

Cabinet

17 October 2024

Adult Social Care Strategy 2024 - 2030

Recommendations

That Cabinet

1. Approves the Warwickshire County Council Adult Social Care Strategy 2024-30 as set out in Appendix 1;
2. Authorises the Executive Director for Social Care and Health in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health to develop and implement a detailed action plan to deliver the Strategy; and

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Council's Adult Social Care Strategy sets out a five-year plan to meet the key challenges facing the service, utilising the opportunities available within the projected resources and working in partnership with stakeholders to deliver the three strategic outcomes of:

- Safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protect them from avoidable harm;
- Enhancing the quality of life for people and delay and reduce the need for care and support;
- Ensuring that people have a positive experience of care and support.

1.2 These strategic outcomes are to be delivered through five focus areas;

- You will be able to find the information and advice you need to make informed decisions
- You will be supported to remain independent
- When understanding your needs we will start with your strengths and what matters to you
- You will benefit from Warwickshire having well trained staff and volunteers to support you in a caring and supportive way
- Warwickshire social care will work in partnership to meet your needs and improve your health and wellbeing

- 1.3 The three strategic outcomes and the five focus areas make a significant contribution to the achievement of the Council Plan strategic priority of ‘A county where people can live their best lives; where communities and individuals are supported to live safely, healthily, happily and independently.’
- 1.4 This strategy builds on the preparation work for Care Quality Commission (CQC) assurance and our Self-Assessment document.
- 1.5 The service has a strong commitment to engagement and coproduction with users and this strategy, whilst not co-produced, has been shaped by strong engagement, with over 530 customers, carers, social care providers and social care practitioners. This builds on the current work within the service to train staff in coproduction methodology, being facilitated by the IDEAS Alliance.
- 1.6 This engagement provided some very clear feedback on what our customers would like from the Council’s adult social care services, including suggestions for improvements. This has helped shape the 5 areas of focus/actions on which the strategy is built, and which help deliver the 3 strategic outcomes.
- 1.7 Engagement with external partners and key stakeholders has helped to inform the strategy. A key message from initial engagement was that it was important to have a document with language that was easily understood by everyone and especially users/customers.
- 1.8 The delivery plan for the five focus areas is encompassed within the strategy and guides activity over the next five years, building on the work overseen by the Adult Social Care Innovation and Improvement programme. However a detailed action plan drawn from the strategy will be developed through the Innovation and Improvement programme to enable progress to be effectively tracked and monitored. Progress will be reported at regular periods to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and tracked through the Council’s performance management framework.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 The Council Plan and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy recognises the ongoing challenges facing adult social care in the light of a growing elderly population, increased complexity of needs and cost of care.
- 2.2 Whilst the strategy outlines a considerable body of work, the change projects required to be delivered will be achieved within existing resources and as such there are no financial implications as a direct result of this strategy.
- 2.3 The strategy will see continued work on addressing these on-going challenges through the related financial recovery, brokerage and innovation and improvement work.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 The strategy is committed to supporting the Council's declared climate emergency and Sustainable Futures Strategy by looking at how the service can meet the Council's 2030 targets of being carbon neutral.
- 3.2 The Sustainable Futures Strategy has identified the carbon footprint of the social care market as a significant contributory carbon emission. The Council aims to support social care providers to consider how they can reduce their carbon footprint and transition to net zero, whilst recognising that this is a major challenge for them, in the light of increased costs and considerable workforce challenges. Nevertheless, work will continue with the sector on this.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 Warwickshire County Council's draft Adult Social Care Strategy aims to address the key challenges and builds on the Council's strengths to help meet its statutory duties for adult social care.
- 4.2 This strategy builds on the State of Warwickshire evidence base on the future population profile of the County, analysis of business data on the service and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) data.
- 4.3 The Strategy is framed around three strategic outcomes and five areas of focus which have been primarily informed by strong engagement with customers, carers staff and providers.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

5.1

Description	Date
Cabinet approval	17 October 2024
Build and refine detailed action plan to deliver the strategy	Nov 24 – Feb 25
Launch 5 Year Strategy	By April 2025

Appendices

Appendix 1 The WCC Adult Social Care Strategy 2024-2030

Background Papers

<https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/s20935/Appendix%20%20-%20State%20of%20Warwickshire%202022.pdf>

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): None – this is a County wide report

Other members: Councillors Barker, Drew, Holland and Rolfe