

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Cabinet

---

**Date of Meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
**Report of:** Director of Adult Social Care and Independent Living,  
Brenda Smith  
**Subject/Title:** Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy  
**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Janet Clowes, Care and Health in the Community

---

### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 Cheshire East Council puts citizens first and has embarked on a major development of support to those with adult social care needs and their carers and families. The Council is fully committed to its citizens receiving the best support possible and recognises that their quality of life is of the highest priority.
- 1.2 As a result of strong council leadership on adult social care issues, substantial reviews of areas of support have taken place and an assessment of the future needs of the Cheshire East population has been made. A number of major developments are in progress this year that flow from this work and are designed to impact positively on the quality of life of those who require support. These plans are ambitious and will continue to be progressed over the next years. In the first year, i.e. by the end of March 2015, the following changes will be making a difference to the quality of life in Cheshire East for those with adult social care needs and their carers and families. These are in summary:
- a) A new Quality Assurance function has been invested in and will be in place to ensure that all support, whoever provides it, is of the highest quality. The Council takes its role in monitoring quality very seriously and sometimes needs to take action to address poor quality. This may include withdrawing contracts and ending services. This can only be done through a robust quality assurance function which is currently being established.
  - b) Information, advice and easy self-help will be significantly improved through a redesigned approach and new services commissioned in the voluntary sector. A resource directory will be published, through a number of routes, to ensure that:

- The range of new support that has been commissioned already for this year is very widely promoted and people know how to access what they need
- All support is mapped and it is clear to the public what they could access

- 1.3 An innovation fund has been created and voluntary sector groups will be encouraged to apply for seed-funding for sustainable prevention and early help work. This is the second year of this new fund which has been identified by the Council to enable ideas from the community to flourish and develop.
- 1.4 Assistive technologies, equipment and self assessment advice to the wider public will be piloted to provide the public with the opportunity to understand what the full potential is for them to access things that will help them to stay healthy and independent.
- 1.5 The world of technology, including mobile technology, is moving fast and the availability and range of support that can be accessed online and on the high street is vast. However, the knowledge of what may be available and suitable is currently offered by the Council only when someone is already in need of social care. The Council believes that pro-actively getting this knowledge out to the public before social care needs have developed, including to children and young people and families, will mean that more citizens benefit from these technologies at an earlier stage and potentially delay a loss of independence.
- 1.6 A new dementia reablement service will be established to provide advice and information at an early stage when memory loss and/or early dementia are present. This service will use the best practice expertise currently available but will also seek to innovate and pilot new developments.
- 1.7 For many people the first signs that raise concerns for the person and their families involve memory loss. This is the point at which the Council believes a new supportive advice and information service could make a positive impact on what follows for the person and their family. There are some practical things that can help people deal with the potential effect of memory loss that is caused by the onset of dementia.
- 1.8 The Council will lead the community, including businesses, to make Cheshire East a dementia friendly place, working with the Dementia Alliance. The Council is committing substantial resources to this work as it will make a real difference to people with memory loss being able to continue to be independent in the community. The full detail of the work to achieve this, and more, for those with adult social care needs and their carers and families is in the

Appendices to this report. These provide the Commissioning Strategy for adult social care and the 2014/15 delivery plan for this.

- 1.9 The Council intends to have a planned programme of further development of support to adults who may require social care, building on the current best practice locally. We will be seeking innovations and creativity to ensure that independence and choice and control for individuals continue to increase.
- 1.10 This report seeks approval for the Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy 2014 -2017 at Appendix 1 and the supporting Annual Delivery Plan at Appendix 2.
- 1.11 The Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy 2014 -2017 is a three year strategy supported by an annual Delivery Plan. The Delivery Plan a working document that is revised annually to reflect the progress of plans and identify further stages of these plans. This will be the tool that the Council uses to ensure continuous improvements to support the delivery of better outcomes.

## **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 That Cabinet approve and support the Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy and the supporting Delivery Plan as appended.

## **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The principal aims and benefits that the strategy will realise are to:
  - Map the current picture of needs, available support and gaps in support
  - Consider customer insights and feedback and ensure they are driving improvement in support
  - Enable the identification of priority areas of joint commissioning with health, public health, children's services, housing and others
  - Use this analysis to clarify and prioritise the adult social care commissioning annual delivery plan to improve support and address gaps.

## **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All Wards

## **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All Ward members

## **6.0 Policy Implications**

- 6.1 This Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy supports The Strategic Direction of Travel for Adult Social Care Services – Promoting Open Choice as agreed at Cabinet of 4 February 2014 and the Strategic Direction of Travel – Informal Support as agreed at Cabinet of 4 February 2014. It will contribute to the delivery of the Cheshire East Council Three Year Plan outcomes:

Outcome 1: Our Local Communities are Strong and Supportive

Outcome 2: Cheshire East has a Growing and Resilient Economy

Outcome 5: Local People Live Well and for Longer

## **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 None. Any key decisions will be taken through further Cabinet reports as necessary.

## **8.0 Legal Implications**

- 8.1 None. Any key decisions will be taken through further Cabinet reports as necessary.

## **9.0 Risk Management**

- 9.1 No identified risks in this overall strategy.

## **10.0 Access to Information**

Name: Ann Riley  
Designation: Corporate Commissioning Manager  
Tel No: 01270 371406  
Email: [ann.riley@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:ann.riley@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

Name: Sarah Smith  
Designation: Corporate Commissioning Manager  
Tel No: 07772 866983  
Email: [sarah.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk)