

AGE OF OPPORTUNITY STRATEGY

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report advises Members of Essex County Council's four year strategic plan for supporting the choice and independence of Older People, which has recently been published in draft form, and invites Members to comment.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Essex County Council has been working with partners to develop a new strategic framework and direction for Adult Social Care for the people of Essex. Building on local and national priorities, the Age of Opportunity Strategy has now been circulated for comment. The County Council has been working with older people and colleagues since 2005 in developing the new strategy.

3 STRATEGIC AIMS

- 3.1 The Strategy identifies the Council's medium term plan to improve services for older people and their carers and aims to deliver the seven outcomes which were identified in the White Paper "Our Health, Our Care, Our Say: A New Direction for Community Services". The seven outcomes are as follows:-
- Improved health
 - Improved quality of life
 - Making a positive contribution
 - The exercise of choice and control
 - Freedom from discrimination or harassment
 - Economic well-being
 - Personal dignity

- 3.2 The Strategy is appended to this report and the County Council are inviting views on any aspect of the document, but particularly on how the outcomes are to be achieved.

4 OFFICER VIEWS

- 4.1 The draft Strategy has been circulated within the Council and its content does not conflict with our plans or priorities. There is general support for certain proposals that require joint action, such as specialist housing provision, and the handyman services. However, further information would be needed on the proposed actions and resource implications if this agenda were to be

meaningfully developed. In the circumstances, it is suggested that the Council supports the Strategy in principle and looks forward to receiving more detailed information as action planning progresses.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES** to advise the County Council of its support in principle for the draft Strategy and proposed actions as outlined in the document, but that more detailed information as to implementation, outcomes and resource requirements would be welcomed.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers:-

None

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If you would like this report in large print, braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.