

Promoting independence

Commitment Statement



Promoting independence

Hackney Council wants to ensure as many residents as possible are supported to stay healthy and active in their communities for as long as possible.

We will do this by providing information, advice and access to services that improve health and wellbeing.

We believe in making every effort to support people to reach their full potential for independent living throughout their lives.

This is our commitment for promoting independence - for better lives and a better Hackney.

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What Promoting Independence means



Enabling people to make their own decisions safely

A critical element of our work will be to ensure we respect the right for people to make their own decisions about their health and wellbeing as long as they have capacity to do so, and regardless of whether we agree with them. We will never take responsibility away from someone unless we have a clear and formal indication that the person does not have capacity to manage their own affairs. We will ensure that people have a suitable level of service, preferably through a direct payment, that will meet their assessed needs and support their goals towards independence.

Working in partnership with health professionals and providers

We will work with our care and support providers to build a philosophy of care that focuses on outcomes. We will continue to monitor services that are provided or commissioned by Hackney Council and ensure performance is centred on the desired outcomes and interest of our service users and provide value for money.

Support for those who need a little bit more

Our interventions will offer the right level of support to a person's assessed needs. We recognise that sometimes the support many require can be found within their own families, communities and within themselves. We will work with each person and their network to find creative ways of meeting personal goals that they wish to achieve. Where people have lost their support networks we will work in partnership to rebuild those networks. Doing this means people get back on their feet more quickly, regain independence and no longer need unnecessary support.

Valuing carers

Many people with social care needs will have these met mainly through the carers with whom they live or are supported by. We will ensure that carers are informed of their right to have a carers assessment which they can have either together with the person they care for or separately.

Spending public money wisely

With the combination of growing social care demand and reduced resources available from Central Government, it is vital money is spent fairly. We will focus on achieving value for money for every service we commission on behalf of service users. We will focus on finding the most affordable price that can deliver us the degree of quality our service users require.

A knowledgeable and informed workforce

We will ensure staff understand how to work with service users in ways that promote their independence and support their recovery. We will support staff to work within multi-disciplinary teams. We will help staff develop their professional practice in ways which will assist them to empower our service users to make the best use of budgets to ensure a relentless focus on promoting independence rather than creating dependency.

Partnership with health professionals

We will continue to develop an integrated and outcome-focused approach to our work with all our health partners, including Homerton University Hospital Trust, East London Foundation Trust, the City and Hackney Clinical Commissioning Group. We have ensured that together we share common goals in assisting people to remain independent in their own homes. This means that where possible we will have shared health and social care assessments and a single plan that will help people to retain independence in the community.

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Our desired
outcomes



- More people living healthy, happy and more fulfilling lives in their own home.
- A reduction in the number of people will have to be admitted to residential care and more people using personal budgets to meet their needs in the community.
- An increase in the number of people successfully completing recovery and recuperation programmes, having access to Telecare and good housing options to meet their longer term needs.
- A reduction in the number of people we are directly helping and an increase in the number of people being helped within their communities with safeguarding arrangements as appropriate.
- Fulfil our commitment to promote equality of opportunity and working towards embedding equality, diversity and human rights principles as part of strategic decision-making.

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Our priorities



- We will make full use of universal services, particularly through the use of iCare, libraries, leisure centres, parks and adult education through to volunteering opportunities and local initiatives to deliver health and adult social care.
- We will develop and more carefully target preventative services where risks to a loss of independence are greatest. We will do this by developing new and innovative partnerships and opportunities for volunteering.
- We will further integrate services with our health partners in the areas of mental health, learning disabilities, rehabilitation and intermediate care. This will ensure resources are managed more efficiently, improve user and carer experience and deliver better outcomes.
- We will develop housing schemes with our partners to ensure that all new schemes meet the latest design standards and have suitably adapted space by those who will live in them.

- We will continue to explore how new technological solutions such as Telecare can give citizens better care, improve safety and assist our staff in carrying out their daily tasks.
- We will support young adults and their families as they move from children's services into adulthood and ensure young adults who have sufficient ability, are supported into work.
- We will encourage the use of personal budgets to ensure that people requiring longer term care can take as much control over their lives as their needs allow. We will continue to increase the number of people who are in receipt of direct payments.

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Continual improvement



We will drive continual improvement to promote independence by:

- ✓ Developing our commissioning strategy with a wide range of stakeholders including health partners, providers, community groups, users and carers taking a universal approach to the design and development of services.
- ✓ Focusing on achieving value for money for every service that we procure. Our aim is to deliver the quality and outcomes that our service users require at an affordable price.

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Promoting Independence values



Quality, universality, access, priority and understanding are at the heart of Hackney Council's social care to help residents live as independently as possible with minimal interference.



QUALITY

Hackney Council is committed to delivering the highest quality services to residents who need care and support.



UNIVERSAL

Hackney Council will promote health and wellbeing through the development of universal services to ensure there is 'something for everyone'.



ACCESS

Hackney Council will provide clear information about services, facilities and activities in the local community.



PRIORITY

Hackney Council will give priority to helping people recover, recuperate and rehabilitate so they are able to live as independently as possible.



UNDERSTANDING

Hackney Council will ensure staff understand how to work with people in ways that promote independence, maintain dignity, ensure safety and support recovery.

Contact us



For more information on **Promoting Independence** visit www.hackneyicare.org.uk, call **020 8356 3000** or email info@hackney.gov.uk

