

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Corporate Director for People
to

People Scrutiny Committee

on

22nd October 2013

Agenda
Item No.

6

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Adults and Workforce Planning

Joint Commissioning Strategy: Adult Carers
Executive Councillor: Councillor Lesley Salter
A Part 1 Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

This report seeks the approval of the People Scrutiny Committee for the progress of the Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adult Carers.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the People Scrutiny Committee makes comments on the strategy and its direction.

3. Background

The strategy explains how Southend on Sea Borough Council intends to support unpaid carers between 2014 and 2019. The strategy has particular relevance to the people of Southend as 10% of people in Southend on Sea provide unpaid care for someone and there is a predicted rise in the informal caring population in Southend.

The vision in the strategy for carers' quality of life is to be delivered, where possible, through joint commissioning with agreed outcomes. Achievement of these outcomes will improve the health and wellbeing of carers and the people they care for. The strategy is being developed in the context of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The strategy is based on consultation with carers

4. Corporate Implications

4.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

Healthy – Support Southend to be active and alive with sport and culture:

- Carers have increase opportunities for social inclusion and community participation.

Healthy – Reduce inequalities and increase life chances of people living in Southend:

- Carers have increased opportunities to be involved in work, education and learning.

Healthy – Continue to improve outcomes for vulnerable children and adults:

- Carers have greater choice and control.
- Carers experience better mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Prosperous – Encourage the prosperity of Southend and its residents:

- Carers have increased opportunities to be involved in work, education and learning.

Excellent – Deliver strong, relevant and targeted services that meet the needs of our community:

- Contributes to the preparation for the new adult social performance framework, finance return and equalities classifications.

4.2 **Financial Implications**

There are no specific financial implications that we can be certain of or specific investments required. The strategy is a high level document, expressing broad intentions. The strategy, in emphasising the requirements of carers may lead to a rebalancing with a focus on carers and not 'cared for' clients. This will have different costs and benefits.

4.3 **Legal Implications**

None

4.4 **People Implications**

None

4.5 **Property Implications**

None

4.6 **Consultation**

This strategy has been shaped through a series of targeted discussions with commissioners and practitioners in health and social care, provider groups and carers.

The ideas developed in Section 9 are the result of Essex-wide workshops with, carers, providers and practitioners held between June and December 2012.

In addition, consultations were held with Trustlinks, the Carers' Forum, the Health and Wellbeing Forum, the Older People's Assembly and various third sector organisations from 2010 – 2011 in Southend.

We intend to go out to formal consultation when the strategy is agreed.

4.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The carers strategy does not target any specific type of carer client relationship and does not lead to different impacts for those with protected characteristics. There is however an emphasis on ensuring that carers at greatest risk receive support to prevent carer crisis and breakdown and many carers are old, which may lead to a focus of the service towards older people. An equality impact assessment will be done on the strategy and consideration of equalities and protected characteristics will be undertaken for the strategy and its implementation. The action plan of the strategy monitors the usage and uptake from BME and LGBT communities.

4.8 Risk Assessment

The main risk in the achieving the outcomes of the strategy for carers is the achievement of effective joint working with the development of pathways that cross health and social care.

These risks will be managed by effective joint leadership.

4.9 Value for Money

Meeting the needs of carers, either through providing information and low level support is likely to strengthen the carer client relationship and in so doing reduce the demand more costly for health and care services. There are likely to be whole system cost reductions and benefits. Carer breakdown for instance can be one of the main reasons for admission to hospital admission and permanent residential care. The strategy lists potential interventions, such as providing carer breaks and provides evidence of specific costs and benefits.

4.10 Community Safety Implications

None

4.11 Environmental Impact

None

5. Background Papers

None.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – JOINT COMMISSIONING STRATEGY: ADULT CARERS