

BRIEFING NOTE

Agenda Item No. 7

TO: Scrutiny Panel
DATE: 6 October 2011

RE: Taste For Life Meals Service Update

Purpose

This briefing note has been written in response to the Panel requesting a further update on the 150 citizens, who were formerly meals on wheels recipients and initially declined to take up support in relation to meal provision from the Taste for Life Service.

Update on Taste For Life Service

The Taste for Life service has been in place since 7th January 2011, providing borough wide co-ordination and an advisory service, linking citizens with local community and commercial meal providers. The overarching service aim is to promote the availability of a variety of meal provisions across the Borough and facilitate access to such provisions i.e. linking the citizen with the provider. Taste for Life also assist citizens in supporting decision making processes in relation to the meals provision, that would best suit individual circumstances.

Early July 2011, the Taste for Life Service began a follow up initiative relating to those aforementioned 150 citizens, whom prior to the cessation of the meals on wheels service had indicated they did not require a service from Taste for Life. All 150 citizens were contacted by end of August 2011, the outcome of this contact was 2 citizens requested support from Taste for Life to access local lunch club provisions. The remaining 148 citizens have indicated they continue not to require support from Taste for Life, favouring self management or family member support in arranging a meals provision. Taste for Life Service will continue to make periodic contact with all 148 citizens to offer support.

In the context of new service referrals, Taste for Life received 165 new referrals between 8th January and 23rd September 2011. These referrals have resulted in the following services being established: well being visits; support with shopping and/or cooking; lunch club attendance, signposting and direct meals provision. Referrals have derived from all parts of the borough, with a significant proportion of referrals from the East of the Borough.

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