

Early Action In Adult Social Care

Adult Social Care Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 6 May 2025

Lead director/officer: Ruth Lake

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Ruth Lake
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- Report version number: 1

1. Summary

- 1.1 This cover report accompanies the slide deck at appendix 1. It provides a high-level summary of work taking place in Adult Social Care (ASC) that enables the department to prevent, delay or reduce the need for statutory ASC services.
- 1.2 Whilst this type of support is commonly referred to as 'prevention', through co-production we understand that this is not a term that people who engage with ASC find helpful. Therefore, we choose to refer to this as 'early action'.
- 1.3 Appendix 1 illustrates the types of early action available, what impact we can see from this support and where our areas for further attention lie.

2. Recommendation(s) to scrutiny:

ASC Scrutiny Commission are invited to:

- Note and make any comments.

3. Main report

- 3.1 Adult Social Care (ASC) Scrutiny Commission members expressed an interest in understanding more about the range of preventative work taking place in ASC. Early action is the term used in ASC in Leicester to describe services, interventions or approaches that focus on enabling people to live their lives well, reducing the need for statutory services. This is a focus for ASC as:
 - It increases people's ability to be independent, drawing on the types of support available to everyone
 - It reduces costs to individuals who might otherwise need to contribute to statutory service provision
 - It reduces costs to the Council in meeting ASC needs through statutory, long-term services
 - It protects scarce resources for people whose needs can only be met through statutory provision
- 3.2 Early action can be described in three tiers:
 - 'Primary' or universal help, available to all citizens.
 - 'Secondary' or targeted help, available to people with emerging needs.

- 'Tertiary' or supplementary action that minimises the level of long-term support required.

3.3 In appendix 1, examples are provided of the types of activity that can be seen in each tier, together with the impacts that can be identified and, drawing on this information, our areas for further work to maximise the benefits of early action.

3.4 This report is for information only.

4. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. However, the Early Action approach will counter growing demand to help adult social care remain within budget. The total approved budget for 2025/26 is £178.9 million.

Signed: Mohammed Irfan, Head of Finance

Dated: 14 April 2025

4.2 Legal Implications

As this report is for information purposes only, there are no legal implications arising from this report.

Signed: Susan Holmes

Dated: 11th April 2025

4.3 Equalities Implications

There are no direct equality implications arising from this report as it is for information only. We need to ensure that equality considerations continue to be embedded through the early action services being provided across Adult Social Care in order to meet the needs of Leicester's diverse communities.

Signed: Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer

Dated: 10 April 2025

4.4 Climate Emergency Implications

The climate emergency implications of taking early action, and the resulting reduced need for statutory services are not likely to be significant.

Signed: Duncan Bell, Change Manager (Climate Emergency). Ext. 37 2249

Dated: 9th April 2025

4.5 Other Implications

None

Signed:

Dated:

5. Background information and other papers: None

6. Summary of appendices:

Appendix 1: Slide pack illustrating the early action offer