

CHESHIRE EAST HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
Reports Cover Sheet

Title of Report:	Connected Communities Digital Inclusion Strategy 2018-2021
Date of meeting:	29 th January 2019
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Health & Wellbeing Board Lead:	Fiona Reynolds / Caroline Whitney

Executive Summary

Is this report for:	Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Decision X
Why is the report being brought to the board?	To seek the Board's endorsement of the Strategy and agreement to have oversight of the progression of the action plan		
Please detail which, if any, of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities this report relates to?	Starting and Developing Well <input type="checkbox"/> Living and Working Well <input type="checkbox"/> Ageing Well <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above X		
Please detail which, if any, of the Health & Wellbeing Principles this report relates to?	Equality and Fairness <input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility <input type="checkbox"/> Integration <input type="checkbox"/> Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above X		
Key Actions for the Health & Wellbeing Board to address. Please state recommendations for action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Health and wellbeing Board consider and endorse the Connected Communities Digital Inclusion Strategy. • That the Health and Wellbeing Board support the proposal that the Action Plan is implemented through the Cheshire East Digital Inclusion Task Force. • That the Health and Wellbeing Board agree to have oversight of the progress made in delivering the action plan. 		
Has the report been considered at any other committee meeting of the Council/meeting of the CCG board/stakeholders?	N/A		

<p>Has public, service user, patient feedback/consultation informed the recommendations of this report?</p>	<p>The Strategy has been drafted with representation from the Community and Voluntary Sector, the Skills for Growth Company and different services within the Council.</p>
<p>If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit? Detail benefits and reasons why they will benefit.</p>	<p>It will help to ensure that we facilitate the use of technology by those who might otherwise be excluded.</p>

1 Report Summary

- 1.1 A Digital Inclusion Strategy was previously drafted as part of the ‘Connecting Cheshire’ broadband rollout project. This had expired and it was suggested that the Cheshire East Digital Inclusion Task Force update it and develop it into a system owned Strategy. The Strategy and action plan are attached.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board consider and endorse the Connected Communities Digital Inclusion Strategy.
- 2.2 That the Health and Wellbeing Board support the proposal that the Action Plan is implemented through the Cheshire East Digital Inclusion Task Force.
- 2.3 That the Health and Wellbeing Board agree to have oversight of the progress made in delivering the action plan.

3 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure that the need to have a system wide approach to digital inclusion is owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4 Impact on Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

- 4.1 A digitally included population would have impacts on all three Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities: creating a place that supports health and wellbeing for everyone; improving the mental health and wellbeing of people living and working in Cheshire East and enabling more people to live well for longer.

5 Background and Options

- 5.1 In November 2017 the Cheshire East Council Adults Social Care Directorate Management Team considered a report on ‘A Digital Future for Adults, Health and Communities’. Within this it was identified that alongside the development of different technical innovations we needed to consider the digital inclusion agenda to ensure that we do not exclude groups of people because of their inability to use or afford the technology that we are steering people towards. Accepting this will become less of an issue as those of us more familiar with using

technology on a day to day basis age, It was acknowledged that in the short term it remains an issue for a generation who have not had that level of interaction and for others who may not be able to afford the technology or have physical or mental disabilities that might hinder their ability to use the equipment.. It will be necessary to support access to and the use of technology to improve outcomes for these particular cohorts of people.

- 5.2 An existing Digital Inclusion Strategy (produced as part of the Connecting Cheshire broadband roll-out project) has been updated by the Cheshire East Digital Inclusion Task Force (CEDIT - includes representatives from CVS Cheshire East, Age UK Cheshire and Age UK Cheshire East, the Skills and Growth Company, the Council's Libraries Service, Communities and Partnerships and Public Health). This is attached as Appendix One, with an action plan as Appendix Two.
- 5.3 It is proposed that the Cheshire East Digital Inclusion Task Force take the lead on the delivery of the action plan and that the Health and Wellbeing Board have oversight of the Strategy to ensure it is owned by the wider system. However it is also acknowledged the need to engage with the ongoing work within the Cheshire East Partnership's Digital Work-stream and ensure that their work considers the inclusion agenda. A representative will be sought to join CEDIT.
- 5.4 The use of technology and digital solutions is already a well established pathway for the future of health and care and in relation to wellbeing. It offers a means to empower individuals and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health and care services. However, there will be a need to ensure that through this move to digital solutions we do not exclude those unable or unwilling to utilise the technology. The strategy sets out some of the issues for consideration and offers potential ways forward to minimise the impacts and ensure we work to include people in the digital future wherever possible.

6 Access to Information

- 6.1 The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:
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