



## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD 29 MAY 2025**

### **REPORT OF LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

#### **REFRESH OF ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES STRATEGY 2025-29 DELIVERING WELLBEING AND OPPORTUNITY IN LEICESTERSHIRE**

##### **Purpose of report**

1. This report is to provide information relating to the refresh of the Adults and Communities Strategy, titled Delivering Wellbeing and Opportunity in Leicestershire 2025-2029, attached as an Appendix to this report.
2. This is a *watch item* for the Health and Wellbeing Board. The strategy details aims for the Adults and Communities Department to prevent need, reduce need, delay need and meet need for the people of Leicestershire. It also has aims to reduce health inequalities particularly for people with a Learning Disability.

##### **Recommendation**

3. The Board are invited to comment on the Adults and Communities Strategy 2025-2029, as part of the consultation process.
4. The Board are requested to comment on how the Adults and Communities Department can continue to work in collaboration with the Board to support the wellbeing needs of the people of Leicestershire.
5. The Board are asked to note the aims outlined within the strategy. These will form part of the Adults and Communities Department's business plans over the next four years and will highlight areas of opportunity for collaboration, if these also sit within the Board's focus.

##### **Policy Framework and Previous Decision**

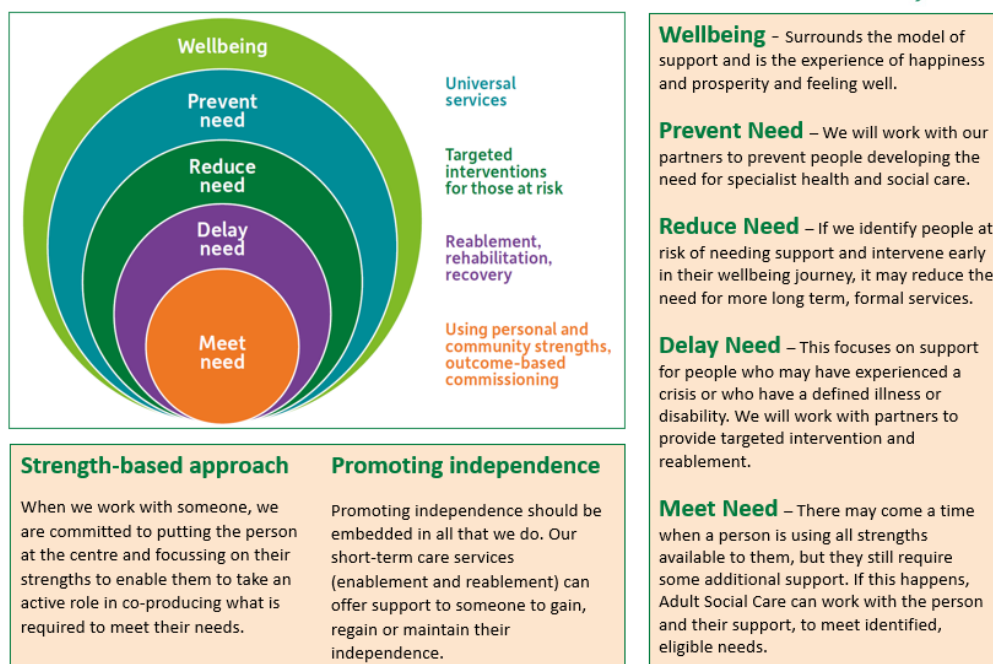
6. This is a new item being presented the Board. It does follow a previous Adults and Communities strategy 2020-2024 which was agreed at Cabinet on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
7. The draft strategy aims to support Leicestershire County Council to meet its statutory duties including those cited in the Care Act 2014; the Mental Health Act 1983; Mental Capacity Act 2005; Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964.
8. The draft strategy also supports the Adults and Communities Department to deliver the requirements of the following:

- The Care Quality Commission's (CQC) assessment of the Adults and Communities Department's adult social care service;
- Arts Council England and The National Archives Accreditation Schemes;
- The Visitor Attraction Quality Assurance Scheme;
- Ofsted's assessment of Leicestershire's Adult Learning Service.

### **Background**

9. The draft Strategy follows on from the Delivering Wellbeing and Opportunities: Adults and Communities Department Ambitions and Strategy for 2020–2024 and provides a framework for policy, process and ways of working for the Adults and Communities Department.
10. All services operate within the County Council's frameworks and corporate strategies such as the County Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026, the People Strategy 2024–2028, and the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.
11. The draft strategy details the Adults and Communities Department's aims over the next four years to meet our strategic and statutory requirements. The Department is made up of the following service areas:
  - Adult Social Care;
  - Culture Leicestershire (libraries, museums, heritage sites, cultural participation and collections and learning);
  - Adult Learning.
12. The strategy continues the strategic approach of the existing strategy, focussing on the model of Wellbeing, Prevent, Delay, Reduce and Meet need and provides the aims for the different services across the Department over 2025–2029.
13. Whilst continuing with the strategic model mention above (also see diagram below) the new strategy highlights the commitment to strength-based approaches whilst promoting independence. In addition, aims have been set along with actions for communication, engagement and supporting delivery alongside aims and actions for people (internal and external workforce, carers and equalities, diversity and inclusion [EDI]).

## A&C Strategic Model



14. There are ambitions embedded within the current strategy which are still valid for this refreshed version. These themes are to continue with new, updated descriptors about how the ambitions will be realised. The ambitions include:
  - Improved customer experience and satisfaction
  - Promoting wellbeing through universal services
  - Developing and supporting inward investment for new social care accommodation
  - Promoting independence
  - Working effectively with partners including co-production, co-design and engagement
  - Providing high quality information and advice
  - Seamless transition from children to adult services
  - Building a flexible, talented, motivated workforce including apprentices
  - Improved use of technology
15. The draft Strategy has been created through engagement and co-production with people who draw on the different service areas in Adults and Communities, officers and managers and care providers.
16. To date, the draft strategy has been created, public consultation has concluded and the review of the consultation comments are underway.
17. Next steps are to report the outcome of the consultation to the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet in June, make any necessary changes, and launch the new strategy in late June/early July.

18. The aims and actions from the strategy will inform business planning for the Adults and Communities Department for 2025-2029.

### **Proposals/Options**

19. Whilst the request of the Board is one of watching and awareness, the strategy recognises the Department's key relationships with partners in delivering wellbeing and opportunity to the people of Leicestershire.
20. The Department propose that the Board reviews the aims and actions that have been identified and consider how the Department can collaborate with the Board to achieve shared aims and actions.

### **Consultation/Patient and Public Involvement**

21. The public consultation commenced on the 18th February 2025 and ended on 14 April 2025.
22. The consultation involved an online survey, which could be printed and posted upon request. There was an adapted (Easy Read) version of the survey and the draft strategy available.
23. The responses from the consultation have been positive, with over 80% of respondents scoring Strongly agree or Tend to agree for all questions relating to the strategy's aims or aims/actions from our strategic model (wellbeing, prevent need, reduce need, delay need and meet need).
24. The outcome of the consultation will be presented to the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 2 June 2025 and the final review of the consultation outcomes and recommended amendments (if any) to the strategy will be presented to Leicestershire's County Council Cabinet on 17 June 2025

### **Resource Implications**

25. The Adults and Communities Department will meet any resource implications to finalise the strategy.
26. Funding for services or aims and actions relating to the strategy will be met with current business as usual funding. This will be subject to change depending on Medium Term Financial Strategy requirements and any other funding impacts that could occur between 2025-2029.

### **Background papers**

Delivering Wellbeing and opportunity in Leicestershire – Adults and Communities Department Ambitions and Strategy for 2020-24

Leicestershire County Council Strategic Plan 2022-26

Leicestershire County Council People Strategy 2024-2028

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy-2024-2028

Cabinet Agenda 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (previous strategy)

## **Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

27. None.

### **Officer(s) to Contact**

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### **Appendix**

Draft Adults and Communities Strategy 2025-2029 – Delivering wellbeing and opportunity in Leicestershire

## **RELEVANT IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

### **Equality Implications**

28. The strategy focuses on services provided by the Adults and Communities Department. These include statutory services with specific eligibility criteria set out in legislation.
29. The draft strategy has been subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) and a Health Impact Assessment. Both have been subject to review and scrutiny by the relevant oversight processes.
30. The EIA highlights mainly positive impacts upon people with protected characteristics. These are as follows:
  - It refers to the County Council's People Strategy and its commitment to ensuring EDI remain a strong focus over the new Strategy period.
  - Within the service offer of Culture Leicestershire and Adult Learning, it refers to bringing communities together; providing learning to overcome barriers; offering courses in a range of formats and venues to the suit learning needs of people.
  - Culture Leicestershire also has an aim within the Strategy to reach more diverse communities across the County.
  - The Strategy references the aim to tackle digital exclusion so that if information is provided on the internet, via email, or another electronic means, people who would struggle to access information in this way will have the opportunity to have the means and skills to do so.
  - The Department and Strategy will also support vulnerable people and people living with disabilities within their communities.

31. Whilst the strategy EIA highlights mainly positive impacts, the following are mitigations that apply to it.
- There is an aim within the strategy to work with partners to provide people with the skills needed to tackle digital exclusion
  - There will be an easy read version of the strategy for people to access if they have certain disabilities or for those who find it difficult to read the Strategy document in its current format.
  - The Department will monitor the data of our population, demographic data around the people who access our services and feedback received to ensure our services are accessible and inclusive and offer good outcomes for all.

### **Health Implications**

32. The new strategy aims to have a positive impact on seven of the identified 12 Health Impact domains. The remaining five have been assessed as neutral.

### **Human Rights Implications**

33. The revised Strategy aims to have a positive impact on a person's Human Rights through delivery of statutory provision, meeting legislative duties, a focus on rights-based practice and the promotion of family life and independent living

### **Partnership Working and associated issues**

34. The strategy references partnership working with agencies such as the Police, the Integrated Care Board and the charity and voluntary sector.