



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

NEATH PORT TALBOT SOCIAL SERVICES, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CABINET BOARD

25th January 2024

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF ADULT SERVICES – A. THOMAS

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

All wards

NEATH PORT TALBOT ADULT SOCIAL CARE STRATEGY 2023 - 2026

Purpose of the Report:

To inform members of the outcome of the consultation on the draft Neath Port Talbot Adult Social Care Strategy 2023-26 (“Living the life you want”).

Executive Summary:

This Strategy sets out how Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (‘the Council’) and its partners can support adults resident in the county to live as independently as possible with appropriate levels of social care and support.

Background:

On 13th July 2023 the Social Services, Housing and Community Safety Cabinet Board approved a 60 day public consultation of the Strategy.

The purpose of the Adult Social Care Strategy 2023-26 “Living the life you want” is to outline the strategic direction of the Council for providing adult social care and support.

Individual choice and a flexible approach to service delivery has been vitally important, and listening and acting upon the views of our citizens and service providers will remain key. We have set out the Strategy covering three broad themes:

- Helping people to help themselves (IAA, supporting unpaid carers, promoting Assistive Technology)
- Building relationships and making connections (unpaid carers, social isolation, remodelling Network teams, Prevention and Early Intervention, volunteering)
- Living the life you want (putting individuals at the centre of decision making, positive risk-taking, appropriate accommodation)

A range of engagement and consultation activities took place between 31st July and 29th September 2023 to help inform the Plan. The purpose of this was to:

- Provide a mechanism for people to contribute their views of the Plan, make comments and suggestions, including alternative proposals
- Find out whether people agreed or disagreed with the proposals and the reasons why.

A wide ranging consultation generated three online questionnaire responses. A full consultation report is included as Appendix 5 to this

document, including a “you said, we did” section. Some comments received were statements which did not require a response. All comments received are included for reference purposes.

A key theme was the acknowledgement of a focus on individual’s care and support needs, putting people at the centre of decision making.

In light of the consultation responses the essence of the draft Strategy remains intact, i.e. the themes outlined above.

We are challenging and changing how we deliver social care in NPT in order to improve services, reduce our expenditure as we face a cost-of-living crisis, and live within the Council’s available resources. This will put Adult Social Care on a sustainable footing whilst ensuring that people who need services receive them.

However, our fundamental vision for Adult Social Care remains; residents should live as independently as possible, carers are supported in their caring role, and adults at risk of abuse or neglect are kept safe from harm.

Furthermore, the Strategy will be subject to regular review to ensure it maintains relevance.

A copy of the Strategy is attached at Appendix 1.

Financial Impacts:

Taking forward the priorities within the Strategy will be undertaken in line with the available budget, where appropriate. Programmes of work with financial implications will be outlined separately to seek approval.

Integrated Impact Assessment:

A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The first stage impact assessment has indicated that a more in-depth assessment was required.

An overview of the Integrated Impact Assessment has been included below in summary form only and it is essential that Members read the Integrated Impact Assessment, which is attached to the report at Appendix 4, for the purposes of the meeting.

- No negative impacts identified at this stage and the indication is that the overall impact will be positive. Processes are in place to monitor the impact for any unintended negative consequences.

Valleys Communities Impacts:

The Strategy is a high level document intended to meet the needs of the whole county borough including the valleys communities.

Furthermore, as actions to take forward the priorities within the Strategy are developed, consideration of the impact on supporting valleys communities will be given as part of the individual impact assessments.

Workforce Impacts:

The contents of this report do not have any impact on the Council's workforce.

Legal Impacts:

There are no legal implications associated with this item.

Risk Management Impacts:

There are no known risks associated with this item.

Consultation:

On 13th July 2023, Members approved a 60 day public consultation in respect of the Strategy. During this period, 31st July to 29th September 2023, the consultation was promoted via the Council's website and other media, staff teams and forums.

A consultation document, an easy read version of the Strategy, and plan on a page were all developed prior to the consultation. In addition, all materials are available in Welsh.

The volume of response was not statistically significant enough to suggest that feedback was representative of any widespread objection or endorsement and, given how widely the exercise was publicised, could be interpreted as suggestive of general support for the proposed Strategy.

Recommendations:

Having had due regard to the Integrated Impact Assessment it is recommended that Members approve the Neath Port Talbot Adult Social Care Strategy 2023-26 as detailed in Appendix 1.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

To ensure a range of good quality care and support is available to meet the needs of adults resident in Neath Port Talbot.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Adult Social Care Strategy 2023-26

Appendix 2: Adult Social Care Strategy – Easy Read

Appendix 3: Adult Social Care Strategy – Plan on a Page

Appendix 4: Integrated Impact Assessment

Appendix 5: Adult Social Care Strategy Consultation Document

List of Background Papers:

None

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