

Vision and Strategy for Adult Social Care 2016 – 2020

Prevent need

We will work with our partners to prevent people needing our support. We will do this by providing information and advice so that people can benefit from services, facilities or resources which improve their wellbeing. This service might not be focused on particular health or support needs - but is available for the whole population – for example, green spaces, libraries, adult learning, places of worship, community centres, leisure centres, information and advice services. We will promote better health and wellbeing and work together with families and communities (including local voluntary and community groups).

Reduce need

We will identify those people most at risk of needing support in the future and intervene early if possible to help them to stay well and prevent further need for services. For example we might work with those who have just been diagnosed with dementia, or lost a loved-one, people at risk of isolation, low-level mental health problems, and carers.

Our work will be targeted at people most likely to develop a need, and try to prevent problems from getting worse so that they do not become dependent on support. This might include: information, advice, minor adaptations to housing which can prevent a fall, support and assistance provided at a distance using information and communication technology via telephone or computer.

Delay need

This will focus on support for people who have experienced a crisis or who have an illness or disability, for example, after a fall or a stroke, following an accident or onset of illness. We will try to minimise the effect of disability or deterioration for people with ongoing health conditions, complex needs or caring responsibilities. Our work will include interventions such as reablement, rehabilitation, and recovery from mental health difficulties. We will work together with the individual, their families and communities, health and housing colleagues to ensure people experience the best outcomes through the most cost effective support.

Meeting need

The need for local authority funded social care support will be determined once we have identified and explored what's available to someone within their family and community. People who need our help and have been assessed as eligible for funding, will be supported through a personal budget. The personal budget may be taken as a payment directly to them or can be managed by the council. Wherever possible we will work with people to provide a choice of help which is suitable to meet their outcomes. However, in all cases the council will ensure that the cost of services provides the best value for money. Whilst choice is important in delivering the outcomes that people want, maintaining people's independence and achieving value for money is paramount.

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