

SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

19TH APRIL, 2018

SUBJECT:

UNPAID CARERS – UPDATE TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Purpose:

To inform Scrutiny of the work carried out and work planned to support unpaid carers in Carmarthenshire and the wider Region.

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- The rights of unpaid carers
- The quantity and quality of the support being delivered to unpaid carers

Reasons:

For the committee's Information

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision **NO**

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. J. Tremlett (Social Care & Health Portfolio Holder)

Directorate

Communities

Name of Head of Service:

Chris Harrison

Report Author:

Jonathan Rees

Designations:

Head of Joint Strategic
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE: 19TH APRIL, 2018

UNPAID CARERS – UPDATE TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. The attached report “Update on Unpaid Carers” offers an overview of the activities and initiatives implemented to support the 48,000 unpaid carers in the region and the 24,000 unpaid carers in Carmarthenshire.
2. The report covers a period of two years (since previous report) and informs the Committee of both regional developments, county developments and how we are taking the agenda forward.
3. Regional developments feature the work of the West Wales Regional Carers Group and how it has progressed the work of the Carers Measure since it was repealed and subsumed within the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. This report is supported by the following documents which are available by link or request:
 - Annual report to Welsh Government 2016/2017
 - Investors in carers Annual report
 - Carer Aware E-learning annual outturn report

These reports have been generated for the purpose of meeting Welsh Government requirements relating to the funding stream provided – Transitional funding.

4. In addition, this report will reference the West Wales Carers Delivery Plan 2018/19 and the evaluation report on the Carers Rights Day held on 24th November, 2017.

The report demonstrates the high levels of recognition and support for Carers across the West Wales region and, in particular, the county of Carmarthenshire. Compliance with legislation and commitment of resources form the foundation of support for Carers that has been recognised by the Care Inspectorate Wales. Collaboration with health colleagues, neighbouring local authority colleagues and the third sector is prominent and highlights the positive approach to joint working around Carers that has developed in the region to align with the SSWBA.

Direct support for Carers can be illustrated, for example, by the amount of replacement care we provide that enables carers a rest from caring or opportunity to do other things that are important to them. One indicator reflecting this is that Crossroads Carers Trust Sir Gar, a 3rd sector provider, is the biggest branch (turnover and employees) of the organisation in Wales. The report also describes how we are being creative in the way that we address challenges – the Investors in Carers scheme and the Caring Boss Awards have both been recognised as good practice by the Welsh Government and Carers Wales and will be emulated.

We have been responsive to what Carers have told us, evidenced by the hugely successful outreach service commissioned after consultation with Carers for the Carers Measure and continue to invest in a Carers Forum that offers carers space to express their issues and desires in a comfortable environment that provides an information conduit to and for service planners. Our work in the future will build on these positives through a model of cooperation and co-production with Carers as we set about meeting the Welsh Government's three priorities for Carers.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES – Update on Unpaid Carers

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Chris Harrison Head of Joint Strategic Commissioning Pembrokeshire & Carmarthenshire County Council

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Carers are the 8th strand of the Equalities Act. Through ‘association’ carers can be discriminated against and we have to be mindful of carers within our employment and how we recognise and support carers within the general population.

2. Legal

Carers have had rights under various legislation for many years. The legislation supporting them was subsumed into the Social Services and Well Being Act 2014 and therefore remains current. All carers are now entitled to a proportionate assessment and many will be eligible for support from Social Services Departments under the Act.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Chris Harrison

Head of Joint Strategic Commissioning Pembrokeshire
& Carmarthenshire County Council

1. Local Members – N/A
2. Community/Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE LISTED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Annual Report 2016-17		http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/862/Item%207.1%20Carers%20Update%20Report.pdf (See Appendix 1)
Investors in Carers Annual Report 2016/17		http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/862/IIC%20end%20of%20year%20report%202016-17%20FINAL.pdf
Carer Aware E-Learning Course Review Report		3, Spilman Street, Carmarthen (Copy available on request)
West Wales Carers Development Group - Carers Delivery Plan		http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKEwiB0qX9wKDaAhVKZ1AKHV-5CJQQFggnMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.wwcp.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2018%2F02%2F18-02-16-ITEM-6-Appendix-1.docx&usg=AOvVaw34h28fO_62OZXtYfbEV3TM
Carers Rights Day Evaluation Report – 24 th November, 2017		3, Spilman Street, Carmarthen (Copy available on request)