

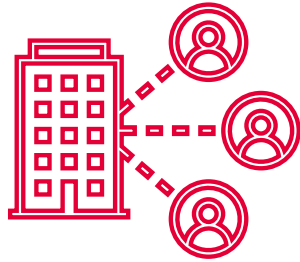
Disability Strategy

Engagement

January, 2023

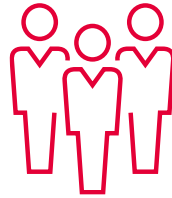


Who Did We Engage?



Providers

- Essex care market provider forums
- Survey of Essex care providers
- Physical Impairment Partnership Group
- Sensory Community Partners
- Autism Wider Network
- Autism networking event
- A family perspective



Residents

- Working Together For Change – Survey of adults with lived experience
- Family and carers engagement survey
- Healthwatch/Collaborate Essex
- Sensory Strategic Partnership Group
- Physical Impairment Steering Group



Staff and Partners

- Essex County Council staff 1:1s
- Essex County Council staff forums
- Learning Disabilities (LD) & Autism Ops Meeting
- Countywide Practice Forum
- Physical and Sensory Impairment (PSI) managers meeting
- Strategic Partnership Group
- Disabilities commissioning meeting
- PSI South – Pre forum
- LD/ PSI Forum
- Health Inequalities meeting
- South East alliance meeting
- Southend Council meeting
- Thurrock Council meeting
- Basildon and Brentwood alliance meeting
- Adults Leadership Team
- Meetings with quadrants

How We Shaped The Strategy

During the initial stages of creating the Disability Strategy, as well as looking at existing ECC products such as the Carers Strategy, Meaningful Lives Matter programme, and the Business Plan, we took part in various engagements that helped us shape what the strategy would look like. Below are just some of the ways that our initial engagement has helped to form the first draft of the Disability Strategy:

We have included people with autism in the strategy	<p>During initial engagement it became clear that adults with autism felt they should be included in the strategy in some way, complimenting the already existing Autism Strategy.</p> <p>As such people who have autism as well as another disability are included in this work.</p>
We are focussing on the housing market	<p>The engagement told us that where people live is important. People want to live in a safe place that feels like home. They need their home to work for them. Therefore, we have committed to make improvements to the housing market for adults with disabilities to help people have their own home if they want it.</p>
We want people to find the help they need to keep or make new relationships	<p>People told us that they want to grow and keep good relationships in their life. We will support all staff to think about the good relationships we need and how we help other people connect. We will also work with communities to welcome and include people with disabilities.</p>

Consultation

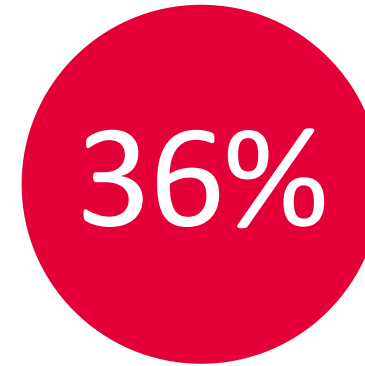
We have sought to make our consultation as accessible as possible with various alternative formats and ways to participate. These include easy-read, large print, and audio versions of strategy, as well as options to participate by telephone or face-to-face at a drop-in. Currently, the main topic that has been fed back to us that is missing is on **financial support**.



We have scheduled in-person events at **10** locations across Essex, including at Colchester, Braintree and Harlow.



93.75% of respondents either “strongly agree” or “mostly agree” that our areas of focus in the strategy are correct.



Roughly **36%** of respondents to the consultation either have, or support someone with, a learning disability and autism.



81% of respondents strongly agreed that to have good relationships social care staff need to understand that every single person is different



As of Tuesday 31st January we had received **134** online responses to the consultation



Roughly **86%** of respondents were white-British and roughly **74%** were female