

**Meeting:** Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub Board/Cabinet/Council

**Date:** 17 August 2023/19 September 2023/20 September 2023

**Wards affected:** All

**Report Title:** Adult Social Care Strategy

**When does the decision need to be implemented?** Quarter 3 2023

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## 1. Purpose of Report

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- 1.1 This report seeks approval of the Adult Social Care Strategy which includes the priorities and approach for Adult Social Care going forward.
- 1.2 It also provides information with regards to the process undertaken and outcomes of the consultation on the Strategy.
- 1.2 It describes the feedback received, the changes that have been made to the strategy and the completed final strategy.

## 2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

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- 2.1 This Strategy outlines how we can work together to deliver improved adult social care services for residents in Torbay. The Strategy seeks to achieve the best for people in Torbay, their friends and family. The key principle is that we always work with people who may need care and support in Torbay, and those who care for them, and prioritise their voice above everything else.
- 2.2 We want our residents to have a place to call home, in a community they can be part of, while being empowered to achieve what matters most to them through the best care and support available. The vision states that we want thriving communities where people can prosper. The strategy builds upon the longstanding integrated health and social care provision and joint working with the voluntary and community sector.
- 2.12 The reason for the decision is to ensure that the Council has an Adult Social Care Strategy which sets out the best approach to meet the challenges faced. This position has been supported by the people who have responded to the consultation.

## 3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

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### 3.1 **Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board:**

To consider the draft Adult Social Care Strategy document and make recommendations to the Cabinet.

### 3.2 **Cabinet:**

To consider any recommendations from the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board and;

That Cabinet recommends to Council:

1. That the list of Policy Framework documents set out in Torbay Council's Constitution be updated to include the Adult Social Care Strategy; and
2. Subject to 1. above, the Adult Social Care Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved.

## Appendices

Appendix 1 Adult Social Care Strategy

Appendix 2 Easy Read Adult Social Care Strategy

Appendix 3: Adult Social Care Strategy Consultation Report August 2023.

Appendix 4 Healthwatch Report Torbay Adult Social Care Strategy Consultation Feedback Report July 2023.

## **Background Documents**

## 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 The Adult Social Care Strategy (Appendix 1 and easy read version Appendix 2) sets out the vision for thriving communities where people can prosper.
- 1.2 The Adult Social Care Strategy outlines how we can work together to deliver improved adult social care services for residents in Torbay. It builds upon the pioneering integrated journey for social care which started in 2005. More recently we have focussed on developing an integrated care model that puts a strengths-based approach at its heart focussing on what matters most to people. This model provides joined up services, a fully integrated health and social care system, delivering a person-centred approach and building on wider community support around people.
- 1.3 The key principle is that we always work with people who may need care and support in Torbay, and those who care for them, and prioritise their voice above everything else.
- 1.4 It sets out the challenges within social care and the demographic changes that will impact on social care now and in the future.
- 1.5 It identifies 3 key priorities.
  - Helping people to live well and independently.
  - Helping people to regain their independence.
  - Helping people with care and support needs to live as independently as possible, keeping safe and with choice and control.
- 1.6 Our system of care and support will be.
  - Focused on outcomes and wellbeing.
  - Personalised, co-created and flexible.
  - Proactive and preventative
  - Integrated and coordinated.
  - Local, community based and relational.
- 1.7 Our voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) partners have delivered a new 'front door' to adult social care with an emphasis on making the most of individual and community resources as part of our strengths-based approach. We also have asked VCSE

partners to address the issues they themselves have said are the most important, via a Voluntary Sector Alliance

- 1.8 The strategy also recognises several challenges in Torbay which include a higher proportion of older people than the England average, lots of people with mental health problems, many people with learning disabilities, too many people in long term care and financial and workforce challenges.

## 2. Options under consideration

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- 2.1 The options are to approve the strategy as is, amend it, or decide not to approve and therefore to not have a strategy in this respect.
- 2.2 There is an option to decide whether to include the strategy as a Policy Framework document. It is recommended to include it as such to recognise the importance of the same to the Council and its residents.

## 3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

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- 3.1 There are no financial implications.

## 4. Legal Implications

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- 4.1 There are no legal implications as the strategy covers the Council's duties under the Care Act 2014.

## 5. Engagement and Consultation

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- 5.1 A public consultation was held between 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
- 5.2 The Consultation sought the public's views on the draft Adult Social Care Strategy. It was hosted on the Council's website.
- 5.3 Between June 2023 and July 2023 the Council worked with Healthwatch to run several engagement and consultation sessions. A session was held by Torbay Council at Paignton library open day to promote the live consultation. The consultation was also heavily promoted across Torbay Council and Healthwatch networks and social media and local newsletters. Engagement and consultation sessions were also held with social care staff at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation trust and Torbay council Commissioning team and Public Health. The consultation report is set out in Appendix 3, however in summary, there were 99 responses received by the online survey and a further 70 people took part in joint focus groups with Healthwatch and the Council. Several other engagement and feedback meetings have also been held with key people in Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust.

- 5.4 As can be seen from the Torbay Council website results, there is good support from those people who have responded to the survey for the Adult Social Care Strategy. Most people (62.5 %) think that that the overall priorities in the strategy are the right ones to help meet the Adult Social Care vision. In addition, people strongly agreed or agreed with each of the three priorities within the strategy.
- Helping people to live well and independently (84.5%)
  - Helping people to regain their independence (84.3%)
  - Helping people with care and support needs to live independently, safely and with choice and control. (84.3%)
- 5.6 Most people (58.9%) also felt that the strategy effectively describes the next steps for Torbay's Adult Social Care story. 66% of people thought that the strategy makes sense and is easy to understand.
- 5.7 The Healthwatch report set out in Appendix 4 also describes broad support for the strategy with the overall response being positive, with participants feeling it was a good approach, particularly with the focus on listening to those who are at the centre of service provision.
- 5.9 Several changes have been made to the Strategy reflecting the feedback the Council has received. This includes changes to the descriptions used for people with Learning Disabilities and making sure this is inclusive. A recognition that not everyone will be able to be fully independent because of the complexity of their needs. Ensuring that transitions between children and adult services are included as well as making sure the language used is as clear as possible. People were also very keen to understand how the strategy would be achieved.
- 5.10 The strategy now more clearly articulates the nature of the joint arrangements for adult social care with the partnership approach between the Council and Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust. The strategy has been refreshed to articulate high level priorities, including those of the Integrated Care Board and therefore enables the development of a transformation and delivery plan as part of the next steps. In addition, a number of responses from the online Council survey asked about an action plan.
- 5.11 Feedback received suggested that some more simple explanations for some of the terms in the document would be useful and so this has been added for Direct Payments, Supported Living and Extra Care.
- 5.12 The descriptions for people with Learning Disabilities have been made more inclusive. Whilst the priority of independence remains supported it has been broadened to include people being supported to be as independent as possible, recognising that not everyone can be fully independent due to the complexity of their needs.
- 5.13 Feedback received from the Deaf community focused on the importance of access to BSL interpreting services and this has been reflected in the system of care and support section which has been updated.

- 5.14 Feedback from our community partners has indicated that our strategy needs to more broadly apply to the whole community sector, so the narrative has been changed to reflect that.
- 5.15 Feedback indicated that the transitions work from children to adult services needed to be more clearly referenced, that has been added to the system of care and support.
- 5.16 Overall there was good support for the strategy and the priorities within it.

## 6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

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- 6.1 No impact

## 7. Tackling Climate Change

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- 7.1 No impact

## 8. Associated Risks

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- 8.1 There would be reputational risks for the council if the Adult Social Care Strategy is not approved given the support it has received from members of the public as well as staff in the Council and Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust.

## 9. Equality Impacts - Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups

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|                                     | Positive Impact  | Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions | Neutral Impact |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Older or younger people             | The priorities in the strategy are promoting independence, regaining independence and being supported to be as independent as possible |                                      |                |
| People with caring Responsibilities | The strategy sets out a commitment to carers and recognises their importance   |                                      |                |

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|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| People with a disability   | The priorities in the strategy are promoting independence, regaining independence and being supported to be as independent as possible |  |                                 |
| Women or men   |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) (Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community) |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| Religion or belief (including lack of belief)  |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual  |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| People who are transgendered   |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| People who are in a marriage or civil partnership  |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave  |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)                                      |  |  | There is no differential impact |
| Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)                | The strategy sets out the importance of health and wellbeing as a principle  |  |                                 |

## 10. Cumulative Council Impact

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10.1 none



## 11. Cumulative Community Impacts

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11.1 None