

# Equality Impact Assessment

## Name of project/proposal

T17 The Care Offer (A1)

Contact name

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Department

Adult Services

Date to be published on Hantsweb

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## Purpose for project/proposal

To reduce expenditure on front line care services to achieve targeted savings of around £6,6m; the Care Offer proposals focus on how needs are assessed in ways that are safe and financially sustainable:

- Greater use of short-term interventions initially to maximise independence and reduce ongoing care needs.
- Seeking greater input from family, friends and the wider community to provide a mix of commissioned care, family care and support from the local community.
- Reducing the number of older people who do not have a dementia diagnosis that the County Council places in residential care and not making placements into nursing homes for people who do not have an ongoing need for nursing care.
- Where long-term support is required, replacing the one-to-one support provided to people who have been assessed as not needing it with shared support to access resources within the community

## Consultation

Has a consultation been carried out?

No

However the County Council carried out a major consultation, between 26 May and 6 July, on a range of options for finding further budget savings, including setting Council Tax, using reserves and making changes to the way in which services are delivered.

The feedback from this consultation has been taken into account in developing the final options and proposals for decision by Executive Members, Cabinet and County Council in autumn this year.

When decisions are made to pursue the options, further, specific consultation will be carried out on the detailed options where required.

## Statutory considerations

### Impact

Age	High
Disability	High
Sexual orientation	Low
Race	Low
Religion and belief	Low
Gender reassignment	Low
Sex	Medium
Marriage and civil partnership	Low
Pregnancy and maternity	Low

### Other policy considerations

Poverty	Medium
Rurality	Low
Other factors	None
If other please describe	

Geographical impact

All Hampshire

Have you identified any medium or high impact?\*

Yes

No

## Equality statement

***Greater use of short-term interventions initially to maximise independence and reduce ongoing care needs.***

This will mean that some people approaching Adult Services for the first time will be directed to a short term service, such as re-ablement, or to a service for a time-limited period to see whether they can be supported back to a greater level of independence and a lower level of dependency on local authority funded support. This may not match people's expectations. Given the make-up of those seeking Adult Services support, older people, those with disabilities and women will be more affected than other groups.

***Seeking greater input from family, friends and the wider community to provide a mix of commissioned care, family care and support from the local community***

A review of the way that care and support is provided on a day-to-day basis may result in people experiencing a change of service provider or their care being delivered in a different way. The County Council would be likely to seek greater involvement in the delivery of support from families and local communities. Whilst the County Council can help influence and support local communities, there is a limit to the extent of this.

In mitigation, the department would increase its investment in the voluntary and community sector to ensure that those alternatives are there and that more volunteers are attracted to support people with social care needs it would also ensure that its current investment is better targeted on proven interventions. Proposals would be brought forward later in the year about a new model of grant funding to reflect this change of emphasis. The people who use the services that would be reviewed are primarily older people or people with a physical disability, learning disability, mental health condition or multiple disabilities. The services that are likely to be reviewed are provided across the whole of Hampshire, with no specific area being targeted.

It is acknowledged that these proposals are likely to have a disproportionate impact on women, older people and people with disabilities. This however, is due to the fact there are more women, older people and people with disabilities using the services that we commission for older people. The Council commissions services for approximately 22,000 people across the whole of Hampshire, with no specific area being targeted.

Most people will see some difference in how their care is delivered, but as each case is judged on its own merits, it is not possible to say at this stage how many will be affected if these proposals are adopted. Following any review of the care and support services provided and commissioned by the Council's Adult Services department, service delivery would only change where it does not endanger the meeting of eligible social care outcomes for an individual under the Care Act 2014.

***Reducing the number of older people who do not have a dementia diagnosis that the Council places in residential care and not making placements into nursing homes for people who do not have an ongoing need for nursing care***

This proposal would impact on older people, many of whom may have some form of impairment or disability. This would not impact upon people who are already in residential care or nursing care. Older people would be encouraged to remain living in their own homes, with care and support packages arranged to enable them to do so.

One potential benefit of this proposal would be that it would allow more couples to remain living at home together for longer. Traditionally, where one of the couple has a greater level of need than the other, they become separated because one of them has to move into a residential care home.

We acknowledge that these proposals are likely to have a disproportionate impact on women and older people with physical disabilities. This however, is due to the fact there are more women than men using the services that we commission for older people, and that the proposal is to meet the needs of older people with physical disabilities differently in future. Their needs, however, will continue to be met in line with the Care Act 2014.

***Where long-term support is required, replacing the one-to-one support provided to people who have been assessed as not needing it with shared support to access resources within the community***

This proposal is targeted at older people, many of whom may have some form of impairment or disability. Older people who currently receive one-to-one support from a support worker and who have been assessed as not needing their own support worker because of risk would be directed to access shared support services as well as community-based resources. This proposal is aimed mainly at those people who have been assessed as not being eligible to receive social care from the Council, but who need low levels of support to allow them to continue living independently, such as advice on benefits, bill etc).

This would require increased investment in the voluntary and community sector to ensure that those alternatives are there and that more volunteers are attracted to support people with social care needs.

## Final decision date

Final decision date due  
Decision to be made by

17 Sep 2015  
Executive Member