

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**ADULT SERVICES
CABINET MEMBER**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECT MANAGER –
PREVENTION SERVICES STRATEGY**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To outline background regarding the development of a Prevention Services Strategy and delivery plan for services for vulnerable adults in North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 To seek endorsement to establish a Project Manager - Prevention Services post within the Strategic Commissioning Service of Adult Social Services.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Supporting People Programme launched, six years ago was designed to target vulnerable people over the age of 16 who required help and support to live independently in sheltered housing, the remit widened to include people living in private lettings Current services commissioned include warden services, call alarms, Housing Advice and other tenancy support services across the council area.
- 2.2 From April 2010 the Supporting People Programme and Administration Grant funding will no longer remain ring fenced and will be absorbed into the local area based grant.
- 2.3 In January 2010, the Commissioning Body supported proposals to integrate Supporting People Services into mainstream activity and for Adult Social Services to model how the Supporting People services can be commissioned and delivered without a dedicated team. This mainstreaming also includes the development of a Prevention Services Strategy that will replace the original Supporting People Strategy.
- 2.4 The development of a Prevention Services Strategy for Vulnerable Adults within North Lincolnshire will set out a clear delivery plan and financial framework. The strategy would outline commissioning intentions for the next three years, aligning its priorities with the Local

Strategic Partnership, Strategic Housing and Homelessness thus supporting a commitment achieving outcomes across the wider sustainable community strategy.

2.5 The Supporting People Commissioning Team have delivered and evidenced efficient, value for money services for the past five years. The 'Fit for Future' agenda resulting in the restructuring of Adult Social Services has removed a dedicated Supporting People Team with the teams' functions being integrated into the appropriate Adult Social Services sections, in line with other Adult Social Services core business activity. This has retained a level of stability for service delivery within Quality and Performance and Customer Support services. However, it has become clear in the light of the reform of Supporting People that a capacity challenge exists to progress both strategy development and commissioning activity that will arise in order to deliver a Prevention Services model for Vulnerable Adults.

2.6 A vacant Purchasing and Contracts Monitoring Officer post has been realigned to Strategic Commissioning as part of the 'Fit for the Future' transformation programme. Within the current Job Description and overall purpose of the job, this post is not considered fit for purpose to deliver the supporting people realignment to mainstream Adult Social Services and the progression of the Prevention Services Strategy for Vulnerable Adults.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Option 1

To retain the Purchasing and Contract Monitoring Officer post as it stands within the Strategic Commissioning Service.

3.2 Option 2

To revise the Job Description and Person Specification for the Purchasing and Contract Monitoring Officer in order to recruit a Project Manager - Prevention Services Strategy.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 Option 1

Recruiting to this post will provide additional capacity to fulfil historic Supporting People commissioning and monitoring responsibilities. However, in taking forward a wider prevention and mainstreamed delivery model incorporating Supporting People alongside a additional prevention/early intervention activity, it is not considered the Purchasing and Contract Monitoring Officer post can support the required transformation. This will impact on the capacity within the Strategic Commissioning Service and the ability to deliver on the Adult Social Services Transformation Plan (i.e. core commissioning priorities).

4.2 Option 2

Recruiting to a bespoke Project Manager – Prevention Services Strategy post will allow for the appropriate resource to be integrated into the Strategic Commissioning Service therefore delivering on the required transformation programme into a mainstream delivery model. The establishment of this post will enhance the skill set and capacity within the Strategic Commissioning Service in order to deliver on the prevention services strategy whilst retaining current levels of commissioning activity within the service.

Benefits of the reshaping of the vacant Purchasing and Contract Monitoring Officer post will:

- i. Support the move towards mainstreaming the Supporting People Programme into council priority activity in a managed way.
- ii. Reduce the initial risk of the current funding being diverted from essential prevention services and hence increasing financial pressure on higher-level social care services.
- iii. Increase the opportunity for improved needs analysis and strategic planning.
- iv. Prioritise the prevention agenda and identify the means to deliver this.

The proposal is to adopt Option 2.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 Financial implications -

The new structure in Adult Social Service approved through the “Fit for the Future” transformation programme identified funding for a Purchasing and Contract Monitoring Officer. This funding will be made available for the new Project Manager Prevention Services. Therefore there is no cost implication.

5.2 Staffing implications -

The post will be line managed through Strategic Commissioning Service within Adult Social Services. As the post remains vacant the proposed adoption of Option 2 will not directly impact on a designated individual.

5.3 Property implications -

There are no immediate property implications.

5.4 IT implications -

IT support will be required to support mobile working.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 Statutory implications –

These proposals will support the council to carry out its statutory duties with respect to delivery of prevention services for vulnerable adults in North Lincolnshire.

6.2 Environmental implications –

None

6.3 Diversity implications - Where appropriate please complete a Diversity Impact Assessment for this section.

The proposals are compliant with the single equality scheme recommendations.

6.4 Section 17 – Crime and Disorder implications –

This post will enable enhanced cross authority and partnership working to develop and deliver a range of prevention services for vulnerable adults in North Lincolnshire. Preventative and Rehabilitation Services for Offenders are currently included with the Supporting People Programme and would be included in a prevention services strategy.

6.5 Risk and other implications –

Risks exist with respect to non-delivery of a remodelled Supporting People Programme and refocus on wider prevention services should the revised post not be approved. Delivery of the prevention activity should positively impact on the demand for more high level and acute services thus foreseeing longer-term financial and social benefits. The delivery of a preventative service model should increase the reputation of the council including its capacity for creative cross agenda and partnership working.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation with the Trades Unions will be through this report.

7.2 The Supporting People Commissioning Body has been consulted with and supports the principals behind the proposal for development of a Prevention Services Strategy and its associated implementation including commissioning activity.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the Cabinet Member endorses the information contained in this report.

- 8.2 That the matter be referred to the Corporate Services Cabinet Member for approval.

SERVICE DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report

Report to Commissioning Body 7 January 2010 - North Lincolnshire Supporting People – Vision for the future