

## **Wiltshire Council**

### **Cabinet**

**4 April 2017**

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**Subject: Wiltshire End of Life Care Strategy**

**Cabinet Member: Cllr Jerry Wickham – Cabinet Member for Health  
(including Public Health) and Adult Social Care**

**Key Decision: No**

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#### **Executive Summary**

Wiltshire's End of Life Care (EoLC) Strategy sets out our local vision for EoLC which is personalised, well co-ordinated and empowers patients to make informed choices about their care.

This refreshed strategy reinforces our commitment to improving and developing end of life care and support services.

It adopts a community approach to end of life care that integrates clinical, psychological, spiritual and social efforts in recognition that death, dying, loss and care take place in everyday life.

A range of factors influenced this refreshed strategy development: national and local guidelines and policies, best practice models, feedback from patients and insights from health and social care professionals.

The key objectives are to embed the recommendations from the National Palliative and End of Life Care Partnership ambitions framework, which builds on the 2008 Department of Health (DH) Strategy for End of Life Care.

Since this strategies predecessor in 2014 we have made significant progress and have worked collaboratively with our providers to implement a range of innovative end of life care services.

Continuing to learn and enhance work in a joined-up manner across health, social care and the voluntary sector will be fundamental to our approach as we move forward.

The improvement in service delivery that is expected from this strategy will require ownership and leadership from across the system in partnership with carers, patients, families and others that are important to them.

The draft strategy was shared with members of the Healthwatch Wiltshire readers' panel and was used to inform the version of the strategy used in the wider public engagement.

We heard from 91 people in total with public meetings in Salisbury, Royal Wootton Bassett and Bradford on Avon in November 2016. The feedback received will help shape ongoing work and service developments.

An Implementation Plan will now be developed by the End of Life Programme Board following approval of this Strategy.

This will outline the prioritised actions to be implemented within the next three years.

### **Proposal**

For cabinet to adopt the End of Life Care Strategy

### **Reason for Proposal**

To reinforce our commitment to improving and developing end of life care and support services across Wiltshire and to embed the recommendations from the National Palliative and End of Life Care Partnership ambitions framework, which builds on the 2008 Department of Health (DH) Strategy for End of Life Care.

**Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director**

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### **Purpose of Report**

1. To seek cabinet's endorsement of the Wiltshire End of Life Care Strategy.

### **Relevance to the Council's Business Plan**

2. The EoLC strategy supports the council's business plan to create stronger more resilient communities by adopting a community approach to end of life care, and by protecting those who are most vulnerable.

### **Main Considerations for the Council**

3. To adopt the refreshed Wiltshire End of Life Care Strategy.

### **Background**

4. Wiltshire previous EoLC strategy comes to an end in 2017. This refreshed strategy reinforces our commitment to improving and developing end of life care and support services.

### **Overview and Scrutiny Engagement**

5. The EoLC strategy and implementation plan will be made available for consideration by Health Select Committee, with the Committee's next meeting scheduled for 27 June 2017.

### **Safeguarding Implications**

6. All organisations involved in end of life care will follow relevant safeguarding procedures.

### **Public Health Implications**

7. None identified

### **Procurement Implications**

8. Where in delivering the aims of this strategy it involves the award of contracts with providers these will be undertaken by the Strategic Procurement Hub in collaboration with a range of applicable stakeholders and in accordance with the council's Procurement and Contracts Regulations.

### **Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

9. The consultation document for the End of Life strategy highlighted some potential areas equality to be addressed going forward. For example, white writing within the strategy document on a colour background can be difficult for some people to read, particularly people with a visual impairment, and some participants felt that the graphs were difficult to understand.
10. Members of the public thought that there was a lack of focus on unpaid carers, and respondents felt that some consideration of people from different cultures, religions and those without a religion would be beneficial.
11. Feedback from the consultation process will be actively used to shape the ongoing work and service developments of the Wiltshire End of Life Care Programme Board. An Implementation Plan will now be developed by the End of Life Programme Board following approval of the strategy which will outline the prioritised actions to be implemented within the next three years.

### **Environmental and Climate Change Considerations**

12. Not applicable

### **Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken**

13. The Strategy requires updating. Not taking this decision will mean that the EoLC Strategy will be out of date. There is a risk that decisions taken outside of a strategy could be conflicting.
14. There's an additional reputational risk of operating without a strategy and council decisions being questioned.

### **Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks**

15. There is a risk that the strategy could be challenged in the future. The already done in consultation involving stake holders mitigates this risk as far as possible.

### **Financial Implications**

16. There are no additional Financial commitments identified within this refreshed strategy.

### **Legal Implications**

17. There are no additional legal commitments identified within this refreshed strategy.

## **Conclusions**

18. Our commitment to EoLC in Wiltshire should be maintained and built upon through the adoption of this refreshed strategy and through the future development of a three year implementation plan.

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## **Appendices**

- End of Life Care Strategy 2017-2020
- Public Health Engagement on the Wiltshire End of Life Care for Adults Strategy 2017-2020

## **Background Papers**

None