

# **The Care Act and You**

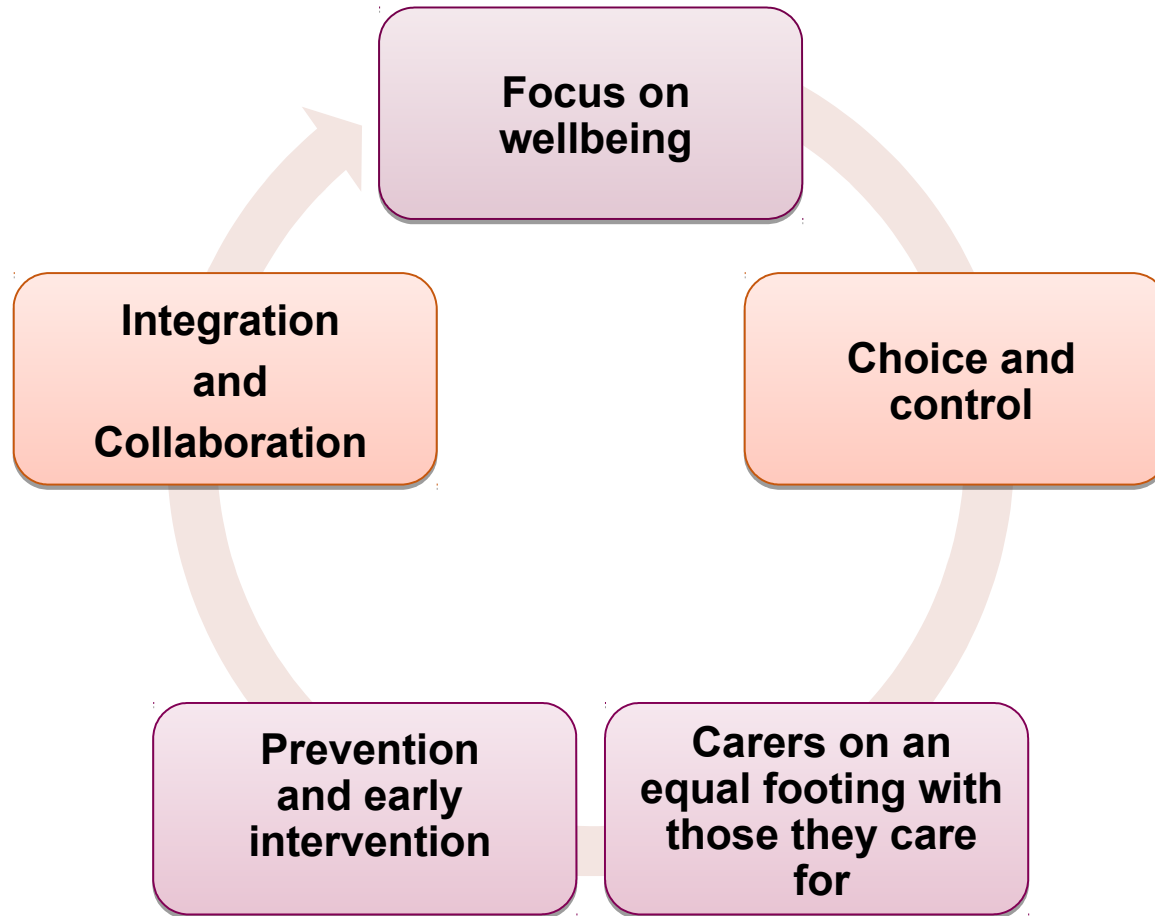
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**Essex County Council**

# The Care Act – What it does



# Commenced April 2015

- Duties on prevention and wellbeing
- Duties on information and advice (including advice on paying for care)
- Duties on market shaping – so people can choose their support from a range of sources
- National minimum eligibility criteria for both adults and carers - who gets help and why.
- New assessment framework – the asset model
- Personal budgets and care and support plans
- New charging framework – how we work out how much people may have to contribute to the cost of their care
- Universal deferred payments agreements – “not having to sell your house in your lifetime to pay for care”
- Safeguarding of Adults Board on a statutory footing



# Delayed until 2020

The Government recently announced that they will postpone, until 2020, the following aspects of the Care Act 2014 originally due to commence in April 2016;

- Extended means test – new capital thresholds
- Cap on charging for care
- Care Accounts

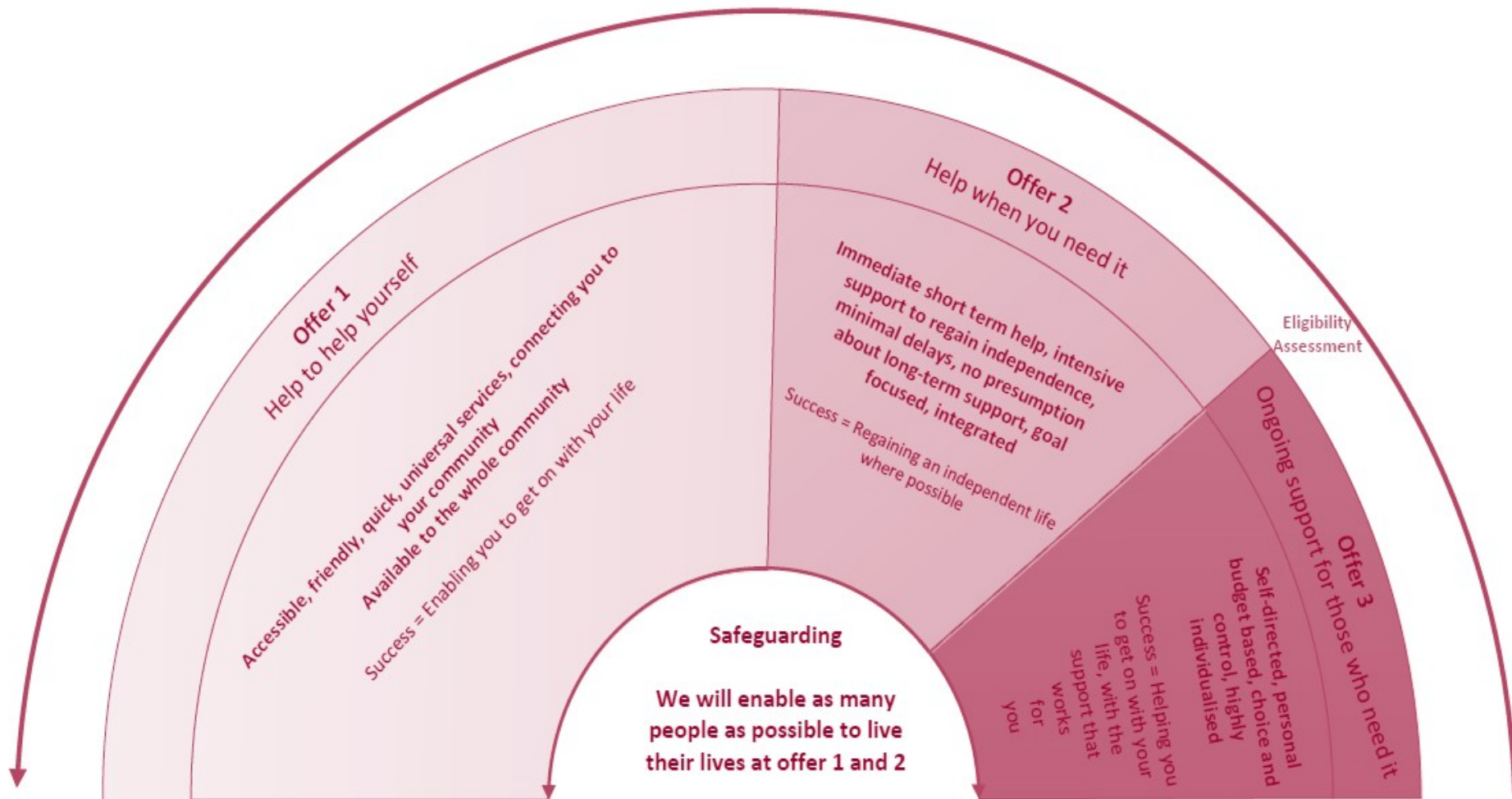


# What we have done so far in Essex

- Partnership with Healthwatch & Advice Sector
- Advice Strategy, Prevention Strategy, Carers Strategy
- Developed the portal – Living Well in Essex-  
[www.livingwellessex.org](http://www.livingwellessex.org)
- Whole Essex Information Sharing (WEIS)
- ‘Good Lives’
- Independent Advocacy
- Community Agents



# Good Lives - A new offer enabling resilience, maximising independence, personalising support



# What does this mean locally?

- Helping people to help themselves– to make best use of the support around them
- Greater integration of services – health and social care working together
- Emphasis on preventing avoidable hospital admissions
- Support for carers
- Focus on reablement to help people regain independence after a spell in hospital or a period of illness
- Greater use of assistive technology to help people stay and well at home
- All linked to the Good Lives model



# Working with the City council

- Housing for vulnerable people – more supported living schemes
- Developing community facilities – to help people find support from their local community
- Improving the built environment – better access, lifetime homes





# The financial context and what it means

- We face a deficit of £300 million by 2020/21
- Demand is growing as our population ages, we are super- aged as a county
- The 2% we can put on the rates, if Members decide to do so, to address social care costs will not save the situation
- So have to change our approach to make sure we can help people and balance the books
- We will become facilitators rather than providers of care, our role being to help people live good lives without being dependent on social care for support.

