

**Report of the Assistant Director Adult Commissioning,
Modernisation and Provision**

**Annual Update on the Carer's Strategy and Update on the
Implementation of Outstanding Recommendations Arising from the
Carer's Review**

Summary

1. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) completed a Carer's Review in 2010/11. The Committee recommended that the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services should receive an annual report on the Carer's Strategy and that the same report should be submitted to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is the second annual review to be submitted.
2. The purpose of this report is to update HOSC on the Carer's Strategy and also on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations arising from the Carer's Scrutiny Review.
3. Members are asked to note the annual update on the Carer's Strategy and decide which, if any, of the outstanding recommendations arising from the Carer's Review they wish to sign off as complete and fully implemented

Background

4. Between November 2010 and April 2011 a three Member Task Group of the HOSC undertook a scrutiny review around carers. They worked to the following remit:

Aim

To promote the valuable work done by carers and to improve the way City of York Council and its key partners identify carers and ensure they have access to information and the support available.

Key objectives

- i. to raise awareness of carers
 - ii. to improve access to information for carers
5. This led to a number of recommendations being put forward to Cabinet and accepted.

Consultation

6. Consultation took part as part of the Carer's Review with officers being consulted as well as various carers' organisations.

Carers Strategy Update

7. The Carers Strategy Group is a partnership of statutory and voluntary agencies and carer representatives which oversees the implementation of York Strategy for Carers. The Strategy was refreshed in 2011 (Annex 1) and the Group continues work to monitor implementation of the Strategy.
8. An update of achievements discussed by the Carers Strategy Group in October 2012, is summarised below:

Achievements

- The Carers Information Pack continues to be regularly updated and is available from CYC's and York Carers Centre's websites.
- A new factsheet has been developed for carers entitled 'Looking After Yourself' (Annex 2). York's two e-learning carer awareness training courses continue to be promoted.
- Action has been taken to reduce the Carer's Assessment of Need waiting list.
- The Flexible Carer Support scheme has been revised to target carers in greatest need.
- A Young Carers Task Group has been set up and the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) has been established as the assessment route for young carers.
- A Young Carer's Card has been developed and implementation is underway in York's secondary schools.

- A new factsheet has been developed to encourage employers to support carers in their workforce. (Annex 3)
- Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group (VOYCCG) commissioned York Carers Centre who delivered carer awareness training to GP practice receptionists in spring 2012.
- York Carers Centre are coordinating project work and involving York Carers Forum, to deliver a short-term Back Care project during 2012, developing positive relationships with personnel at York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

What still needs to be done

- Continue to promote work with health commissioners and providers to ensure greater consistency around identifying and addressing the needs of carers.
- Establish a detailed action plan for the Carers Health Steering Group under its new leadership from the VOYCCG.
- Encourage active involvement from the carer's lead at York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.
- Promote information for carers and professionals developed by the Back Care project.
- Review Carers Strategy partnership arrangements in the light of the new Health and Wellbeing Board structure.
- Review carer involvement arrangements once CYC's Customer Engagement Strategy is established.
- Pursue work to identify carers from BME communities in York.

Update on the Implementation of the Outstanding Recommendations Arising from the Carer's Review

9. Feedback on the specific recommendations is recorded in Annexes 4 and 5 to this report. The leadership of the Carers Health Steering Group has been handed over to Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group (VOYCCG) and they have provided information within Annex 4 and 5 as to where we are at in relation to specifically implementing recommendations Ai, Aii and Aiii arising from the review. A representative from VOYCCG will be in attendance at the meeting to answer any questions that the Committee may have.

Options

10. Members are asked to comment on the annual update on the Carer's strategy and in addition to this they have the following options:

- Option A** Sign off all the outstanding recommendations arising from this review as complete
- Option B** Sign off some of the outstanding recommendations arising from this review as complete
- Option C** Do not sign off the outstanding recommendations arising from this review as complete

11. In addition to this Members have the option to request further updates to clarify any recommendations still outstanding.

Analysis

12. In the first instance Members are asked to consider and comment on the annual update given in relation to the Carer's Strategy. They are also asked to clarify whether they still wish to receive this on an annual basis and if so, add this to their workplan.

13. Secondly Members are asked to consider the update at Annex 4 and decide which, if any, of the outstanding recommendations (A; Ai; Aii; Aiii; E and F) to sign off as complete.

Council Plan 2011-15

14. Carers are York residents, or are supporting York residents and as such are affected by all the five key priorities in The Council Plan 2011–15. However, the actions and projects under 'protect vulnerable people' are of particular significance in providing services and support to sustain carers in their caring role.

Implications

15. **Financial** - All of the actions will be accommodated within existing budgets.

16. **Equalities** - An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed for York Strategy for Carers 2011-15; the actions arising are:

- Continue to improve accessibility of information for carers and key workers and improve identification of 'hidden' carers.

- Ensure information about carers' ethnicity is appropriately recorded by City of York Council, York Carers Centre and all Carers Strategy partner organisations to inform future service planning.
- Use existing contact mechanisms with BME, multi-faith and multi-cultural groups to identify the numbers of carers from BME communities and take appropriate action.
- Monitor the progress City of York Council makes in implementing the 'Carer Friendly Employer Chartermark' Action Plan.

17. **Other** - There are no implications relating to Human Resources, Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology or Property arising from this report.

Risk Management

18. No risks arise directly from this report. In a broader sense, however, failure to recognise the importance of carers could lead to the Council failing to comply with its statutory duties under the Equalities legislation, and to additional costs falling on social care budgets.

Recommendations

19. Members are asked to:

- (i). Comment on the annual update on the Carer's Strategy
- (ii). Consider which, if any, of the outstanding recommendations arising from the Carer's Review they wish to sign off as complete
- (iii). Give consideration as to whether they wish to receive a further annual update on the Carer's Strategy

Reason: To comply with the recommendations arising from the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Carer's Review.

Contact Details

Author:

Frances Perry
Carers and Strategic Policy
Manager
Adult Commissioning and
Contracts Team,
Adults, Children and
Education
01904 554188

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Graham Terry, Assistant Director Adult
Commissioning, Modernisation and
Provision

**Report
Approved**

Date 21st January
2013

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes:

- Annex 1** York Strategy for Carers 2011-15
- Annex 2** Looking After Yourself factsheet
- Annex 3** Supporting carers in their workplace factsheet
- Annex 4** Carers Review update January 2013
- Annex 5** HOSC Overview February 2013