



**REPORT TO: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
14 AUGUST 2013**

SUBJECT: CELEBRATING SUCCESS – REMINISCENCE BOXES

BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CARE)

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to share with Committee some of the successes and positive developments within Community Care in recent months.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (E) (1) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to exercising the function of the Council as Social Work Authority under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that Committee notes the positive impact of the Reminiscence Box partnership project between Community Care and Moray Libraries Service.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 This report has been prepared as part of the process of keeping Committee up to date on the wider activity of the service and as a means of celebrating success.
- 3.2 A joint project between Community Care and Moray Libraries Service, launched in 2011 and funded through the Change Fund, resulted in the development of a collection of reminiscence boxes.
- 3.3 Research shows that reminiscence is particularly valuable when working with older people, as it can help develop social bonds, shared experiences and discussions in which older people feel valued.
- 3.4 Each reminiscence box contains a collection of items from the 1950s-70s and may be borrowed free of charge from any library in Moray.

- 3.5 Since their introduction last year, the boxes have become very well used by care homes, day services, sheltered housing and other groups.
- 3.6 Such has been the demand for the resource that the collection has been extended. It now contains 11 general reminiscence boxes, two Granny's Attic boxes containing older items and a Fishing Heritage Box.
- 3.7 Among the feedback from user groups has been "very useful and entertaining", "created good discussion", "residents very enthusiastic to talk about their memories of certain items" and "as soon as they saw each item they were all joining in".
- 3.8 The project will continue to be evaluated and reviewed, with an emphasis now being placed on encouraging carers and individuals to make use of the resource.
- 3.9 This project demonstrates successful partnership working between Community Care and Libraries Services and contributes to the strategic outcomes of The Moray Community Health and Social Care Partnership's Joint Commissioning Strategy 2013-2023 for older people which are that older people will:
- Live more independently as long as possible in their own homes
 - Be more able to make the most of their health and wellbeing
 - Have opportunities to be more involved in their local communities
 - Feel safe and secure
 - Have more choice and control
 - Have reduced feelings of isolation
 - Have a range of housing options available to them
 - Have unpaid carers/families who are supported to continue in their caring role

4. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

- (a) **Single Outcome Agreement/ Service Improvement Plan**
Contributes to the milestones identified in the Single Outcome Agreement in relation to supporting older people to live healthier independent lives in their own homes and community settings.
- (b) **Policy and Legal**
None.
- (c) **Financial implications**
There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The project was funded by the Change fund, at a total cost of £15k.
- (d) **Risk Implications**
None.
- (e) **Staffing Implications**
None.

(f) **Property**
None.

(g) **Equalities**
None.

(h) **Consultations**
Consultations have taken place with: Head of Community Care; Senior Performance Officer; Service Manager Provider Services; Principal Librarian and Deborah O'Shea, Principal Accountant. Any comments made have been incorporated into the report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the positive impact of Reminiscence Boxes in Moray.

Author of Report: Esther Green, Older People's Information Co-ordinator
Background Papers:
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