

Health and Wellbeing Board



Date of meeting:	09 January 2020
Title of Report:	Plymouth as a Compassionate City
Lead Member:	Councillor Kate Taylor (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care)
Lead Strategic Director:	Ruth Harrell (Director of Public Health)
Author:	Ruth Harrell
Contact Email:	Ruth.harrell@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	N/A
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

This paper provides an overview of the city-wide programme to make Plymouth a Compassionate City. At a conference held in Plymouth in 2018 instigated by St Luke's, schools, places of worship, GP surgeries, solicitors and charities – and many other organisations and groups from across the community – called for our city to have an End of Life (EoL) Compassionate City Network and all agreed the following vision:

Our Vision: Plymouth will not shy away from the taboo subject of death, but talks openly about it, in order to create a city that is truly informed and compassionate towards those facing end of life or experiencing loss and bereavement.

A compassionate city is a community that recognises that care for one another at times of crisis and loss is not simply a task solely for health and social services but is everyone's responsibility.

In a compassionate city, we all stand to benefit.

The principles of a Compassionate City have been set out by Public Health Palliative Care International, who stated that;

Death, dying, loss and care is everyone's responsibility.

A public health approach to end of life care, views the community as an equal partner in the long and complex task of providing quality healthcare at the end of life. All members of this

association hold this principle to be true and commit their respective organizations to this value and vision of end of life care

A Charter to reflect those principles has been set out, and it is the assessment against this charter which has led to Plymouth being recognised by Public Health Palliative Care International (PHPCI) as being the first Compassionate City in England. The great work that has been achieved by many organisations and individuals has led to huge progress towards the End of Life Compassionate City Charters objectives; but we recognise that there is more to do.

Plymouth now has a thriving end of life network, with over 90 individuals and organisations already signed up to work towards the key objectives of the EoL Compassionate City Charter which has been formally adopted by Plymouth City Council.

St Luke's will be presenting some of the work carried out already around this important agenda, and provide opportunities for partners to further engage with the programme.

For further information please see

<https://www.stlukes-hospice.org.uk/plymouth-a-compassionate-city/#top>

Recommendations and Reasons

1. Note the progress that has already been made against the Compassionate City Charter
2. Commit to considering what each partner organisation could contribute to the charter

Alternative options considered and rejected

Not applicable.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

This charter seeks to embed a compassionate approach to bereavement across a wide range of areas of life. This builds on knowledge and understanding of the best ways that support people who have been bereaved (and support those facing end of life themselves). This is in line with the city's desire to be a Caring Plymouth, and also potentially reduces the inequalities that can manifest as a result of bereavement (if a compassionate approach is not taken).

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

None.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

None

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Briefing report title							
B	Equalities Impact Assessment (if applicable)							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin	NA	Leg	NA	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Assets	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Ruth Harrell											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 18/09/2019											
Cabinet Member approval: Kate Taylor approved by email											
Date approved: 18/09/2019											