

Appendix K

City Services Scrutiny Panel: Operation of the Tell Us Once for Bereavement Services – Policy Review Recommendations 2012/13

Review Progress Summary				
● not on schedule	● on schedule	● undeliverable	● achieved	Total
0	2	0	5	7

Ref	Recommendation	Action	Owner	Timescale	RAG	Progress
A	that whilst the level of take up for the Tell Us Once Service in Sunderland has been good to date, we consider that the Council should continue to look at new and innovative ways to promote the existence and potential benefits of the service to local residents and continue to monitor accordingly;	<p>Take up of the Tell Us Once Service for both birth and bereavement is monitored monthly by comparing the number of births and deaths registered in Sunderland, to the Management Information reports received from the DWP which details the number of Tell Us Once notifications received from Sunderland City Council. This monitoring methodology will continue to be used as the most robust way to assess take up of the service.</p> <p>Steps have already been taken to roll out publicity material across some GP practices, with the objective that all practices in the city will have received promotional material about Tell Us Once by March 2013.</p> <p>Promotional material relating to Tell Us Once for Bereavement is to be rolled out to the Bereavement Service at Sunderland Royal Hospital.</p> <p>The Tell Us Once model can be</p>	<p>Karen Lounton</p> <p>Karen Lounton</p> <p>Karen Lounton</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>March 2013</p> <p>January 2013</p>	<p>●</p> <p>●</p> <p>●</p>	<p>Reports received monthly and information regarding take up reported back to staff. This is an ongoing process.</p> <p>List of all GP practices across the city provided by Corporate Communications team. Distribution of material to remaining GP practices pending.</p> <p>Action completed.</p> <p>Publicity material provided to Sunderland Royal Hospital.</p> <p>Action completed.</p>

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B	<p>that the Council should explore ways of building on the principles of the Tell Us Once Service in other areas of service delivery, transferring any 'lessons learnt' or best practice realised from TUO to other service areas;</p>	<p>adapted and used across other services, with longer term plans in place at the DWP to extend the principles of this project across other areas such as 'change of address'.</p> <p>Colleagues in the Transformation, Programmes and Project Team were involved with the implementation of Tell Us Once for birth and bereavement and have a full understanding of the benefits realised by the services involved, and how this established good practice can be built upon further.</p>	Karen Lounton	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● 	<p>A proposal has been submitted to the Transformation Change Team which recommends building TUO into all of the CSN work (as this is the main contact point for customers). There is also a recommendation that TUO be included in the Alternative Service Delivery Model work where we ensure that any third party deliverer of services uses TUO.</p>
C	<p>that the Council should continue to work closely with the DWP on a national level to ensure the TUO service, systems and databases continue to evolve and improve.</p>	<p>Regular communication is established between Gillian Priestley, the DWP Account Manager for the North East Tell Us Once project and the Bereavement and Registration Manager.</p> <p>This affords us an opportunity to continue to have input into the future development of the Tell Us Once service for birth and bereavement.</p> <p>Areas on the agenda for development include the introduction of connectivity between the General Register Office (GRO) database and the DWP Change Reporting System (CRS).</p>	Karen Lounton	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 	<p>Regular communication is maintained with DWP via regular email bulletins from DWP to Local Authorities delivering Tell Us Once, as well as engagement with the DWP at the Regional Registration Service meeting held quarterly.</p>

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		<p>Developments in this area will speed up the birth or death registration and Tell Us Once interview process, allowing better use of resources in the Registration Service.</p> <p>Other development areas include extending the scope of Tell Us Once for birth and bereavement, and introducing new services and organisations to the list of 'end users' who receive information relating to birth and death events. This development area will be managed by DWP, but with input from Local Authority representatives.</p> <p>The DWP also have representation at quarterly Regional Registration Service Manager meetings where TUO is a standing item on the agenda. The Bereavement and Registration Manager attends these meetings as the representative from Sunderland City Council.</p>	<p>Karen Lounton</p>	<p>March 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 	<p>Regional Registration Service meetings are scheduled quarterly, with Tell Us Once a standing agenda item. Meetings scheduled for 2014 in January, March, June and September. All North East and Durham authorities are represented on this forum.</p>
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