

MEMBER BRIEFING

CARE TOGETHER

Cambridgeshire County Council's Adult Social Care Commissioning Team is leading a place-based, co-produced programme to support older people (including all client groups, e.g. learning disabilities, mental health and other long term conditions) to remain happy at home for longer, initially in East Cambridgeshire.

The Care Together programme has three strategic aims:

- 1) Introduce community-driven place-based commissioning
- 2) Improve the Home Care offer available to local people
- 3) Jointly develop early intervention and prevention for older people

Following extensive coproduction and collaboration with a wide range of statutory and community partners, service users and local residents, 12 projects/workstreams have been identified as part of the Programme and are being implemented in East Cambridgeshire and in some cases countywide. The 12 projects and their overarching aims are summarised below:

Countywide

- **Libraries as Community Hubs** (Safe spaces for older people to learn new skills and find out more about the range of support available in their local community).
- **Expansion of Community Assets** (Support the growth of new and existing grass roots community and volunteer groups who provide informal care and support to older people)
- **Holistic Home Care** (Develop a personalised and outcome focused model of Council-funded homecare which reduces loneliness, improves wellbeing and older people maintain independence)
- **Place-Based Home Care** (Change how the Council purchases homecare through the introduction of geographical zones to reduce care worker travel, increase homecare capacity and reduce carbon emissions)
- **Day Opportunities Review** (Updated and co-designed offer of daytime opportunities to better meet the wishes of older people)
- **Wrap Around Services for Independence** (Develop an integrated offer of Early Intervention & Prevention services including technology-enabled care which can be easily accessed by older people and their families/carers)
- **Dementia & Carer-Friendly Communities** (Creating inclusive environments for all).

East Cambridgeshire only (currently)

- **Transport & Community Connections** (improve accessible transport in rural communities for older people to make it easier to stay socially connected).
- **Care Micro-Enterprises: Community Catalysts** (expand the supply of homecare by supporting individuals to set up micro-enterprises and become sole traders in home care)

- **Individual Service Funds** (Introduction of personalised care and support planning by a trusted provider to give older people more opportunity to choose how they receive care and support with the guidance and assistance of the provider)
- **Self-Help Questionnaire and Directory** (Person-centred guide which promotes wellbeing and independence and provides information on the range of support available locally for older people)
- **Proactive Early Intervention Team** (Identification of and outreach to frail older people who may have unidentified support needs by a multidisciplinary team from health and social care)

Some of the above workstreams will be led by County Council teams, including *Commissioning, Prevention & Early Intervention* and *Think Communities*, while others will fall to District Councils, Integrated Care Partnerships or *Integrated Neighbourhoods*, but all will be multi-disciplinary with significant involvement of the NHS and other local stakeholders, including residents and service users.

The programme will benefit from independent evaluation by investigators led by Prof. Louise Lafortune, Scientific Coordinator of the Ageing Well Programme at the NIHR School of Public Health Research, University of Cambridge, ensuring the outcomes of Care Together deliver tangible benefits for the community and that Social Return on Investment can be objectively demonstrated.

For further information on the progress of the Project, the following webpage will be updated regularly: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/adults/connect-with-your-local-community/happy-at-home>