

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT 2025/26 - SOCIAL CARE SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT PROPOSALS

Social Care Savings Proposals

Review care costs with NHS Continuing Health Criteria (CHC) as people with very high needs are discharged from hospital – savings proposal of £0.100m

This proposal has a **positive** impact on our residents that share protected characteristics as CHC can apply to any resident across health and social care. It also allows eligible residents to receive the care and support they require from the NHS without charge.

Focus on prevention to further promote independent living including promotion of services and support provided in the local area by the voluntary and community sector - savings proposal of £0.300m

This proposal has a **positive** impact for those with shared protected characteristics as the service re-design aims to promote independent living through improving the process of signposting residents to the range of services and support provided in the local area by the voluntary and community sector. ASC provides a level of support to residents through welfare checks and through links to a range of support available locally through volunteers and the wider voluntary and community sector.

Further increased take-up of Direct Payments to improve choice and control for residents – savings proposal of £0.200m

This proposal has a **positive** impact on groups that share protected characteristics and in particular Disabled people as Direct Payments (DP's) are key enablers for Independent Living giving people choice and control over how they meet their assessed needs. The approach to DPs in Hammersmith and Fulham has been co-produced with residents in line with recommendations of the Disabled People's Commission (2017) and an independent review of DPs in Hammersmith and Fulham (2018).

Increasing choice and flexibility to access meals – savings proposal of £0.050m

In line with our choice and control principles, residents are choosing to order online or make other independent meals arrangements. This change in resident activity enables the delivery of this saving. This proposal has a **neutral** impact on groups that share protected characteristics

Social Care Investment Proposals

Adults Care Packages - Baseline budget pressures in Residential & Nursing Placements and in Supported Living Accommodation with the full year effect in 2024/25 of all residents receiving care services and supporting the care market – investment proposal of £2.8m

The Adult Social Care (ASC) budget is under severe pressure due to (a) an ageing population with an increased acuity of care needs (b) the increasingly complex needs of Disabled residents with learning difficulties (including young people reaching adulthood, (c) increasing number of residents with higher acuity needs being discharged from hospital and being supported by the community, (d) the increased demand on services and support from residents with mental health issues.

This proposed funding will have a **positive** impact for residents requiring assessed needs with physical support, learning difficulties, and mental health needs as there is additional funding to partly meet the new care needs in Residential & Nursing care homes, and Supported Living Accommodation.

Some of the proposed growth will be to support the Social Care Market from April 2025 on the additional cost impact of the increases in the London Living wages, Employers National Insurance contributions and business operational costs.