

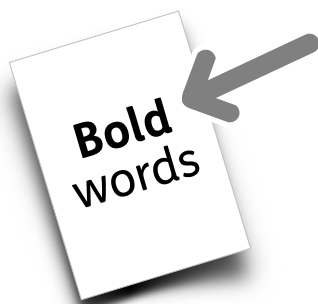
Adult Social Care Business Plan

2021 to 2025



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In this easy read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are blue and underlined. These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

Introduction



Essex County Council has written this plan for Adult **Social Care** services over the next 4 years.



Social care is special support for people who need some help with everyday things, like washing and eating.



This plan explains:

- how we want to work and
- what we want to do.

How we want to work



We want people to be able to live the best lives they can.

Communities

We want to work more with local communities so that:

- People get help sooner, before things get worse.
- People get the right support at the right time.
- People who use social care can be supported close to where they live.





- People live as independently as possible and have a good life.



- We work better with local organisations.

What we want for people

We want people to:

- Be as independent as possible.



- Feel good about themselves.



- Be safe.



- Be able to make choices and have control over the support they get.



- Feel good about the health and care services that they get.



- Have a good home that is right for them.



- Have a chance to go out and have fun.



- Have the opportunity to get a job.



- Get a fair chance to have good quality health and social care.



- Be included in events and activities.

How we work

We want to:



- Let local people and local communities decide what is best for them.



- Provide care services that are right for each individual person.



- Do things that we know will work well by checking what things have worked:
 - In the past.
 - In other counties.



- Support people as soon as we can, so that things don't get worse.



- Work together with other organisations.



- Keep on trying to do things in a better way.

Money



We have to make sure that we are careful about how we spend our money.



We will not have as much money as we would like over next few years.



This is because:

- Prices are going up. It costs more and more to run our services.
- More people are living longer. There are more older people who need more support.





We plan to look after our money so that we can:

- Provide the services that people need.

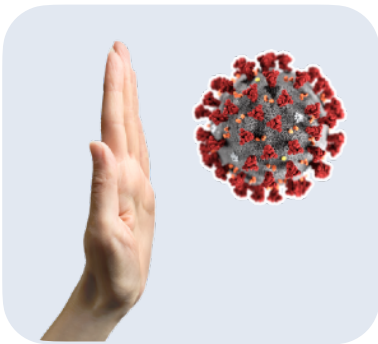


- Improve the services we provide.

What are we good at?



We have great staff working for us.



Our staff have worked especially hard to help people through the difficulties caused by Covid-19.



We spend our money carefully.



We work together with people who use services to think about how to improve and set up new services.



We have helped more disabled people to get a paid job.



We are working together better with NHS health services.

What could be better?



We need to make sure our staff feel well supported as this will help them do a good job.



We want to get better at deciding who to help first because more and more people need our help.



We want to make the best use of **technology** to help us work better.

Technology is computers, phones and the internet.



We need the different parts of the Council to work together better.



We don't have enough money to provide all the services and support that we would like to.



We need to improve the support to carers.



We need to give people more choice and control over the services they use.

Our priorities



Priorities are the most important things that should be done first.

Essex County Council has 4 main priorities:



1. Helping businesses to grow and create good jobs in a way that is good for the environment.



2. Improving services for children and families so that people are safe, especially children that need extra support.



3. Improving the environment so that there is less pollution and waste.



4. Improving the health, wellbeing and independence of children, young people and adults.

The council will work to improve people's health, wellbeing and independence by:



- Supporting people to live healthy lives.



- Helping people to live independently.



- Making sure people get treatment and care locally or in their own homes.



- Providing more support for carers.



- Helping people from poorer areas to have better health.

The most important things Adult Social Care must do

Adult Social Care services must focus on:

- Helping people that might need care and support sooner.
- Supporting carers.
- Helping people to access better housing and jobs.
- Supporting and caring for people locally or in their own homes.
- Giving people a choice of different organisations that could care for them.





- Improving the way we work so that people get:
 - More independence.



- Choice about how they are supported.



- Control over their support.



- Using computers, phones and the internet to help people be more independent.

Involving other services



There are other parts of the council and local health services that will help us achieve our plans for Adult Social Care.



These include the council's plans to:

- Improve the way we find and keep good staff.



- Spend our money carefully so that there is enough money for the most important things.



- Work with other organisations to provide services for people.



- Improve the way we look after information and listen to people.



- Improve the ways we use new equipment, like computers, phones and the internet.



- Improve the way we manage all of the work we have to do.

Checking that the plans are working

We will check that our plans are working by:



- Making sure everyone knows about our plans.



- Regularly checking that the work is being done.



- Getting feedback from the people we support to make sure we are making the right changes.



- Telling everyone about the progress we are making.

For more information



You can look at our website here:
www.essex.gov.uk

If you need more information please
contact us by post:



Jane Rigler
Head of Business Planning and
Performance
Essex County Council
County Hall
Chelmsford
Essex
CM1 1QH

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