

## CABINET

16 April 2024

### ADULT SOCIAL CARE STRATEGY

#### Report of the Portfolio Holder for Adults and Health

Corporate Priorities	Support the Most Vulnerable	
Exempt Information:	No	
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Ward Councillors	All	

#### 1 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 This report sets out to provide information on the process taken to develop the Adult Social Care (ASC) Strategy and seeks Cabinet approval to launch the Strategy.

#### 1.2 Recommendations

1.3 That Cabinet approves the Rutland Adult Social Care Strategy 2024-2028

1.4 That Cabinet approves the Adult Social Care vision and priorities.

#### 1.5 Reasons for Recommendations

1.6 The Adult Social Care strategy is a key framework which sets out Adult Social Care's commitment to people within the community and staff within Adult Social Care, for the next four years. It establishes the key priorities and approaches to be taken when supporting adults with care and support needs in line with local and national issues facing Adult Social Care.

## **2 REPORT**

### **2.1 Background – the previous strategy**

2.2 The previous Adult Social Care Strategy covered the time frame of 2019-2022 and included the following aims:

1) People live the life they are able to.

2) People live independently at home, in a safe environment, for as long as is possible, and in the resident's best interests.

3). People's rights, safety, welfare and wellbeing are safeguarded, and we will ensure that, regardless of setting, our services provide good quality care.

4) Carers will have their own lives whilst providing support for their loved ones.

5) Information, advice and guidance is accessible for all.

6) Vulnerable adults, who may be unable to make decisions for themselves or protect themselves from harm or abuse, will have their rights upheld.

2.3 Since the implementation of this previous Strategy, Adult Social Care has faced some key changes such as the new Care Quality Commission (CQC) Assessment regime which became a legal requirement for Local Authorities within the Health and Care Act 2022.

2.4 Local Authorities as of April 2023 will be assessed by CQC on their compliance with their legal duties within the Care Act 2014. The single assessment framework covers a wide range of legal responsibilities and includes how we provide support to people within the local community, how we work in partnership and how we safeguard people at risk of harm and abuse as well as our leadership and support for staff within Adult Social Care.

2.5 Local Authorities will be assessed via evidence prior to an on-site visit. Evidence will include feedback from staff, key stakeholders and people who use services, relevant data, policies and documents outlining our practice and standards. The outcome of CQCs assessment will be an overall outcome of either Inadequate, Requires Improvement, Good or Outstanding.

2.6 It is also anticipated that Local Authorities will face further reforms over the next two years with the introduction of the Cap on Care costs and the new reforms to the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, the Liberty Protection Safeguards. Both changes in law were postponed by Government however they have anticipated enactment dates of 2025 at the time of writing this report.

2.7 If these new reforms are introduced, there will be further pressure on Adult Social Care to embed new legal duties, and shape service delivery to manage any increased demand on services. The Adult Social Care Strategy has been informed by these confirmed and potential areas of reform.

2.8 Primarily the Adult Social Care Strategy will be a key document used to highlight our vision and priorities for the next four years. It will also be used as part of our information requirements provided to CQC which evidence the services aims and

objectives.

### 3.1 **BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED STRATEGY 2024 – 2028**

3.2 Since the end of the previous Strategy, Rutland Adult Social Care has worked to design a new Strategy which provides an up to date set of priorities for ASC to work towards. It was designed taking into account the needs of our community and to ensure we continue to reflect our statutory duties but also with the aim of looking to the future, preparing for potential reforms and the growing needs of Rutland.

3.3 It is acknowledged that there has been a delay in implementing a new Strategy. There are several factors which have contributed to this delay which include, increased demands across the service, changes to the Senior Leadership Team , response to reforms within Adult Social Care and response to and impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

3.4 An initial proposed draft of the Strategy was created following substantial research into national, regional and local themes and trends; this included a full review of both nationally and locally available data.

3.5 It was acknowledged within the review of available data that key priorities for the future include:

- how we intend to provide an integrated focus when meeting complex needs,
- our response to safeguarding concerns, preventative approaches and engagement with our local provider sector and community,
- How we continue to support the crucial role of unpaid carers and;
- the need to ensure we continue to look at and promote creative solutions for promoting independence, which include digital solutions, self-service and assistive technology.

3.6 Revisions to the Strategy were made following consultation and codesign with Senior Leaders, frontline practitioners across ASC and people with lived experience who use ASC services. A draft version of the Strategy was presented on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 to the new Adult Social Care Participation Group; a group which is made up of adults with lived experience of using services. Feedback from this Group has also been included within the final version of the Strategy.

3.7 There have been several revisions to the Strategy since its initial design over a period of several months. Practitioners within ASC have reviewed the document within a staff professional development forum and provided feedback, some of which has been incorporated into the final version.

3.8 Amendments to the Strategy from consultation have included:

- Changes to language,
- Removal of jargon
- Revision of priorities

- Changes to layout and format
- Review of content within areas such as the introduction and description of Rutland
- Inclusion of relevant data specific to Rutland
- Revision of the vision and aims
- Development of the priorities

#### **4.0 THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE STRATEGY 2024-2028**

4.1 The vision for Rutland ASC for the next four years is ‘Live your best life: Supporting you in the place you call home, where you feel safe, valued and part of your community’. This vision was informed by workshops held with Senior Leadership Team and Practitioners and recognises the core aim of Adult Social Care, which is to support people to achieve the best life possible in line with their views, wishes and preferences.

4.2 The vision connects to the four key priorities within the Strategy: Safe, Community, Valued and Home. These four priorities were developed to recognise the core values of our Social Care Teams when working with people who approach Adult Social Care. Within our four priorities we have developed three aims for continued development that have been identified as an essential focus for Adult Social Care over the next four years.

4.3 Safe:

4.3.1 All adults should be supported in a way which promotes their dignity, rights and overall wellbeing. Which includes supporting peoples safety and intervening in situations where vulnerable adults require protection in line with our Adult Safeguarding duties

4.3.2 The promotion of safety and wellbeing should be universal no matter where someone lives and so we will also proactively collaborate with all local providers of care and support services including our local care homes and domiciliary care providers to enable them to meet the needs of adults receiving their services

4.3.3 In order to ensure that we can meet the needs of all adults eligible for support we will ensure that we optimise the use of our available finances to effectively and efficiently support our local community

4.4 Community

4.4.1 Providing accessible options for people to access preventative support which connects them to our local community resources will be done by creating opportunities for self-directed support which directs people to good quality information, advice and guidance which supports people's wellbeing.

4.4.2 We will also work in partnership with people to recognise their strengths and link them to community networks. This recognises the importance of connected communities and the significant impact that loneliness and isolation can have on people's health and wellbeing.

4.4.3 We will work with key partners including Health and the Voluntary sector to provide an accessible and seamless service. Integrated working ensures that people we support will receive a seamless, holistic service and we will continue to work together to identify innovative ways of supporting our community to receive the best service possible.

4.5 Valued:

4.5.1 To provide the best possible service for people of Rutland, we will continue to recognise the importance of our skilled Adult Social Care professionals. We will value and invest in our staff, through development and learning to provide people with the best quality service.

4.5.2 Coproduction and engaging with the people who use our services will ensure that any future developments are informed by those with expert knowledge. We will continue to listen and engage with our community and learn from their experiences to shape our services now and in the future

4.5.3 We will strive to ensure that people are satisfied with the quality of the support and services they receive from us. Feedback will support us to verify that we are working with people to achieve positive outcomes wherever possible.

4.6 Home:

4.6.1 It is acknowledged that home can mean different things for different people and with that in mind we will focus on helping people to stay, return or find a home as quickly and safely as possible through effective support.

4.6.2 Advancement in digital solutions provides Adult Social Care with opportunities for creativity when looking at different ways to support independence. We will promote the use of technology and digital innovation providing adults with a variety of support options.

4.6.3 With an ageing population we are likely to see an increase in unpaid caring roles. Therefore, we will continue to identify and recognise the role of our unpaid carers and their contribution to our community and look to provide personalised solutions to support them in their caring roles.

## **5. MEASURING IMPACT**

5.1 It is important that we measure the delivery and impact of the four priorities. The Adult Social Care Strategy includes specific reference to how this will be done.

Key performance indicators will support consistent monitoring; this will be in the form of national statutory returns and our local performance indicators. Any variation in performance is scrutinised and areas for learning and development actioned. The CQC will assess Adult Social Care in line with a single assessment framework. The outcome of our assessment will provide evidence of our areas of success and areas for further improvement.

5.2 Learning from feedback from people who use our services, our staff and key stakeholders is something that Adult Social Care already encourages. There are various options available for people to feedback on their experience of accessing, working for or working alongside Adult Social Care. Feedback is collated on a regular

basis and any themes showcasing excellent practice are reported to senior management in Adult Social Care. Any feedback which indicates of an area for improvement are incorporated within our wider quality assurance work and reviewed to ensure effective implementation.

- 5.3 Rutland Adult Social Care has been continuing to develop its local participation forums. There are groups in place such as the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the newly formed Adult Social Care Participation Group which are working on their own areas of co-production and co-design. Adult Social Care will continue, wherever possible to work with these local forums to deliver upon the priorities, ensuring that the views and experiences of people within our community are integrated within, and shape our service delivery.

## **6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 6.1 There are no alternative options. The Adult Social Care Strategy is required to evidence our aims and priorities for the next four years. It is a key document, which sets out areas for further development and will be used to inform key decision made over the next four years.

## **7 IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION**

### **7.1 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

*This section has been approved by Andrew Merry, Head of Finance.*

- 7.2 There may be some indirect financial implications arising from the Health and Care Collaborative work which this Strategy refers to within the 'Community' priority.

### **7.3 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

*This section has been approved by Angela Wakefield, Strategic Director for Law and Governance.*

- 7.4 There are no legal implications with the implementation of the Adult Social Care Strategy.

### **7.5 Risk Management Implications**

Any risks relating to Adult Social Care are reflected within our Adult Social Care Risk register and the Corporate Risk register. This will continue to be updated on a regular basis and will be reflective of the Adult Social Care Strategy. Any challenges with delivery of the priorities will be identified within risk registers.

### **7.6 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.7 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has not been completed because there are no identified risks or issues to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

### **7.8 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.9 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed. No adverse or other significant issues were identified.

### **7.10 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

7.11 This duty has been considered and there are no community safety implications relating to the recommendations regarding the Adult Social Care Strategy.

## **7.12 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

7.13 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report. It's intended the aims and priorities of the Adult Social Care Strategy will enhance the experience of People living in Rutland when accessing Adult Social Care.

## **7.14 ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

7.15 On 11 January 2021 Rutland County Council acknowledged that it was in a climate emergency. The Council understands that it needs to take urgent action to address it.

7.16 There are no environmental and climate change implications of the Recommendations.

## **7.17 PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS**

7.18 There are no procurement implications arising from the Adult Social Care Strategy

## **8 HR IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are the no HR implications arising from the approval of the Adult Social Care strategy.

## **9 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9.1 There are no additional background papers to this report.

## **10 APPENDICES**

10.1 Appendix A – Draft Adult Social Care Strategy 2024-2028

**An Accessible Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.**