

Report title: ASC priority area of focus: Unpaid Carers	
Report to: People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Nick Presmeg, Executive Director for Adult Social Care	
Date: 9 th October 2023	For: Consideration and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions
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County Divisions affected: County wide	

1. Introduction

In June 2023 the committee reviewed the Council's work to prepare for Care Quality Commission (CQC) Assurance of Local Authority adult social care functions. Adult Social Care (ASC) had undertaken an extensive period of reflection and learning including self-assessment, regional peer challenge activity and a Local Government Association peer challenge. Following the scrutiny meeting it was agreed that the committee would review each of the 5 priority areas of focus identified by ASC. This report is focussing on the offer for unpaid carers.

2. Action required

The Committee is asked to consider:

- (i) **The progress we have made in delivering our All-Age Carers Strategy against the areas we have identified for development to support unpaid carers in Essex.**
- (ii) **Identify any follow-up scrutiny actions.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Adult Social Care has used the first part of 2023 to reflect and take stock on how the function had reset post pandemic. Essex County Council (ECC) wants to ensure that it is focused on quality, effectiveness, value for money and is enabling personalised outcomes for local people, which will put ECC in the best place possible for the CQC assurance.
- 3.2 Following this period of reflection ASC has identified 5 priority areas of focus:
 - 3.2.1 Carers,
 - 3.2.2 Lived experience & coproduction,
 - 3.2.3 People waiting and operational service efficiency,

ASC priority area of focus: Safeguarding Adults

3.2.4 Safeguarding

3.2.5 Equality, diversity & inclusions

- 3.3 This report focuses on the work we are undertaking to a) reach more unpaid carers in Essex and b) have an appropriate offer of early support for them. The report sets out the progress we have made in delivering the commitments we made in our all-age carers strategy and subsequently satisfy the requirements of CQC.

Expected attendees to support the discussion:

Nick Presmeg, Executive Director, Adult Social Care

Simon Griffiths, Director for Adult Social Care

Chris Martin, Director for Strategic Commissioning and Policy

Clare Burrell, Head of Strategic Commissioning and Policy

5 Appendix

Power Point presentation: Unpaid Carers report to Scrutiny September 2023