

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet

**MEETING DATE:** 15 January 2013

**BY:** Executive Director (Services for People)

**SUBJECT:** Physical Disability Strategy

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval for East Lothian's Joint Strategy for Physical Disability and Hearing or Sight Loss 2012-2020 (see Members' Library Ref 1/13).

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to;
- i) Note the contents of this report
  - ii) Approve the Strategy

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 This Strategy describes the future development of health and social care services for people with a physical disability and for their families and carers in East Lothian. It sets out the way in which services will be developed between 2012 and 2020.
- 3.2 Opportunity and Independence: Joint Strategy for Physical Disability and Hearing or Sight loss is our vision for developing support and services in East Lothian and has been informed by the priorities of people with physical disabilities and their carers. The Strategy has been lodged in the Members' Library (Ref 1/13), and can be accessed via the following link: [http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/5342/members\\_library\\_service](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/5342/members_library_service) .
- 3.3 The Strategy has been developed in partnership with people who use services, their families and carers, East Lothian Council, NHS Lothian, East Lothian Community Health Partnership and voluntary and independent sector providers in East Lothian. It sets out the steps we

will take to improve both services and the outcomes experienced by service users.

3.4 This Strategy underlines our commitment to work collaboratively to ensure that the support and care available is provided to a high standard. We will work in tandem with wider service redesigns underway, for example in response and rehabilitation, telehealthcare and respite services. We aim to ensure that anyone can access services and other resources when they need them, regardless of income or where they live.

3.5 The Strategy focuses on four main themes:

- Raising awareness of the impact of physical disability on the lives of East Lothian residents
- Ensuring access to information and opportunities during the day, at evenings and weekends, for example through a community information centre
- Promoting self-management: developing services which focus on supporting people to manage long-term conditions and disabilities themselves
- Ensuring access to intensive day support for people with complex disability.

3.6 Section 1 of the Strategy summarises our purpose, values and outcomes, while section 2 describes the local context, including demographic changes. Section 3 describes the extensive consultation and partnership working with both members of the public and other stakeholders which has informed the development of our Strategy. Section 4 looks at the developments within our organisations and culture which will support the planned changes in services and resources and Section 5 outlines the national context and the factors driving those changes. Section 6 outlines the significant elements of the plan and Section 7 sets out how we will engage with communities, both geographical and communities of interest, on specific projects and on any ongoing matters.

3.7 The Action Plan sets out the action our partnership will take to deliver the vision we have set out in the Strategy.

3.8 At present, we face greater demands and more acute levels of need as East Lothian's population is rising quickly and people are living longer. Public bodies are facing their greatest financial challenge in a generation. The extent of the challenge we face requires us to develop our services differently in the future.

3.9 The increase in volume and intensity of need because of physical disability relates directly to the increase in the demographic of older people. The consistent indicator of increase in physical disability is age-related. Research on incidence and prevalence figures indicates no

projected spikes in any condition or illness to predict significant increases in the number of children and/or working age adults who are physically disabled.

- 3.10 This Strategy describes the changes and actions we see as necessary. We remain committed to the dialogue with the public that we began during the consultation on the Lothian strategy 'Our Lives, Our Way' and continued through our local event 'Our Lives, Our Opportunities'. We look forward to continuing that dialogue.
- 3.11 Across Lothian we have established a multi-agency Joint Strategic Programme Board for Physical and Complex Disabilities and the East Lothian Joint Planning Group for Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment. Lothian Physical and Complex Disability – Joint Strategic Programme Board is a collective representation of the four Lothian Local authorities, NHS Lothian and third sector partners in Lothian.
- 3.12 To consult with the public on the content of the Strategy, a Community Action Research project led by service users and carers was commissioned by the Council. This asked people with a physical disability or hearing or sight loss in our communities what day, evening and weekend opportunities they value and would like to see developed.
- 3.13 This was followed up by a three day Rapid Improvement event in 2011 where the joint planning partners met with a wide range of stakeholders to agree the future shape of accessible day opportunities with integrated networks of support. These support options include:
- Access to Self-Directed Support to enable people to make active choices about how their care and support is organised and delivered
  - A community information and activity hub
  - Ongoing support to help people manage their conditions themselves
  - A more integrated service for people with hearing and/or sight loss
  - Planned respite opportunities for people with a physical disability
  - Intensive day support for people with complex needs who live at home
  - Independent advocacy for adults with a physical disability
  - Support and training to access mainstream resources.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Physical Disability Strategy is the key policy document setting out how the Council and its partners will improve support and services for people with a physical disability between now and 2020.

#### **5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and no negative impacts have been found

#### **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Financial – The Council is redesigning its Adult Day Services. The Council and NHS Lothian will agree reinvestment priorities on an incremental basis. Implementation will be funded through the redesign and transformation of existing Council and NHS services between now and 2020.

6.2 Personnel - None

6.3 Other - None

#### **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 East Lothian's Joint Strategy for Physical Disability and Hearing or Sight Loss 2012-2020 (Members' Library Ref: 1/13)

[http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/5342/members\\_library\\_service](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/5342/members_library_service)

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