

Better than cure - getting serious about prevention

Julie Ogley

ADASS Regional Lead,

Director of social care, health and housing

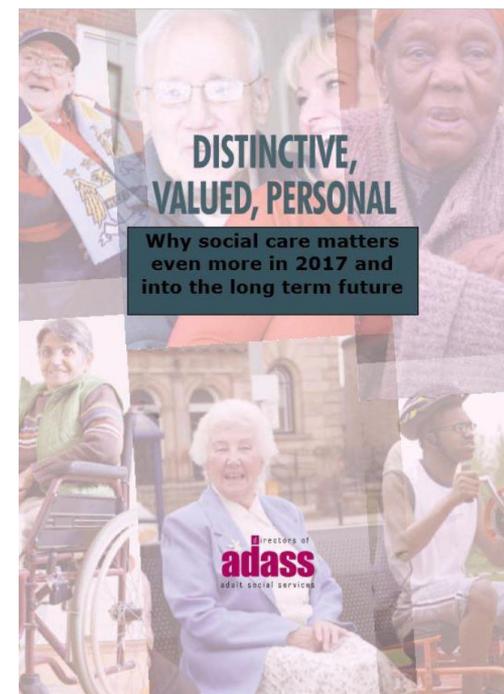
Central Bedfordshire Council

11 October 2017



Background

- Social care provides care, support, and safeguards for those people in our communities who have the highest level of need and for their carers.
- It enhances health and wellbeing, increasing independence, choice and control.
- Effective, personalised care and support helps reduce the impact and incidence of physical and mental ill-health – by supporting people to live better, more fulfilled lives.
- It is distinctive, valued, and personal.
- Social care is a vital ‘connector’ to other public services.



Links with other services



Vital connector

- Local government has a critical leadership role in public health and in many other areas e.g. support to carers, and through its operations (planning, design, housing, and community safety).
- ASC has a long history of joint working with the NHS in areas such as hospital discharge. The coordination of primary and community health and social care support are vital for many people. New models of care are further developing such work.
- Anchored within local government's responsibilities for promoting wider health and wellbeing, and the role of public health, the distinctive value of social care in local government is rooted in nurturing resilient, healthy communities that can reduce and prevent the need for services.
- Maximising the use of council services (leisure, library services, country parks) and uptake of health campaigns e.g. flu.



Partnerships

- Work in partnership with community groups, voluntary and private providers, and organisations that represent people who use services.
- Our model for social care is based on a new relationship with citizens, but its core is the continuity of the social approach that recognises how our different individual needs sit within a wider network of personal and social relationships in the community, in work and elsewhere.



Voluntary sector

- Makes a significant and valuable contribution in helping to meet people's needs and enhance their quality of life.
- Initiatives such as Dementia Friends, 'Meet and Greet' volunteers (helping people successfully transition from hospital into their homes) and Good Neighbour
- Schemes need to grow as we build understanding and capacity in the future.
- It will be impossible to meet the challenges ahead without nurturing the potential of community-led and user-led services, including social enterprises



Central Bedfordshire

- Focus on community and individual resilience, and have maintained our investment in volunteering:
 - Over 1000 people in our Countryside Services,
 - Over 1000 people in our Good Neighbour/Village Care Schemes - positive impact on volunteers lives, and given a sense of purpose and belonging.
 - Volunteers in care homes/sheltered housing/extra care schemes
 - Volunteers in lunch clubs, community cafes/day centres and those who volunteer for Age UK, MIND etc.
- Council sponsors annual Cheering Volunteering Event - recognises volunteers' contributions



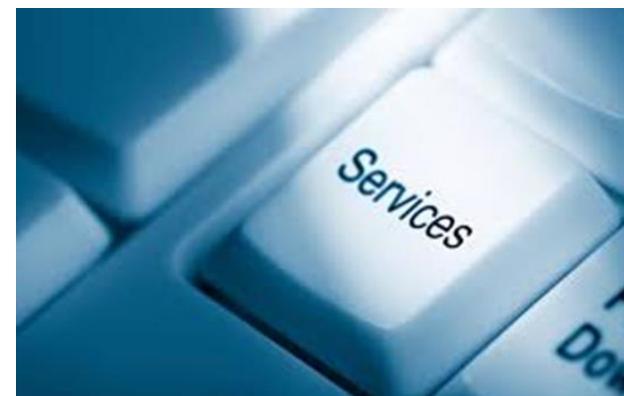
Focus on accommodation and housing

- Understanding current and future local population needs and demands
- Need to consider all tenure types: tenant, private, shared ownership
- Range of options and choice: care homes, extra care/supported schemes, 'down size' homes
- Using existing council levers: local development plans, planning guidance, Market Position Statements
- More active engagement with the market



Prevention

- Helps avoiding falls, reablement services to assist people back to greater functionality, enablement services for adults to build towards greater independence, preventing hospital admissions from care homes.
- ADASS Budget Survey showed that moving towards prevention and early intervention is the most important priority area for making savings.
- Difficult as budgets reduce - tension between prioritising statutory duties and investing in services that will prevent and reduce future needs.
- Spend on prevention forms 6.3% of budgets this year: this is both a decrease as a proportion of budget and a decrease in cash terms from the previous year.



Safeguarding

- Underlying our vision is our commitment to the rights to decent quality and safeguarding for all.
- Budget survey showed 74% of directors believe that providers are facing quality challenges
- Councils have important legal responsibilities to protect people's interests and rights when they are in vulnerable situations
- Councils work closely with the police and criminal justice system. Social workers and OTs have crucial roles in helping people to live independently and safeguard them from unacceptable risk and harm.
- ADASS is involved in prevention and social isolation work through pilots and innovation sites. The evaluation will gather evidence of the extent to which this reduces the number of safeguarding concerns that arise.

