

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE: 29 NOVEMBER 2022**

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REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: MARK NUTI, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULTS AND HEALTH**LEAD OFFICER: LIZ BRUCE, JOINT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND INTEGRATED COMMISSIONING****SUBJECT: ADULT SOCIAL CARE STRATEGY FOR PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT 2022 - 2027****ORGANISATION STRATEGY PRIORITY AREA: TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITY/EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES****Purpose of the Report:**

This paper sets out Surrey County Council's (SCC) new strategy for people with physical disabilities and/or sensory impairments 2022 – 2027. The strategy tells us what we know about the needs of people with physical disabilities and/or sensory impairments generally, and in Surrey. It develops and articulates a shared understanding, vision, and action plan of how we will respond to the needs of people with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment. It acknowledges there are significant barriers to achieving our vision across the service system and the wider community which will require a better understanding of disabilities, and the culture change needed across Surrey's workforce, services, and community to address them.

The strategy is here to focus the action of all the partners across the Surrey system who will need to work together to make the changes we need to see.

The strategy will enable people to access the right health and social care at the right time in the right place that helps them to remain independent, achieve their potential and ensures nobody is left behind.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Endorse the new strategy for people with physical disability and/or sensory impairment.
2. Agrees to establishing a Disability Partnership Board which will be co-led by people with lived experience of physical disabilities and sensory impairments and will oversee the development of the different work streams needed to achieve the strategy and strategy action plan.

Reason for Recommendations:

The recommendations have been made to ensure that together with our system partners we improve outcomes, services, and support for people in Surrey with a wide range of physical disabilities and/or sensory impairments.

Executive Summary:

1. In 2018 SCC embarked on a large-scale engagement activity with residents, staff, members, partners and businesses to shape our vision for Surrey in 2030. Together we agreed that;

'By 2030 we want Surrey to be a uniquely special place where everyone has a great start to life, people live healthy and fulfilling lives, are enabled to achieve their full potential and contribute to their community, and no one is left behind.'

2. It is essential that the care and support provided by Adult Social Care (ASC) enables us to deliver our Community Vision for 2030 and promotes the independence of the individual in all scenarios. Through our Strategy for People with Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment we will actively work to enable people to access the right health and social care at the right time in the right place and ensure we improve outcomes, services, and support for people with a wide range of physical disabilities and/or sensory impairments.
3. Currently 3,300 individuals are known to SCC Adult Social Care and have a Primary Client Category of Physical Disabilities recorded on LAS, Surrey County Council's case management system. This number will include people with physical disabilities and sight and hearing impairment, as well as people with long term neurological conditions.
4. The strategy identifies priorities to deliver the vision of services that people with physical and/or sensory impairments want and makes commitments as to action the Council will take to address them. The six key themes are:
 - Community inclusion – relating to support and facilities and facilitating welcoming and accessible neighbourhoods, communities and employers .
 - Establish an effective approach to securing improved accommodation: new housing options, access to aids and adaptations, access to social housing.
 - Ensure our direct payments offer acts as a constructive way to maximize choice, control and independence.
 - Establish workforce development initiatives that support practitioners to work in partnership with people regarding their support and reflect best practice.
 - Ensure carers of disabled people have access to the support they need and recognise them as expert partners in care.
 - Partnership work with NHS colleagues to improve care pathways and achieve better health outcomes for residents
5. The strategy also demonstrates our commitment to establishing a new governance structure, co-produced with disabled people in the form of a Disability Partnership Board. The Board will oversee the development of the different work streams needed to achieve

the strategy and strategy action plan, and as part of the infrastructure to implement change develop a 'performance dashboard' allowing us to track and review actions.

6. The action plan is a dynamic document and will continue to be reviewed. Actions include Disability Champions within ASC Teams providing advice and training to front line practitioners, engagement with community providers and residents to ensure services are relevant and fit for purpose. Implementation and review of outcomes will be overseen by the Partnership Board.
7. The Partnership Board terms of reference and membership are being developed and will ensure that people, services and organisations are brought together to achieve common goals creating inclusive and enabling communities with and for people with disabilities.
8. In addition, we will co-produce a market position statement setting out the market development needed for effective delivery of the strategy; and will hold an annual event to support the engagement of the whole system to review progress and refresh the delivery plan.
9. Throughout the lifespan of the strategy, we will continue to work with people with a wide range of physical and/or sensory impairment to ensure that they continue to shape services and communities.

Consultation:

10. During our initial engagement phase (Nov 20 – Jan 2021) a survey was launched to gather the main thoughts, views, and concerns from residents with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment, which generated 73 individual responses. We shared the survey with a large range of partners including Sight for Surrey, Action for Carers, Surrey Choices and health professionals.
11. Further engagement was undertaken with various specific interest groups including all of the Disables Empowerment Networks, Surrey Vision Action Group, the Long Term Neurological Conditions Group and the Hard of Hearing Forum which resulted in engaging with 111 residents.
12. The insight gained from the survey and through our continued engagement with the special interest groups resulted in the development the co-produced strategy. We continue to engage with these groups and those who responded to our initial survey through invitations to engagement meetings focused on developing aspects of the strategy action plan which will support the delivery of the strategy over its life span.
13. In addition to the external consultation outlined above, 16 internal staff engagement workshops were held with locality social care practitioners, reablement workers, adult social care commissioners, transitions, and safeguarding and quality assurance teams. As a result, an internal Practice Improvement Network has been established to support the confidence and skills of practitioners directly supporting individuals with physical disabilities and/or sensory impairments.
14. The lead commissioner for the strategy attended locality management boards and Local Joint Commissioning Groups to introduce and present the strategy to senior health and

social care colleagues. Health colleagues recognise the whole system benefits of the strategy and view it as a key part of health and social care integration.

15. The previous Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care was closely involved in the development of the strategy. The current Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care will be involved going forward and will receive regular updates.
16. The strategy and action plan will be shared with members at a forthcoming Adults & Health Select Committee and Health and Well Being Board.

Risk Management and Implications:

17. The Council is committed to improving outcomes, services, and support for people with a disability and/or sensory impairment. People with disabilities have told us that there are significant barriers to achieving our vision across the service system and the wider community. Endorsing this strategy will help us address these barriers and develop a better understanding of disabilities, using the insights and expertise of people with a wide range of disabilities and/or sensory impairments by engaging them closely in the design and delivery of services and support.

Financial and Value for Money Implications:

18. The Council currently spends almost £43m per year on care packages for people with a physical disability and / or sensory impairment. This includes everyone who entered the care system under the age of 65 whose primary need was a physical disability and / or sensory impairment, some of whom are now over 65. It does not include people who entered the care system over the age 65 due largely to frailty or other supported needs related to their older age who may have a physical disability and / or sensory impairment. Total expenditure is therefore higher, noting additionally that the Council also funds a number of preventative and wider support services for people with a physical disability and / or sensory impairment beyond care packages to meet a person's assessed Care Act eligible needs.
19. There are no additional costs directly arising out of the implementation of the strategy set out in this paper. Its implementation will not only enable improved outcomes for residents but will also help to achieve some of the efficiencies budgeted in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). This will be particularly in relation to efficiencies associated with strengths-based practice, changing models of care to enhance people's independence and ensuring development of cost effective services tailored to meeting people's changing needs through delivering the intended commissioning strategy.

Section 151 Officer Commentary:

20. Although significant progress has been made to improve the Council's financial position, the financial environment remains challenging. The UK is experiencing the highest levels of inflation for decades, putting significant pressure on the cost of delivering our services. Coupled with continued increasing demand and fixed Government funding this requires an increased focus on financial management to ensure we can continue to deliver services within available funding. In addition to these immediate challenges, the medium-term financial outlook beyond 2022/23 remains uncertain. With no clarity on central government funding in the medium term, our working assumption is that financial

resources will continue to be constrained, as they have been for the majority of the past decade. This places an onus on the Council to continue to consider issues of financial sustainability as a priority in order to ensure stable provision of services in the medium term.

- 21. In this context the Section 151 Officer supports the objectives of the Adult Social Care Strategy for Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment to deliver better outcomes for residents while at the same time ensuring cost effective service provision that utilises opportunities to deliver efficiencies to contribute towards the very significant financial challenge that the Council faces. The Finance service will continue to work closely with Adult Social Care as the implementation of the strategy progresses, and ensure its financial impact continues to be reflected appropriately in the MTFS.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer:

- 22. This report is confined to the implementation of a new strategy to enhance the way in which the Council fulfils existing duties and responsibilities. It does not introduce any additional legal obligations and as such there are no legal implications or legislative requirements associated with this report.

Equalities and Diversity:

- 23. An [Equality Impact Assessment](#) (EIA) has been completed, approved by the Adult Social Care Directorate Equalities Group (DEG) and published on the Council website. The EIA did not identify any potential negative impacts of the strategy and all opportunities to promote equality have been undertaken. There is an action plan based on the mitigations recommended. On-going work with the Disability Partnership Board, with participation of people with lived experience and their carer’s, will enable any emerging equality impacts to be identified, tracked and managed through the lifetime of the strategy.

Other Implications:

- 24. The potential implications for the following council priorities and policy areas have been considered. Where the impact is potentially significant a summary of the issues is set out in detail below.

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications.
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	The actions in the strategy can positively impact in terms of safeguarding, ensuring that vulnerable adults have access to appropriate care and support services designed around them.
Environmental sustainability	No significant implications.
Compliance against net-zero emissions target and future climate compatibility/resilience	No significant implications.

Public Health	The actions in the strategy can positively impact on public health outcomes, including reductions in social isolation and/or loneliness; increased wellbeing for residents participating in community opportunities and activities.
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What Happens Next:

25. Should Cabinet agree the recommendations the next steps and timescales are:
- a. The Strategy will be published on the Council's website, Nov 2022
 - b. Establish the Disability Partnership Board Nov – Jan 2023
 - c. A dashboard will be developed to enable ASC to improve equitable access to and delivery of services by Jan 2024
 - d. Discussion of the Strategy and its impact for the health and social care system in Surrey at the Health and Wellbeing Board by Jan 2024.

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Consulted:

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Surrey Coalition and the special interest groups

Annexes:

Annex 1: Equalities Impact Assessment

https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/316809/Equality-Impact-Assessment-PDSI-Strategy-22-to-27-v8.pdf

Annex 2: Adult Social Care Strategy For People With Physical Disability And Sensory Impairment (PDSI) 2022 To 2027

https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/adults/professionals/information-and-resources/commissioning-strategies/pdsi-strategy?SQ_VARIATION_303688=0