

Report on	MUDC Health and Wellbeing Programmes
Date of Meeting	9 th March 2021
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on the current programmes available to residents through the Environmental Health Department's Health and Wellbeing Team.
2.0	Background
2.1	These Programmes in non-Covid times were delivered within peoples' homes for 1:1 assessment or within a community group setting, delivering talks or programmes. Currently services have been tailored to deliver via virtual means and the work is continuing for individuals and groups where possible under new arrangements. These programmes are primarily funded by the Public Health Agency (PHA) with annual targets set.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Home Safety</p> <p>Free Home Safety checks are available to anyone in the district who is 65 or over, families with children under 5 and vulnerable adults/children. The Council's Health and Wellbeing Officers carry out informal visits to discuss areas of home safety and establish what equipment might be needed.</p> <p>In addition, the Health and Wellbeing Officers organise talks / information stands / press releases and events throughout the year to raise awareness of home accident prevention.</p> <p><u>Criteria</u></p> <p>Home Safety equipment is free to anyone 65 or over. Households with children under 5- equipment is only free if in receipt of certain qualifying benefits. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Support • Job seeker's allowance (income based) • Employment and Support Allowance (formally known as incapacity benefit) • Working Tax Credits • Housing Benefit • Free School Meals

3.2

Energy Efficiency Advisory Service

The Energy Efficiency Advice Service is a 1:1 personal approach to manage the energy efficiency of domestic properties. The Health and Wellbeing Officer assesses energy consumption in a household and encourages energy saving behaviour. The programme targets vulnerable older people, those with underlying health conditions or the working poor. The Health and Wellbeing Officer will:

- Signpost to other sources of fuel poverty / poverty support such as oil clubs, fuel stamps schemes, Keep Warm packs or Power NI energy saving packs
- Signpost clients to appropriate schemes e.g. Affordable Warmth, NISEP, boiler replacement etc.
- Make links with other potential partners for referral and / or signposting purposes – e. g. health professionals, Housing Executive

Criteria

Anyone can seek Energy Efficiency advice.

The criterion for the fuel poverty support schemes varies. Where members feel someone could benefit from advice or a supported scheme they should make a referral to the Health and Wellbeing Officer who can then carry out an initial assessment, provide support and determine eligibility.

3.3

Fuel Stamp Scheme

The Energy efficiency advisors also promote the MUDC fuel stamp scheme. Fuel stamps are available through local shops at £5 each. When the card is full, the resident will have saved £200 towards their next order of fuel (partly completed cards can also be used towards the cost of paying). List of retailers and suppliers available on council website:

<https://www.midulstercouncil.org/resident/health-wellbeing/fuel-stamp-saving-scheme>

3.4

Make a Change

The Health and Wellbeing Officer provides one to one support for individuals who are interested in changing their lifestyle to become more active or eat more healthily. Officers support individuals over a period of time to set goals and motivate them to achieve behavioural change. The health support officers can work on a one to one or group basis. The programme has included delivery of Cook Its! , Food Values, talks / presentations, weight loss programmes and facilitating exercise classes.

Criteria

Anyone aged over 50.

Please contact the Health and Wellbeing Officers

Email: health.wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org

Call: 03000 132 132

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: PHA funding, Home Accident Prevention: circa £43.5 K per annum, Energy Efficiency: circa £31 K per annum, Make a Change: circa £40.5 K per annum
	Human: Staff resource
	Risk Management: N/a
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members note the content of this report
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Home Safety Leaflet
6.2	Appendix 2 – Energy Efficiency Leaflet
6.3	Appendix 3 – Fuel Stamp Scheme
6.4	Appendix 4 – Make a Change Leaflet