

DRAFT



London Borough of Enfield

Report Title	Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy (2023-2027)
Report to:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	13 th September 2023
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Cazimoglu
Directors:	Executive Director People - Tony Theodoulou Director Adult Social Care – Doug Wilson
Report Author:	Lia Markwick lia.markwick@enfield.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	All
Key Decision Number	KD 5581
Implementation date, if not called in:	Upon approval of Council.
Classification:	Part 1
Reason for exemption	N/A

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide information on the development of *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* and seek Cabinet approval to publish and progress the final document.

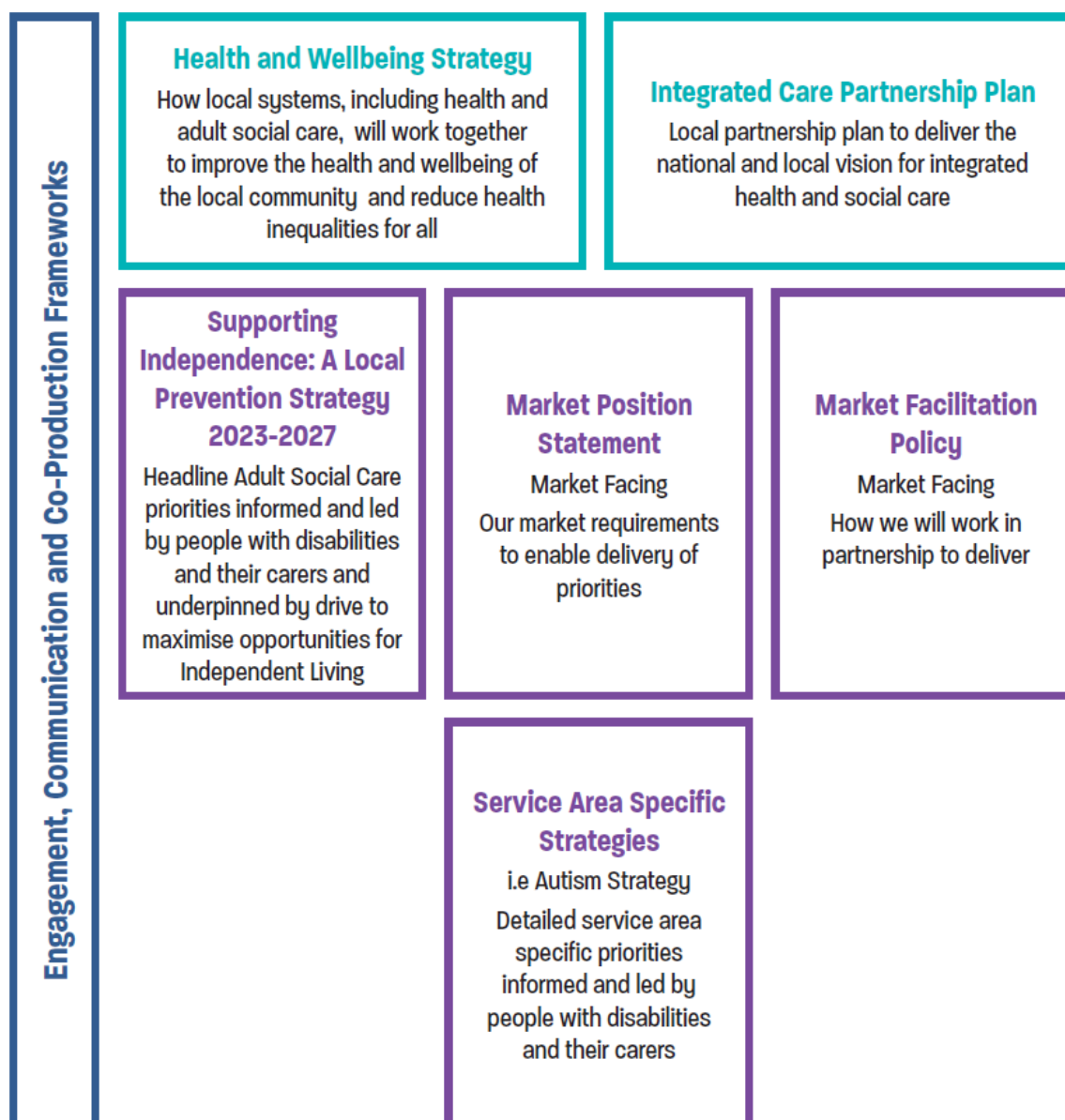
Recommendations

- I. To note work undertaken to inform and develop *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027*
- II. To note content of the draft *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* including headline priorities for supporting independence, choice and control for young people in transition to adulthood, adults and older people with support and care needs.
- III. To approve the publication and roll out of *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027*

Background and Options

2. The purpose of the *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* is to set out headline priorities for supporting independent living for young people in transition to adulthood, adults (18-64 years) and older people (65 years and over) with adult social care needs in Enfield over the next five years.
3. Recognising that barriers to living independently reach beyond adult social care, the strategy first considers '*Universal Themes*' that can impact a person's opportunity to live independently, including information and advice, health and housing. It also considers growing opportunities to enhance independent living through the use of digital technology – a landscape of opportunity that continues to evolve.
4. The latter section of this strategy focuses on specific priorities for supporting independent living, according to nature of disability or area of need. These '*In Focus*' areas include specific consideration of:
 - People with learning disabilities
 - Autistic people
 - People with mental health support needs
 - Older people with care and support needs
 - People with physical and/or sensory impairment
 - People with long term conditions (diabetes, for example)
 - Unpaid carers
 - Young people in transition from younger people to adult services

5. *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* is intended to complement existing strategies and contribute to a holistic portfolio of documents, that together set out, in partnership with people who need support and their carers, what we need locally to better support independent living and how we will work with the stakeholders to deliver.



6. A full draft of *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* and draft Year 1 Action Plan, to be fully developed through co-production, is located in Appendix 1.

Working Together to Shape Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027

7. The Strategy has been shaped through ongoing engagement with service users, carers and representatives of voluntary and community sector

organisations through our Partnership Boards and subsequent Focus Groups (See Appendix 2: Engagement Log).

8. A further 8 weeks public consultation was undertaken between February and April 2023. Feedback was encouraged by return of a hard copy or online questionnaire (easy read versions available), or attendance at drop in events held across the borough.
9. The opportunity to inform and shape the draft strategy was further promoted through:
 - The Community Development Team e-bulletin, reaching circa 800 voluntary and community sector organisations
 - Direct circulation to key Voluntary & Community Sector Organisations known to Adult Social Care.

How has Engagement and Consultation activity shaped the Strategy?

10. Feedback received during the development of this Strategy and subsequent public consultation has directly shaped the final draft and will continue to drive action planning. The scope of the Strategy is broad, and so too was the feedback received. An overview of feedback, in addition to how and where feedback is incorporated on key points is included in Appendix 2. Common themes of engagement activity included:
 - The importance of understanding that living with independence means different things to different people
 - The importance of information and advice that is equally accessible to all – embracing opportunities for using technology whilst ensuring technology is not a barrier to information access.
 - The importance of understanding what the options are to support independence including housing options.

Action Plan, Governance & Review

11. A draft action plan (See Appendix 1) accompanies the final version of the Strategy. It includes draft Year 1 actions and measures of success with the intention that Action Plans are further developed and co-produced with Partnership Boards.
12. Ongoing governance of the completed strategy shall be through the Joint Health & Adult Social Care Board, with a reporting line to the Health & Wellbeing Board and annual updates to Partnership Boards.

Preferred Option and Reasons for Preferred Option

13. The production of a *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* provides the opportunity to set out, in partnership with people who use health and social care services and their carers, local priorities for action to support independent living, in line with Adult Social Care Reform White Paper 'People at the Heart of Care' and Department of

Health & Social Care White Paper 'Integration & Innovation: Working Together to Improve Health and Social Care for All.'

14. The publication of *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* is recommended because:
 - It provides a clear strategic framework for continuous improvement in how we support people to maximise independence, choice and control
 - It embeds the views of service users, carers and community organisations shared during engagement and consultation activity, to support the delivery of user driven services.
 - It provides evidence against CQC's Assessment Framework for Local Authority Assurance, specifically in respect of Quality Statement 'Supporting People to live healthier lives'.
15. The roll out of this Strategy will also support the Council in responding to increasing service demand for Adult Social Care Services. In 2023/2024 the net expenditure budget for Adult Social Care and Public Health represents the largest area of Council net expenditure. Adult Social Care net expenditure rose from £76,058,489 in 2019/2020 to £97,057,050 projected at P3 in 2023/24.

Relevance to Council Plans and Strategies

16. *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* supports delivery of objectives set out in Enfield Council's Corporate Plan (2023-2026).
17. It supports *Strong, healthy and safe communities* by protecting vulnerable adults from harm, delivering robust early help and social care services and working with partners to provide high quality and accessible health services
18. It supports *More and better homes* by driving up standards in housing and supporting a range of specialist housing for those who need it, including older people with support and care needs. It further focuses on the importance of well-connected, digitally enabled communities through the enhancement of the borough's Assistive Technology offer.
19. It supports *an economy that works for everyone* by supporting skills development, training and employment for adults and older people with support and care needs.
20. *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* is also consistent with Corporate Principles, particularly Fairer Enfield, Accessible & Responsive Services and Collaboration & Early Help.
21. The Strategy is consistent with current approved Council budgets. It is aligned with the current Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and savings delivery plans.

Financial Implications

22. The report is to approve *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* and also has an action plan formulated from the strategy.
23. The service confirms that the strategy and action plans are consistent with current approved council budgets and does not involve any incremental costs or risks and is consistent with current MTFP and savings delivery plans and will support plans in the longer term.
24. Independent living is better for individuals and with better outcomes for them, which can help divert and delay individuals from more dependent and often more costly care and support options.
25. Co-production and working in partnerships help to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of what we do as a council, bringing more resources and expertise to develop the strategy and delivery of the action plan and further help ensure service users are getting the care they need and want.

Legal Implications

26. The Care Act 2014 (“the Act”) places duties and powers on local authorities about care and support for adults who are in need. Promoting a person’s wellbeing is one of the core principles of the Act. The concept of ‘independent living’ is a core part of the wellbeing principle and includes matters such as an individual’s control of their day-to-day life, suitability of living accommodation and contribution to society. When a local authority is exercising a function under the Act in the case of an individual, it is the duty of a local authority to promote that person’s wellbeing. This includes listening to the person’s wishes and feelings to live independently and developing a care plan to meet that expectation. *Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027* will therefore support the local authority to comply with its duty to promote wellbeing and independent living for its services users.

Equalities Implications

27. To analyse the impact of this strategy on various groups in the borough, an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed, enclosed with this report as Appendix 3.
28. The purpose of this Strategy is to support independence for all people with support and care needs, and as such no likely negative differential impact on any protected characteristic group has been identified. However, the EQIA undertaken for this strategy identified that adults aged 18-64 and older people aged 65 years and over with disabilities were likely to be particularly affected by this strategy.
29. Given the likely differential impact identified for these groups, officers sought to engage people within these groups at an early stage, to facilitate

the development of a strategy driven by those who are likely to be impacted by it. This included:

- The engagement of Partnership Boards and the set-up of Focus Groups to include older people, people with disabilities and people from minority ethnic backgrounds from inception
 - The development of accessible / 'easy read' consultation documents and questionnaires to support involvement
 - The availability of translation services as required
30. The EQIA identified groups with protected characteristics in receipt of adult social care services that may be underrepresented or overrepresented when compared to overall population data. Priorities have been included within the Strategy which focus on supporting these underrepresented or overrepresented groups. Additional work shall be identified and reviewed during action planning to further understand the profile of these underrepresented or overrepresented groups and work towards improving reach and/or opportunities for intervention as appropriate within the scope of the Strategy.
31. Further areas of focus identified through the equalities impact assessment and subsequent engagement activity have been reflected in the Strategy, and/or will be further developed and considered within strategy action plans. Issues include:
- Access to training/employment opportunities particularly for people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and mental ill health;
 - Access to appropriate accommodation and support in the community as a viable alternative to residential care placements, particularly for older people;
 - Access to good and timely information/advice for people from older and disability groups;
 - Access to early intervention and prevention services and support for people with particular long-term health conditions.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 *Draft Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy 2023-2027 & Draft Year 1 Action Plan*

Appendix 2 Engagement Log

Appendix 3 EQIA

Background Papers

None.