006/7:**

- 82% of councils faced significant budget pressures in learning disabilities
- 59% faced budget pressures for older people
- 56% faced budget pressures across all user groups for home care
- (source: ADASS/LGA draft budget survey results 2006/7)

## **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN LOCALLY?**

- We must (and are) supporting the infrastructure of the voluntary and community sector
- Develop links into existing community groups e.g. parish pastoral ministry teams and Age Concern
- Better information
- Maximise people's incomes

## **PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER**

- People are living longer - and they have a right to live fulfilling lives (research shows that a woman on average spends more than 11 years of her old age in poor health)
- Carers have a right to fulfilment in their own lives - and respite from caring

- The long term care system is complex, unfair and unsustainable - needs are going unmet and means testing causes widespread resentment
- We need a radical rethink of how care is paid for - that is fair and sustainable
- We need to rethink the role of communities in supporting people with disabilities and older people
- Revisit funding ambition between health and social care set out in Our Health Our Care Our Say
- This is NOT an issue that will go away

## **SUSTAINING COMMUNITIES AND PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE**

Tracey Roose Chief Executive

Cornwall Demographics

- **Beautiful, idyllic, remote and isolated:**
  - last 10 years - 21% increase in resident population over 75 - 7% nationally
  - by 2021 - over 26% of population will be over 65
  - by 2021 - 50% increase in over 85s; 600 every year
  - 5.5m visitors increasing population to 60% in peak weeks
  - nearly 56,000 carers over 25% older and provide 50 plus hours of care
  - over 23% of over 50s live alone
  - spend 70% - 90% of time at home
  - nearly 50% never go out after dark
  - 49% experience some form of exclusion

### **CORNWALL - ACCESS**

- **Pockets of deprivation, lack of supportive networks:**
  - 46% of people in dispersed settlements less than 3,000; many less than 250
  - largest town just over 22,000
  - two acute hospitals; travel time up to two hours longer for IOS
  - Council wards have highest levels of deprivation in country
  - 21% of over 75s live with chronic disease - 18% nationally
  - small but higher than average % of suicides amongst older age
  - over 18% of over 50s have no access to transport
  - 16% find it hard to access local facilities
  - 22% claim Pension Credit

## ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

### • OLDER PEOPLE ARE ALREADY ENGAGED:

- over 200 groups in Cornwall and IOS
- 39% of over 65's and 32% of over 75s engaged in informal volunteering
- grandparents undertake childcare around £4b a year; average of 6hours a week
- highlight contribution people make to community well being

### • Explore strategies for engagement:

- LA community well-being powers to explore and encourage interdependence; Time Banks, co-housing strategies, technology, facilities for people with mental health concerns
- review obstacles for volunteering; support, benefit entitlement, transport

communities need access to services and support to be sustainable spatial planning is key

## PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE

### • Background

- Response to DASC withdrawal in funding
- no assessment, just conversation
- no magic wand; self reliance & independence
- no new service; community resource
- mapping and gapping
- practical, pro active and positive

## BUILDING ON WHAT WE KNOW

### • Partnerships are key

- greater integration in health, care and prevention networks of organisations

### • Use existing resources

volunteers and communities, - village halls, pubs, sheltered housing, day care, residential care

### • Early intervention

- as little as possible as early as possible

### • Little things matter

respecting lifestyle - practical short term support

## **IMPACT**

- Single call line - easy to access information
- 264 older people and carers assisted in 6 months
- 263 remain stable and in low/moderate need or less - 1 individual referred back
- Regular monitoring; quick referral to DASC/RATS (Rapid Assessment Team Scheme) if decline
- Building up contacts, networks, conversation
- Roll out January 2008: key worker for each DASC area
- All referrals welcome

## **REAL LIFE – CASE STUDIES OF REAL PEOPLE**

- **56 yr old with learning disabilities**
  - moderate care package
  - difficulties reading, self confidence
  - grant for washing machine
  - Instructions into pictures
  - befriender to assist when needed, day service for lunch
  - cooks and does own shopping
- **89 yr old, main carer for wife.**
  - neighbour died, loss of support plus loss of confidence
  - attendance allowance and pension credit
  - assistance to go to funeral
  - voluntary driver to take him shopping; met by befriender to take him round shops
  - informal carer to sit with wife

## **OLDER PEOPLE ARE THE SOLUTION**

- Older people often overlooked as part of the sustainable communities agenda
- Promote opportunities for formal contributions to community involvement; volunteering strategies
- Promote independence in community through supportive physical and social environments
- Highlight value of social interaction

# **A CALL – TO ENGAGE COMMUNITIES**

## **CONCLUSIONS**

It was clear that the projected County budgets for Social Care for 2008/09 onwards will not in any way match the demands made upon it. As numbers requiring support through carers and Care Centres for their day to day needs increases year on year, we all need to recognize that funding for this care cannot be met from County budgets and needs to be allocated from Central Government. I'm sure we all know of friends both young and old who are totally reliant on others giving assistance.

We are all duty bound to do what we can to avert this very real problem.

Just to focus our minds, let's be aware that this next will start with a £7.4 million pound deficit. So your participation in any part of the suggested actions below would be wonderful.

Please – do not keep this information to yourself – please share it with as many people that you can.

## **ACTION PLAN**

### **Suggested Actions:**

#### **A - PETITION / CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Send Christmas cards to Right Honorable George Brown, David Cameron and Vincent Cable effectively in the form of a 'petition' – you can add your own message and post the cards to the Prime Minister, 10 Downing Street, Leader of the Conservatives and Acting Leader of the Liberal Democrats for maximum impact. Free pre-printed cards and envelopes are available from both the named people below - (Postage will need to be paid.)

#### **B - PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE PROJECT**

#### **C - FAITH GROUPS**

Faith Groups were encouraged to share the report and to discuss how best they can assist with ensuring the old are cared for throughout the years to come  
Light and Life are making plans to organize some 'low mobility' assistance – getting people together who would otherwise be lonely for long periods of time.

#### **D- DAY CARE CENTRE OPEN DAYS**

Appeals were made to Day Care Centres to make themselves available for the elderly to be safe and make good use of – however they in turn are concerned as to how they can come close to balancing projected budgets.

#### **E - SUGGESTIONS INVITED**

An opportunity for all members of the Penwith communities to voice their opinions on a problem that will not go away and needs collective support and determination if the elderly people are not to suffer unnecessarily.

**For further information. please contact either**

Councillor Chris Goninan - Tel. 01736 788722 – email - [chris.goninan@penwith.gov.uk](mailto:chris.goninan@penwith.gov.uk)

or

Louise Dowe - Tel. 01736 336841 – [email.... louise.dowe@penwith.gov.uk](mailto:email....louise.dowe@penwith.gov.uk)