

Mid Year Review 2016/17 – 2020/21

Directorate: People

Service/Service Area: Adult Social Care

1. Description of Service

Better social care support planning

2. Proposed changes

Note: These savings proposals replace those savings proposals previously associated with the re-commissioning of younger adults provision.

In order to maximise independence, reduce service user financial contributions and to reduce costs for the council, work will continue to identify and facilitate more effective means of meeting assessed eligible need for care and support and reducing council expenditure accordingly.

New or different approaches will be, and are being continuously devised and introduced in consultation and with the support of service users in order to meet their assessed eligible needs. These can include:

- Utilising more facilities, clubs and services which exist within the community rather than other more specialist paid for services
- Providing enhanced support to enable people to live at home rather than placing them in residential care
- Helping service users to share personal carers in order to provide better value for money
- Making best use of aids and adaptations in order to reduce the requirement for domiciliary care.

New approaches will be tested and promoted only where there is the agreement of the service user and there is demonstrable evidence that it will increase independence and provide better value for money.

3. Level of savings expected from the proposal

	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000
Gross saving	2,727	4,700	5,700	5,700	5,700
Less revenue implementation costs					
Net saving	2,727	4,700	5,700	5,700	5,700
Less saving already shown within LTFP					
New saving generated	2,727	4,700	5,700	5,700	5,700

Note: There is a significant risk that savings delivered through this initiative could be offset by increased expenditure resulting from demographic pressures. Between April and August 2016 the number of service users assessed as having eligible needs for care and support has increased by 572 or 5.1%.

4. How will these savings/budget reductions be made?

These savings will be achieved by identifying and implementing more effective ways of meeting assessed eligible need for care and support.

Currently the Council spends approximately £249 million in providing financial support to meet the assessed eligible needs of 11,692 service users. Before financial support is provided a needs assessment is undertaken and a support plan developed. In order to deliver the support plan a care package is then put in place in consultation with the service user.

Since April 2016 the average weekly cost to the Council of a service user care package has reduced by 2.4% or £10.

Savings are being, and will be achieved, by social care professionals working with service users to identify and put in place innovative and value for money approaches to meeting eligible needs for care and support.

This takes place as part of the support planning process and is informed by the Council's existing social care policy framework, operational guidance, training and support.

It is also dependent on the Council's commissioning and market shaping activity which aims to ensure that there is sufficient supply of those services required which meet the required quality and value for money thresholds

Note: There is a significant risk that savings delivered through this initiative could be offset by increased expenditure resulting from demographic pressures. Between April 2016 and August 2016 the number of service users assessed as having eligible needs for care and support has increased by 572 or 5.1%.

5. Head Count/FTE implications

There will be no direct reduction in headcount as a result of these proposals.

6. Implications of the proposal on Service Users

There will be no changes to the Council's approach to assessing eligible need, which will still be undertaken in accordance with approach and criteria set out in the Care Act.

However there could be changes to the solutions identified to ensure that eligible needs for care and support are met. How eligible needs for care and support are met is part of the support planning process and these changes once agreed are recorded in the service users Support Plan.

Utilisation of new and different means of meeting eligible needs for care and support will mean that some service users will experience different ways of these needs being met than they or other service users may have experienced in the past.

It is likely that take up of alternative means of meeting eligible care and support needs will be greatest amongst new service users. However as part of its regular review process, and in the event of a change of circumstance, the Council in consultation with service users will consider new approaches, where appropriate for all service users.

7. Implications of the proposal on Outcomes

The proposals within this project should have a significant impact on achieving the Council's vision of maximising independence for adults

8. EIA No & date of assessment

ID EA001440 9/9/16

9. Implementation Plan

This work is being taken forward as part of the Maximising Independence of Adults Programme.

- Work to devise and implement more effective means of promoting independence and delivering better value for money is ongoing and a core social care activity
- The Maximising Independence of Adults Programme was mobilised in April 2016
- A range of projects are currently underway to investigate and promote the benefits of a range of initiatives to provide greater independence and choice for service users including the Direct Payment project and the Shared Lives initiative

10. Sign Off

Service Director	Comments Signature Date
Directorate Finance	Comments Signature Date