



Meeting CABINET

date 25th July 2007

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH

PUBLICATION OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CARERS' STRATEGY 2007 - 2009

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to the Nottinghamshire County Council's Adult Social Care and Health Carers' Strategy 2007 – 2009. The Executive Summary is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 1.2 A full copy of the Carers' Strategy has been circulated to Members only. A copy can be obtained on the Nottinghamshire County Council's website at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk or requested from Officers in the Adult Social Care and Health Department or the Chief Executive's Department, the latter as indicated on the agenda for the meeting.
- 1.3 The recommendations in this report constitute a key decision as they seek to develop services which will have a significant effect on a number of people and electoral divisions. This key decision was first published in the Forward Plan on 4th June 2007.

2. Information and Advice

- 2.1 The County Council recognises the valuable contribution that carers make in supporting people to remain at home.
- 2.2 From information in the 2001 census there are 83,181 adult carers in Nottinghamshire, over 10% of the adult population and the number is set to rise rapidly.

Nottinghamshire total	83,181
Ashfield	12,647
Bassetlaw	12,357
Broxtowe	11,638
Gedling	12,460
Mansfield	11,682
Newark and Sherwood	11,707
Rushcliffe	10,690

- 2.3 In addition from information in the 2001 census there were 2,194 young carers in Nottinghamshire.
- 2.4 The strategy builds upon the previous Carers Strategy and reflects key national and local drivers, the performance of the department and current resource issues. The strategy then states its desired outcomes together with its commissioning intentions in supporting carers.
- 2.5 The overall objective for adult carers is to support adult carers in order to enable those who wish to, to continue to provide care. To achieve this, the strategy is centred on three key themes:
- Improving Information for Carers
 - Increasing Support to Carers
 - Increasing Breaks for Carers
- 2.6 For young carers the Council recognises the impact caring can have. To reduce the demands on young carers the Adult Social Care and Health and Children and Young People's Departments will work together to build upon the existing support and services.
- 2.7 Following recent discussions with the two Primary Care Trusts, they have given their stated intention to develop a joint strategy with the department over the next two years.
- 2.8 Prior to final drafting for Cabinet approval, the department undertook a formal consultation process during May-June 2007. The consultation involved a Member briefing, staff briefing and a county-wide open event for carers. In addition the strategy document was sent for comment to carers, partners and key stakeholders.
- 2.9 The outcome of the consultation and record of comments is attached at **Appendix B**.

3. Statutory and Policy Implications

3.1 This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report. Members' attention is, however, drawn to the following:

3.1.1 Personnel Implications

The workforce planning requirements are detailed within the strategy.

3.1.2 Financial Implications

The financial implications of the department's commissioning intentions are detailed in the plans for each service area.

Intentions that have been funded within the Councils medium term financial strategy are shown as category 'A' items.

Intentions categorised as 'B', within the strategy are those plans which the department will look to fund through efficiency savings, modernisation plans and within the existing departmental budget envelope.

Category 'C' plans are those which the department will wish to take forward with our partners in the longer term and may go beyond the life of this strategy.

3.1.3 Equal Opportunities Implications

In accordance with the County Council policy, all service developments will reflect the needs of people from diverse communities and people with disabilities.

3.1.4 Implications for Service Users

The delivery of the commissioning priorities as outlined within the strategy document will enhance choice, promote independence and provide more control for people who use services and their carers.

3.1.5 Crime and Disorder Implications

The safeguarding of vulnerable adults and the prevention of crime to carers will be a feature of the department's strategic intent over the next two years.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approve the Nottinghamshire County Council's Adult Social Care and Health Department Carers' Strategy 2007 - 2009.

5. Legal Services' Comments (PE 29/06/07)

- 5.1 Consideration and approval of the proposal is within the authority of Cabinet. There are no other legal issues arising from the report that require specific comment.

6. Financial Comments of the Strategic Director (Resources)

- 6.1 The costs of funding the proposals set out in the Carers' Strategy will be met from within existing budget allocations. (RMK 02/07/07)

7. Background papers available for inspection

- 7.1 None.

8. Electoral Division(s) Affected

8.1 Nottinghamshire.

COUNCILLOR ALAN RHODES
Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health

(Com/CAB266)