

TITLE	Adult Social Care Strategy
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	The Executive on Wednesday 22 April 2020
WARD	None Specific;
LEAD OFFICER	Director, Adult Social Care and Health - Matt Pope
LEAD MEMBER	Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Services - Charles Margetts

PURPOSE OF REPORT (INC STRATEGIC OUTCOMES)

Following extensive consultation and engagement with Wokingham residents, we are seeking approval for the Council to adopt the Adults Social Care Strategy (ASCS). The Council currently has no strategy in place.

The ASCS articulates the strategic priorities of the Council to residents and care partners and providers. It details how to deliver improved outcomes for our residents over the next five years

RECOMMENDATION

That Executive approves Wokingham Borough Council's Adult Social Care Strategy, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Our ambition is for Wokingham Borough to be one of the best boroughs for adults and carers in need of support to live, where they feel safe, included and a key part of our community. The ASCS sets out our vision and strategic priorities as well as identifies the actions we want to achieve in the context of challenging budgetary and demographic pressures. The strategy focusses heavily on how the Council and its partners will prevent, reduce and delay the need for formal care and support and where possible to improve people's health and wellbeing, focusing on prevention and self-help.

The Council currently spends over £49.6 million per annum on support and care for people, which is 37% of the council's budget. In 2018/19 approximately 2,025 new clients made 4,345 requests to WBC. 69% (2970) of these led to signposting to universal services or no service provided and 11% (460) led to long term care. 1,860 people (existing and new) received care and support provided by WBC throughout the year. most people (1,320) received care and support in their own home with around 540 people receiving care via residential and nursing facilities.

The strategy is for a period of five years, 2020 – 2025. Once agreed by Executive we will work with our partners to deliver the priorities set out. Over the next five years (2020-2025), our priorities and the outcomes we hope to achieve for adults social care are:

- Keeping people safe
- Prevent, reduce and delay the need for formal care and support
- Involve people in their care and support
- Work in partnership and commission services that deliver quality and value for money.

BACKGROUND

The Care Act 2014 sets out the statutory framework for providing support to people with disabilities and long term illnesses who need care to manage their basic daily living needs.

Under the Act the Council is obliged to ensure that people with disabilities who need support:

- Receive services that prevent their care needs from becoming more serious, or delay the impact of their needs
- Get the information and advice they need to make good decisions about care and support
- Have a range of provision of high quality, appropriate services to choose from
- Are provided with coordinated services across the NHS and social care

The ASCS will support the Council in discharging its statutory duties under the Care Act 2014.

The Council spends over £49.6 million per annum on support and care for people, which is 37% of the council's budget. The strategy will be critical in helping the Council plan for this demand and manage the costs over the next 5 years, particularly in terms of preventing, reducing and delaying the need for formal care and support. It will drive the development of commissioning and spending plans that ensure:

- Value for money
- Spending is managed within the Council's resource limits
- Effective and efficient markets are developed and managed for support and care
- Improved and better outcomes are delivered for people needing support and their carers

BUSINESS CASE

An Adults Social Care Strategy will allow the Council to understand and plan for the changing demographic profile and the demand for services in the context of a challenging financial position and a growing and aging population. Where appropriate the Council will prevent, reduce and delay the need for people to access formal care and support.

The strategies sets out the Council's future ambitions and desired outcomes it wants to achieve for its residents who require care and support.

The strategy provides a description of both existing and future needs and how the Council will respond to its statutory obligations. The strategy details how the Council proposes to achieve its ambitions, to ensure more cost effective and competent service delivery and the emphasis of working in partnership.

For individuals the strategy will lead to improved outcomes, through a clearly articulated ambition with a focus on promoting independence and a strength based approach. The executive summary above summarises the main outcomes we hope to achieve through the delivery of the strategy.

By 2025 Wokingham Borough will be one of the best boroughs for adults in need of support to live, where all adults with care and support needs, as well as their families

and carers are safe, feel included and are a key part of our community. In particular it will be a Borough where:

- People are accessing community services themselves that allow them to either remain independent in the community or continue to provide care for their loved ones
- There are a wide range of high quality services, including those in the Voluntary and Community Sector that meet our residents needs
- Innovation and creativity is encouraged and supported, particularly in the development of alternatives to traditional social care
- Higher numbers of people receiving tailored short term care, that enables them to build on their strengths, learn new skills and continue to live independently
- People are more familiar and confident with technology, particularly to help in reducing social isolation and giving them the security to remain at home
- For those who require long term care, this would be in their own homes allowing them to remain in their communities. There will be a natural step up to extra care to meet their needs and where residential and nursing home is required this will only be for those with the most complex needs.

Our priorities and the outcomes we hope to achieve for residents of Wokingham are:

Keeping people safe

- A clear and consistent pathway for referrals and interventions through a newly created single point of access for all Adult Safeguarding concerns, Adult Safeguarding Hub
- Promoting people's rights and freedom of action
- Robust quality assurance practices to ensure care is safe, high quality and providing the best value

Prevent, reduce and delay the need for formal care and support

- Improve people's health and wellbeing, focusing on prevention and self-help whenever possible
- Appropriate and timely information, advice and guidance
- Community-led model of support, which focuses on people's strengths and community networks
- Reduce isolation and loneliness, so people can live happier and more independently for longer
- Support for carers to enable them to continue in their much valued role
- Maximise independence and supporting people to relearn the skills they need for daily living
- Increase use of technology and adaptations to support greater independence, for example alarms and sensors and smart technology
- Where appropriate we will intervene and offer the right amount of high quality support in the right setting

Involve people in their care and support

- Choice and control over the way people live their lives, their support, and the services they use
- Build on the strength of communities and people
- Appropriate care and support provision taking into account the health and social care needs of our community

- Meet the diverse needs of our community including cultural and religious requirements
- Help people to achieve their goals and ambitions through outcomes focussed
- Give people a real voice in service development to feedback on the quality of their service
- Promote the use of direct payments

Work in partnership and commission services that deliver quality and value for money

- Encourage a culture of innovation and creativity –supporting the development of alternatives to traditional social care;
- Work in partnership with health, care providers and the Voluntary and Community Sector including engaging with experts by experience
- Ensure efficient use of resources including technology to deliver priorities, improve outcomes and drive efficiencies
- Improve data collation and usage to enable decision making based on robust evidence
- Change how we arrange and commission (understanding demand, planning, prioritising, buying and monitoring) services
- Market shaping and management to ensure sustainability

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council continues to face financial challenges over the coming years as a result of reductions to public sector funding and growing pressures including an increase in demand for our statutory services. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions of approximately £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

Achieving our priorities will require a process of continuous improvement and innovation that will support us to deliver a Care Act (2014) compliant and sustainable Adult Social Care service, which includes high quality and good outcomes for every person in Wokingham Borough. Priorities and actions set out within this strategy will direct this improvement and will be met within existing budgets. Where growth or investment is required to meet demand, this will be dealt with via the MTFP process and/or separate business cases taken to Executive.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	£50m	Yes	Revenue and Capital
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	£50m	Yes	Revenue and Capital
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	£50m	Yes	Revenue and Capital

Other Financial Information
The capital and revenue bids required to support changes identified in the strategy will be factored into the council’s medium term financial planning process which will be

reviewed annually. The costs associated with the strategy for 2019-20 will be accommodated within existing budgets.

If any further resource is required to support the implementation of the strategy, this will be presented to Executive for approval.

Stakeholder Considerations and Consultation
 As stated above

Public Sector Equality Duty
 See equalities assessment attached

Climate Emergency – *This Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to playing as full a role as possible – leading by example as well as by exhortation – in achieving a carbon neutral Wokingham Borough by 2030*

During the life time of the strategy some services will be recommissioned due to procurement regulations and to ensure they are in line with our strategic priorities, offer high quality to residents and provide value for money. As such a time we will ensure that any environmental considerations are taken into account.

List of Background Papers
 Adult Social Care Strategy
 Equality Impact Assessment

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