

**COUNCIL**

**25 JANUARY 2018**

**MOTION 3 – AMENDMENT 1**

Proposed By: Councillor Cowan

Seconded by: Councillor Walker

Addition of an additional opening sentence to read: -

***“The Prime Minister has recently appointed a Minister of Loneliness to tackle the social and health issues caused by social isolation, with a multi million pound fund.”***

Amendment of the Resolution with the addition of ***“bring a report back to full Council in September 2018 to”*** after This Council calls on the Cabinet to

Addition of two bullet point immediately after the amended resolution as follows:

- ***“reinstating the funding for luncheon clubs, whilst working with local Councillors, community groups and organisations to help set up new groups or resurrect ones which have closed.***
- ***acknowledging the good work undertaken by Good Neighbour Groups across Cardiff which serves many of our residents well. Look to explore funding options to continue to grow the services they provide.”***

The Motion as amended would be as follows:

The Prime Minister has recently appointed a Minister of Loneliness to tackle the social and health issues caused by social isolation, with a multi million pound fund.

This Council notes that:

- The ‘Trapped in a Bubble’ report estimates that 18% of people feel lonely ‘always’ or ‘often’. This would equate to 62,000 people in Cardiff;
- loneliness can be experienced by people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, abilities and sexual identities;
- whilst individual factors play a key role, community and societal factors can contribute to loneliness;
- research has found that lacking social connections can be as damaging to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day
- research commissioned by the Eden Project estimates the cost of social isolation and disconnected communities in Wales as £2.6 billion per annum;

- the third sector has a pivotal role in providing support services which help to address loneliness and isolation;
- investing in services to prevent loneliness will improve health and well-being and in the long term save money in health and social care budgets and society in general.

This Council calls on the Cabinet to bring a report back to full Council by September 2018:

Develop a strategy for tackling loneliness in Cardiff, with consideration given to:

- reinstating the funding for luncheon clubs, whilst working with local Councillors, community groups and organisations to help set up new groups or resurrect ones which have closed.
- acknowledging the good work undertaken by Good Neighbour Groups across Cardiff which serves many of our residents well. Look to explore funding options to continue to grow the services they provide.
- Close partnership with third sector organisations;
- a range of interventions currently being used elsewhere such as inter-generational living models, befriending services, social clubs and volunteering opportunities;
- using the council's corporate landlord role to allow greater use of local authority facilities by groups that combat loneliness;
- encouraging schools, colleges and universities to create a culture of volunteering among their students so as to address the generational gap and encourage engagement and participation.