

Developing an Overarching Strategy for Older People in Cheshire - Update

Introduction

A report was brought to the meeting of the Communities of Cheshire Partnership on 8 February 2007 proposing the development of a partnership wide strategy for older people in Cheshire.

The original proposal was that funding should be found to bring in external help to develop and draft that strategy on behalf of the Partnership. The Partnership agreed that it would be helpful to have such a strategy, but took the view that the partner agencies should be able to find the capacity to develop the strategy in house.

To that end, I was asked to bring together a group of officers from the statutory agencies involved in the Partnership, to begin work on the strategy development.

The first meeting was arranged for 26 March 2007 and requests to identify representatives for that meeting were sent on 14 February 2007 to the six city and district councils in Cheshire, to the two Primary Care Trusts, to Cheshire Police and to Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service. I would represent the County Council.

In the event, the meeting was attended by myself, plus representatives from Chester City Council (who helped to plan the agenda and facilitate the meeting), Congleton Borough Council, Cheshire Police, Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, and the two Primary Care Trusts. No representatives were present from Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough, Crewe and Nantwich Borough, Vale Royal or Macclesfield Boroughs.

Progress

The following agreements were reached on the day:

- 1) That the overarching strategy should be based on the outcomes framework for adults (in this context including older people) from the White Paper 'Our Health Our Care Our Say' (see Appendix A). Representatives at the initial meeting were aware of the galvanising effect of the use of the children's outcomes framework and were keen to see if similar energy and focus could be created around this piece of work.
- 2) That there would need to be a project plan developed for this piece of work.
- 3) Part of the work would be harvesting what strategic statements in relation to older people were already in circulation (such as in the Supporting People

Commissioning Strategy, the joint Housing Strategy for older people, health service and social care commissioning strategies). On a specific issue there was some sense that the use of the term 'strategy' itself was somewhat overused and the group of people involved would like to find a different term for the product of this work.

- 4) That the reporting process for this piece of work should be through the Executive Commissioning Group of the older people's strand of the Healthier Communities and Older People thematic sub group.

Next Steps

The group is to meet again on 30 April 2007 to start work on the application of the outcomes framework for adults in this context.

Production of the overarching strategy will be a significant piece of work and it must be resourced, in time if not in cash.

Proposal

It is proposed that the Communities of Cheshire Partnership should:

- (1) set a timescale of September 2007 for this work to be completed and should ensure that the officers concerned have the capacity to 'do their bit' to see the work completed by that date;
- (2) secure the involvement of the four district councils who were not represented at the first meeting; and
- (3) set a date for the outcome of this work to be reported to the full Partnership.

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Outcomes Framework for Adults - CSCI 2007

1. IMPROVED HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

Enjoying good physical and mental health (including protection from abuse and exploitation). Access to appropriate treatment and support in managing long-term conditions independently. There are opportunities for physical activity.

2. IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE

Access to leisure, social activities and life-long learning and to universal, public and commercial services. Security at home, access to transport and confidence in safety outside the home.

3. MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Maintaining involvement in local activities and being involved in policy development and decision-making.

4. INCREASED CHOICE AND CONTROL

Through maximum independence and access to information. Being able to choose and control services and helped to manage risk in personal life.

5. FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

Equality of access to services. Not being subject to abuse

6. ECONOMIC WELLBEING

Access to income and resources sufficient for a good diet, accommodation and participation in family and community life. Ability to meet costs arising from specific individual needs.

7. MAINTAINING PERSONAL DIGNITY AND RESPECT

Keeping clean and comfortable. Enjoying a clean and orderly environment. Availability of appropriate personal care.

8. LEADERSHIP

The CASSR has corporate arrangements and capacity to achieve consistent, sustainable and effective improvement in Adult Social Service. In addition to meeting the requirements for a grade 3 the following criteria are met in delivering excellent leadership.

9. COMMISSIONING AND USE OF RESOURCES;

The CASSR commissions and delivers services to clear standards of both quality and cost, by the most effective, economic and efficient means available. In addition to meeting the requirements for a grade 3 the following criteria are met in delivering excellent commissioning and use of resources.