

Draft Strategy for Adult Social Care in Torbay – Report of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board

Report to Cabinet on 19 September 2023

Background

The Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board met on 17 August 2023 to receive a report on the draft Strategy for Adult Social Care in Torbay.

The Director of Adult and Community Services presented the report together with the draft Strategy and responded to questions in relation to the following:

- Did the consultation and survey include bespoke communication with individuals who may have a protected characteristic; unemployed residents; homeless individuals; those in deprived areas and minority groups who might not be able to access care as quickly?
- How would the Council assist with enabling supported care and housing given the current economic climate?
- How would the Strategy be delivered and were there any measurable targets in place against which performance could be monitored?
- What alternative methods were available for individuals to access help in addition to the web based triage approach?

Members were informed that the Draft Strategy for Adult Social Care provided focus on the Council's approach for helping people with adult social care needs in Torbay to live the best life. It was noted particular emphasis had been placed on consultation of the draft Strategy and Healthwatch were thanked for their involvement and assistance with this.

The Sub-Board formed the following recommendations to the Cabinet. On being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried unanimously:

That the Cabinet be advised that the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub Board supports the Draft Adult Social Care Strategy and Cabinet be recommended:

1. To recommend to Council that the Strategy be included within the Council's Policy Framework;
2. that the Director of Adult and Community Services provides the local Members of Parliament's offices and other information offices within Torbay information concerning the website based approach for accessing care;
3. that the Director of Adult and Community Services circulate a briefing note to all Councillors with information concerning the website based approach for accessing care;
4. That Head of Policy, Performance and Community Engagement be instructed to publicise information about the approach to accessing care to inform wider communities
5. That the Head of Policy, Performance and Community Engagement be instructed to widen the inclusion of people with protected characteristics in future consultations and report back to the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board at a later date.