

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 22 JANUARY 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **NATIONAL PENSIONERS CONVENTION DIGNITY CODE**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To update Cabinet on the National Pensioners Convention Dignity Code.
- 1.02 The report proposes that we confirm to the National Pensioners Convention (NPC) that we adopt the principles of the code across services provided and commissioned by the Council.
- 1.03 As the principles of the code are fully covered by the “Flintshire Dignity in Care Charter” we would absorb the principles under this Charter ‘banner’ for continuity.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 Britain’s biggest pensioner organisation, the National Pensioners Convention launched a Dignity Code in February 2012 which sets out minimum standards for the dignified treatment of older people, whether in hospital or the community.
- 2.02 The Code has been widely supported by both those in the care sector and in public services.. Correspondence received from the Chair of NPC Cymru is likely to result in a number of Welsh authorities ‘signing up’ in coming months. (See Appendix 1)
- 2.03 The Flintshire Dignity in Care Charter has been in place since 2012. In exactly the same way the Flintshire Charter establishes dignity principles that health and social care communities in Flintshire are committed to delivering. (See Appendix 2)
- 2.04 **The Dignity Code/ Flintshire Dignity In Care Charter**
The Dignity Code introduced by National Pensioners Convention calls for a number of things including:-
- Respect for individuals to express their personal wishes as expressed in living will
 - Respect for an individuals habits , values and needs

- Formal spoken terms of address, unless invited to do otherwise
- Comfort, consideration and participation in all aspects of care
- Care based on individual need
- Support to maintain appearance
- Respect for privacy
- Right to complain without fear
- Availability of Advocacy.

(summary from Appendix 1)

2.05 The Flintshire Dignity in Care Charter comprehensively covers the areas noted within the Dignity Code with the exception of living wills. The right to complain without fear is not directly noted either although good communication and listening to peoples views is a strong feature of the Charter.

2.06 To address these areas simple amendments will be made to Flintshire Charter available on the infonet, and future printed versions will reflect these changes also.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 It is proposed that Flintshire County Council confirm its adoption of the Dignity Code under the “Flintshire Dignity in Care Charter”. Amendments will be made to Flintshire Charter to fully reflect the Dignity Code.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.02 Cabinet is invited to consider and approve the proposed way forward described

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None arising from this report

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None arising from this report

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None arising from this report

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None arising from this report

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None arising from this report

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None arising from this report

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None arising from this report

12.00 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 NPC Correspondence and Dignity Code

Appendix 2 Flintshire Dignity in Care Charter

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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