

Putting Prevention First: Commissioning & Procurement Strategies for Vulnerable Adults Housing & Wellbeing Support

Easy Read Version Consultation

Harder to read words are explained at the bottom of each page..



Introduction

The vision for Adult Social Care is for people to live:



Healthy lives



Happy lives



Independent lives

We want people to live within their communities.

What do we need to make this happen?



Good quality housing.



Affordable housing.



Support options.

It is important that vulnerable adults have access to:



Safe housing.



Secure housing.



Quality housing.



Affordable housing.



Support at the time it is needed.

Vision is our plan for the future.

Independent means doing or thinking for yourself.

Communities are groups of people who live together.

Affordable is something fairly priced.

Vulnerable means someone who needs extra support.

A vulnerable adult can be anyone who could become homeless or is in a difficult housing situation. This problem might be too hard for them to fix on their own.

Housing support services that help people with



Homelessness



Domestic abuse



Ex-offending

are due to end on 1st December 2019. We call these groups: 'Social Inclusion Services'. Birmingham City Council is keen to continue these services,

We want to improve on service design.

We want to improve how people get these services.

We want to make sure that services are



More person centred



Build resilience



Give independence.

Homeless means a person who does not have a place to live.

Domestic abuse is when someone suffers threats, violence or is controlled. Abuse can happen in many ways. Abuse is often by a partner or ex-partner. But abuse can be also be done by a family member or a carer.

Ex-offending means a person with a criminal record.

Improve means to make something better.

Person centred is to put someone at the 'centre' of decisions about their life.

Resilience means to be able to recover from something.

Independence is to be able to do things for yourself, without help.

Background

Our vision for updating Adult Social Care and Health was agreed by Cabinet on 3rd October 2018.

The vision includes important ideas.

We hope our ideas will allow people to:



Live independently



Live in their communities.

Social Workers will be working with people in the community.

Birmingham City Council wants to spend money on something we call 'targeted prevention'.

We are committed to doing this.

We need to make big changes to how we work.

We need to do this so that we can make services better.

Vision is our plan for the future.

Cabinet is a group of people who make decisions.

Communities are people who live closely and have things in common.

Targeted prevention is to focus on stopping something happening.

Committed means to be loyal.

We have spoken about our plans before.

We gave a report to Cabinet on 14th November 2017.

Our report was called:



Putting Prevention First:

Supporting the vision for Adult Social Care and Health.

The report said that we should:



Invest sooner

We want to do this to:

Stop 'statutory interventions'.

Delay 'statutory interventions'.

We need to do this as it costs a lot of money.

Cabinet is a group of people who make decisions.

Prevention means to stop something happening.

Invest means...

Delay means...

Statutory intervention

Statutory means a law that must be followed.

Intervention means someone, like a social worker, may need to get involved.

For example: a social worker may need to do things to keep someone safe.

The social worker may also need to do this because it is the law.

We need to invest in key areas of prevention activity.

We want to do this for vulnerable adults in Birmingham by.



Growing community assets by using a Neighbourhood Network Scheme.



Carry on investing in communities.

We want to do this by funding third sector grants.

We want to provide the most important services for adult social care and health.

We call these priority services.



Growing a prevention focused, housing and wellbeing support pathway for vulnerable adults.

This would be for people whose health and wellbeing is at risk.

They might be at risk because of housing issues.



Vulnerable Adults Housing and Well-Being Support



Harder to read words are explained on the next page.



Invest means to spend money.

Prevention means to stop something happening.

Vulnerable means a person who needs extra support.

Community asset is something local that improves the area.



This can be many things, such as;

A nearby park

A coffee morning in a local church.

Neighbourhood Network Schemes are:

Local groups that help people to live independently

They can keep people active locally.

This help people stop feeling lonely.

There may give help to find a place to volunteer.

They can provide advice.

They can provide support.

The aim is to make quality of life better for people.



Funding is:

Money given out by the Council.

Money can be given to a company, group or a charity.

There will be certain things the money can be used for.

There will be rules to say what the money cannot be used for.



Third Sector means groups that do work, but do not make money from it.

Grants means money that is given out for a purpose.

Priority is when one thing is more important than another.

Wellbeing is how healthy or happy a person is.

Support Pathway is a way a person can find and get the help they need.

This survey is about our plans for:

A prevention focused housing and wellbeing support pathway.

The model for this is based upon existing best practices within Birmingham and England. This includes services for:

Young people who are getting ready to live in the community. These young people will have been cared for by the local authority, within children's homes or foster care

Ex-offenders who have come through Criminal Justice and the Homelessness Prevention Pathways.

These services will promote strength based prevention approaches for good housing support.

Strengths-based (or asset-based) approaches focus on:

Individuals' strengths: including personal strengths, social and community networks. It does not focus on weaknesses.

Strengths-based practice is holistic and multidisciplinary

This works with the individual to promote their wellbeing.

It is outcomes led

It is not services led.

Criminal Justice is the whole process of catching and punishing someone for breaking the law.

Prevention means to stop something happening.

Holistic means the "whole person".

Multidisciplinary means when many people join together to solve a problem

To make sure that services work, we have also looked at:



Adult Social Care Three Conversations approach



Psychologically Informed Environments practices applied for families and young people.

The pathway starts by understanding that the housing and housing support needs of vulnerable adults do not stay the same.

A person's needs will often change at different points. This might be when something big happens in their life.

Research by Crisis 2018 tells us that certain parts of the population are at greater risk.

This is often because of their risky housing situation.

This can lead to:

Their physical and mental health get worse. They will have to go to places such as:



Hospital



Registered care



Prison (in extreme cases)



They may end up homeless or rough sleeping

This may happen over and over again for some people.

Adult Social Care Three Conversations approach involves:

(1) Initial Contact (2) If People Are At Risk (3) If long-term support is needed.

Psychologically Informed Environments means working in ways to reduce problems by using set ideas and methods.

**A prevention pathway that works will respond early.
A good pathway will respond well to people who are:**



At risk of losing their home or



Beginning to have difficulties in managing their home.

What is important?

Activity which allows people to make choices about their housing issues. They will need information to do this. Activity needs to happen before a person is in crisis.

Give a quick response to people who are vulnerable. They may be vulnerable due to their housing problems. They might be vulnerable due to personal problems.

Providing Supported Accommodation for vulnerable adults and their families. They may be in crisis for a short amount of time. This will allow support to focus on recovery and resilience.

Prevention means to stop something happening.

Crisis is a time of difficulty or danger.

Vulnerable means a person who needs extra help or support.

Supported Accommodation means housing that comes with help or care. This is for people with extra needs.

Recovery is when someone gets better (e.g. health)

Resilience means to be able to recover from something.

This includes getting help with:



Money problems



Finding work



Finding support locally



Living independently

The delivery of the Pathway will be commissioned.

We have described this Pathway below.

Vulnerable adults can access services, based upon:



Their personal needs



Their personal circumstance.

We want services to work together.

We want to prevent people from falling off the pathway,

We want vulnerable adults to be able to access services.

Vulnerable adults should be able to re-enter services if needed.

Commissioned means when we create a service.

Universal Prevention

A comprehensive online housing and wellbeing support service will be commissioned.

It will be for individuals. It will work to respond to issues such as:



Poverty



Poor health



Risky housing situations



When someone is at risk of being homeless.

The service will be made for people to use themselves. The service will also be used by:



Professionals



Practitioners



Carers (who are helping a vulnerable adult)

There will be information on all services including:

'Local asset registers' for the Neighbourhood Networks Services

How to access Mental Health services.

Substance Misuse Support services.

Comprehensive means it will cover the issues in detail

Targeted Prevention

Housing and wellbeing prevention hubs designed to:



Provide face to face support

Access to services that provide prevention activity for:



Young Persons Hub aged 16 – 25



Ex-Offenders (immediate prison release)



Survivors of Domestic Abuse



Single people over the age of 25

Also, intensive targeted community support will be given by:

‘Lead workers’ / ‘Navigators’ / ‘Peer Mentors’

For the most vulnerable connected to hubs, social work teams and panels alongside other key agencies in the City.

Families’ navigators

Providing community based support to identified families with multiple or complex needs.

Professional means someone who is qualified.

Practitioner means someone involved in a profession.

Targeted means to aim for something.

Intensive means to work and focus upon something

Multiple or complex needs means where someone has two or more issues that require help or support.

Crisis Prevention

These services will be short term.

They will be delivered by many providers based on specialism including:



Emergency bed spaces



Young people (18-25yrs)



Homeless adults: singles and couples (including pets)



Refuge spaces – victims of domestic abuse



Multi-agency rough sleepers outreach



Lead workers for people in a short term home.

Specialism means when someone knows a lot about a subject.
Emergency means a situation where there is danger.

Transition services

These services will be delivered by multiple providers.

This could be where providers deliver a service together.

Complex Needs Service

Where a person may have many issues that impact on their well-being (e.g. a person with mental health, who takes drugs and is homeless.)

That person would get accommodation with intensive support in line with their needs.



Young people



Single homeless, including couples



Offenders

Transition Centres will provide a multi-agency response to health needs, including primary health interventions to:



Young people



Single homeless

Multiple means more than one.

Providers means the group or charity that will run the service.

Multi-Agency is when many professionals work together. (e.g a social worker might work with the Police).

Primary Health Care means your GP, dentist or pharmacy.

Intervention is when someone get's involved.

Longer term supported accommodation for:



Young people



Single homeless



Victims of domestic abuse, including giving recovery and wellbeing training.



Offenders

A tenancy support service which will respond to:



New vulnerable tenants.



Existing vulnerable tenants.



Single people.



Couples.



People with pets.

Who may be at risk of homelessness.

Who may need support to settle into and maintain their tenancy.

Tenancy is the right to live in a property. There is normally an agreement. This is called a 'Tenancy Agreement'. A person normally needs to pay rent. A tenancy agreement will normally say how long the owner agrees for a 'Tenant' to stay. Vulnerable means a person who needs extra help or support

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