

Adult Social Care Strategy Consultation

Overview

We are running a public consultation on our draft Adult Social Care Strategy, 'Enabling Great Lives'.

Our 'Enabling Great Lives' draft strategy summarises how we plan to continue to improve Adult Social Care services over time and work with people in West Cheshire and all our partners to turn our ambitions into reality. This intends to be an overarching strategy document which provides a framework for how services will be delivered.

Social care has never been more prominent in our daily lives. We need your views on the draft strategy to ensure that it reflects local people's needs.

The 'Enabling Great Lives' document sets out the overarching approach for the delivery of adult social care services. Other policies and strategies will align to the intentions of this strategy.

'Enabling Great Lives' sets out our proposed vision for adult social care, the core purpose of our services, our new pillars for change which set out what we will do differently and our operational model for taking this forward.

We are seeking your views on our draft Strategy to influence the final draft Strategy which will be taken to Cabinet in July 2024. The Consultation closes on Sunday 19th May 2024.

How we have informed the draft Strategy

The draft strategy has been informed through recent co-production and consultation exercises as well as engagement with the social care workforce.

The intelligence from the co-production of the Future of Adult Social Care Commission and the recent engagement and consultation undertaken to inform the newly launched Council Borough Plan were used to inform the content of the draft Strategy.

In addition the Adult Social Care Workforce have been actively engaged in the development of the draft Strategy, in particular through the Adult Social Care Staff Conference and targeted meetings.

We now want to build on the engagement undertaken to date by formally seeking views on the draft Strategy.

How to engage in the consultation

Completing the questionnaire is voluntary and all the information you provide will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

The survey is available on-line via the Council website as a video, a download or EasyRead, in paper via Let's Talk sites or on request, or you can arrange to complete the survey via telephone by calling us and a time will be arranged to contact you to complete the survey over the telephone.

In addition we are running drop-in events at the following Let's Talk sites and dates:

- 27th February 2024 - 10am until Noon at the Very Green Grocery, High Street, Winsford, CW7 2AS
- 1st March 2024 – 11am until 1pm at The Venue, Hawthorn Road, Lache, Chester CH4 8HX

- 8th March 2024 – 10am until Noon at the Matthew Henry Evangelical Church, Nevin Road, Blacon, Chester CH1 5RS
- 11th March 2024 – 11am until 1pm at the Trinity Church, Whitby Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH65 0AT
- 12th March 2024 – 1pm until 2:30pm at Neston Library, Parkgate Road, Neston, CH64 6QE

In participating in the consultation no information will be released that could identify an individual or household. If you would like to know more about how we use and store the information you give us please read the Council's privacy notice.

Council information is also available in audio, Braille, large print or other formats.

If you would like a copy in a different format, in another language, a BSL interpreter, or you would like to arrange for a paper copy of the survey, or to complete it over the telephone please contact us.

email equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk,

telephone 0300 123 8 123

textphone 18001 01606 275 757.

Enabling Great Lives

Our draft Strategy is a consolidation of existing practice and activity as well as a documentation of our ambition for Community-led support, all of which is being driven by a comprehensive transformation and change programme.

We're calling it... Enabling Great Lives.

The draft strategy provides an over-arching framework which applies and clearly links to our existing strategies and policies and will drive and enable future strategies.

This strategy should be read alongside other key strategy documents which are organisation specific, for instance, our new Borough Plan as well as our Cheshire West Health and Care Partnership Place Plan which is our Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Thriving Communities

Enabling Great Lives has been informed through engagement with key stakeholders, in particular our valued adult social care workforce.

We have also listened to what we have been told in recent engagement activity, including our Future of Adult Social Care Commission, to ensure maximum value is realised from our commitment to co-production.

We recognise that to enable great lives we not only have to support people to their maximum potential for independence, we also have to work alongside broader Council and Partner services to support the development and sustainability of our local Communities.

Only with Thriving Communities can we Enable Great Lives.

Delivering this aspiration is not just an Adult Social Care challenge but one that we commit to delivering across the wider Council and with all of our Health and Wellbeing partners and services.

Vision and Purpose

Adult Social Care is used to working under pressure. The level of demand for services and the complexity of need of the people who need care and support has continued to grow. The resources needed to continue delivering services in the way we have done to date simply cannot keep up.

We are proud of how we have supported the residents of Cheshire West to live independently and to thrive in their Communities since 2009 and we are committed to ensuring we continually push ourselves to improve outcomes for our residents.

The need is more, the challenge is more and we have a plan to deliver more.

Our Vision for Adult Social Care in Cheshire West is:

To enable people who live within our communities to live great lives and to support our communities to thrive.

The core purpose which drives our Vision is:

To provide the care and support people need, in the place they call home, by a skilled and compassionate workforce. Our workforce work as one team, putting what matters to people first.

How we will achieve our purpose

We will achieve this through continuing to improve and adapt our ways of working. This means driving forward our Three Pillars for change which have been informed through recent consultation and co-production exercises as well as engagement with the workforce.

Pillar One – Being Outcome Focussed: Developing effective and impactful partnerships based on trust, openness and clear communication with Health, Providers, Third Sector organisations and those with lived experience where we are all aligned to common goals which strengthen communities.

Pillar Two – Building Community Assets: Enabling the development, continued delivery and promotion of services which support people who wish to be independent for longer and empower people to live in the place they call home.

Pillar Three – Being Strengths Based: Listening and encouraging good conversations with people who currently, or may in the future, draw on care and support to understand what is important to them, build their confidence and support them to achieve their goals.

You Want: We Will

This strategy has been informed through insight from co-production and engagement activity undertaken by the Adult Social Care Directorate in the 12 months leading up to the Strategy publication.

You told us you want:

- A person-centred approach to support that is flexible to changing needs and circumstances, particularly as people often don't fit neatly into predefined categories
- Us to listen and make 'nothing about us without us' real
- Opportunities for people with care and support needs who can't easily leave their home to socialise, get out and about and meet others
- Funding for local organisations who provide community led support
- More support for carers
- A local approach to the support we provide.

We are committed to addressing this.

The 'wants' of people who draw on care and support have prompted discussion with the workforce on how we best meet these asks.

Our 'We will' Priority Commitments are to...

- Collaborate: We will work together to foster ideas and achieve a positive outcome
- Connect Communities: We will work with Partners to support the creation and signposting of connected and resilient communities
- Focus on strengths: We will promote independence
- Move towards prevention: We will work earlier to empower people
- Co-Produce: We will undertake meaningful and inclusive engagement
- Support a motivated workforce: We will support, listen to and engage a confident and committed workforce
- Ensure safe practice: We will ensure quality and safety in practice through training, support and leadership.

Our Model

Our Vision, Purpose, three Pillars for Change and our 'We will' Priority commitments are all embodied in our commitment to a Community-Led Support approach to our services.

Our Vision, underpinned by our core purpose drive our three pillars of change, to be outcome focussed, strengths based and have good conversations. These pillars enable us to deliver on our 'We Will' pledges.

Our Impact

Working in a Community-led Support way will mean those in need or receipt of care and support feel like they matter, like they are in control and like they are supported.

We will continually measure and assess our impact.

We commit to driving forward the following achievements to ensure we are outcome focussed:

1. Our Cheshire West Place Partnership is operating effectively across current and proposed areas of integration
2. Equal voice of Partners is maintained in decision-making
3. Co-production and co-design, listening to the voice of lived experience
4. Joint Strategies are in place across key areas of focus and are regularly reviewed

We commit to driving forward the following achievements to ensure we support out community assets:

1. Home First (enabling people to remain safely independent at the place they call home) is a priority of all Partners
2. Commissioning Intentions support the strengthening of community-based provision
3. Information is accessible to the public, commissioners & partners to support sign-posting & access to community provision

We commit to driving forward the following achievements to ensure we are strengths-based:

1. Community-led Support is embedded as an approach across the organisation and partners
2. Communication and support is consistently provided to support and enable 'good conversations'
3. Prevention and early-intervention are key areas of focus for the service and partners