

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001089
Date 24 April 2017

Care Act 2014

Request:

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The information requested relates to the implementation by your council of the Care Act 2014 which came into force on April 1st 2015.

We would like to know:

1. What actions has your council taken to comply with Clause 2 of the Care Act 2014 (“Preventing needs for Care and Support”)?
[Details contained within the cabinet paper published on 15th April 2015 – titled Promoting Independence:](#)

<https://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s9735/Item%206%20-%20Promoting%20Independence.pdf>

A number of projects have been completed or are underway which support the realisation of the Promoting Independence paper. The Council’s Adult Social Care Transformation Programme and BCF Programme both contain elements which directly contribute to compliance with clause 2, including; the design and implementation of an information and advice service, development of a more effective first contact function within the customer service centre, development of the community based offer, the launch of a new telecare service, improvements to the bed based and domiciliary based reablement offer, improved hospital discharge pathways and processes.

2.
 - a) Have you developed a ‘local approach to prevention’ as per Section 2.23 of the Care and Support Statutory Guidance (“Developing a local approach to preventative support”) updated in February 2017?
 - [Yes](#)
 - No
 - The council is in the process of developing one[As per Q1 and Q3 answers](#)
 - b) Does your local approach clearly specify a range of examples of all three types of prevention set out in Chapter 2 of the Care and Support Statutory Guidance (“Preventing, reducing or delaying needs”)?
 - [Yes](#)

- No

As per Q1

3.

a) Have you developed a 'commissioning strategy for prevention' as per 2.24 of the Care and Support Statutory Guidance (within "Developing a local approach to preventative support")?

- Yes

- No

- The council is in the process of developing one

The Council has developed a People Directorate Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2021. The strategy takes a thematic approach to commissioning for all areas of the people directorate including Children and Young People, Adults with Disabilities and Public Health and has a strong emphasis on prevention, reducing and delaying needs. The strategy was considered by Cabinet on the 26 April 2017 and will be subject to public consultation, with a final version that has been informed by consultation scheduled for reconsideration by Cabinet for approval on 19 July 2017.

b) Does this commissioning strategy clearly specify a range of examples of all three types of prevention set out in Chapter 2 of the Care and Support Statutory Guidance ("Preventing, reducing or delaying needs")?

- Yes

- No

Detail of the draft strategy is available on the following link:

<http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s41331/Item%2013%20-%20Final%20People%20Commissioning%20Strategy.pdf>

4.

a) Have you identified 'services, facilities and resources that are already available in your area, which could support to prevent, reduce or delay needs' as per section 2.26 of the Care and Support Statutory Guidance ("Developing a local approach to preventative support")?

- Yes

- No

- The council is in the process of doing this

b) If yes, how did you identify these services, facilities and resources?

People Directorate services such as the community support team, carer support team, telecare service and reablement service all provide/or support people to access universally available preventative type support. The Council also has an online information and advice service which is managed by a dedicated team who work with the local community to highlight community based opportunities that support the prevention agenda. There is also a corporate approach to working with the voluntary sector to ensure there is a vibrant voluntary offer in the city. With Public Health a full part of the People Directorate there is close working to identify priority areas for preventative work in relation to wellbeing, prevention and delaying needs.

5.

a) Have you identified 'unmet need' as per section 2.30 of the Care and Support Statutory Guidance ("Developing a local approach to preventative support")?

- Yes

- No

- The council is in the process of doing this

b) If yes, how have you done this?

The market position statement and draft people directorate strategy identify areas of unmet need and through commissioning approaches are exploring alternative ways to support people with unmet needs through either formally commissioned services, voluntary sector support, and through approaches that support people to identify support in either their own networks or communities. The Community Support Team has been trialling an approach to social prescribing, working with GPs to identify people who have unmet care and support needs that may, or may not, meet Care Act eligibility enabling them to access things that support them in a personalised way.

6. What actions has your council taken to comply with Clause 3 of the Care Act 2014 ("Promoting integration of care and support with health services etc."). Please give details.

The Council is a statutory partner in the local Better Care Fund Programme. Key workstreams under the programme include improving discharge to assess arrangements, support for people with dementia and improving mental health support. The Council considers it has a key role in influencing what an Accountable Care System in the City will look like and the work of the Health and Wellbeing board holds the local system to account in relation to how partners work together to improve the local system, including through any integrated approaches.

Data integration has been part of the transformation agenda too, and the Council has worked with the local CCG to commission systems to improve intelligence across the local health and social care system.

The Council is a signatory and involved where appropriate in delivering support as part of the Wolverhampton End of Life Strategy.