

# JOINT COMMISSIONING BOARD

## Agenda Item 21

Brighton & Hove City Council  
NHS Brighton & Hove

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Carers Strategy Refresh</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>14/11/11</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Director of Adult Social Care and Lead Commissioner, People, Brighton &amp; Hove City Council. Chief Operating Officer, Brighton &amp; Hove Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Sussex</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Tamsin Peart</b>	<b>Tel: 29-5253</b>
	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:tamsin.peart@brighton-hove.gov.uk">tamsin.peart@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Forward Plan No: JCB 24252</b>	
<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report updates the Carers Strategy published November 2009 informing JCB of key achievements and making recommendations for priorities in the strategy for 2012/13.
- 1.2 This report proposes the development of a universal offer of services which will be available to all carers of adults in the city from April 2012.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That JCB agrees the Carers Strategy refresh and key priorities to March 2013.
- 2.2 That JCB agrees the development of a universal offer for carers of adults to be piloted from April 2012 for one year.
- 2.3 That JCB approves the continuation of the policy of providing services to carers whose savings fall below the nationally agreed statutory threshold.
- 2.4 That JCB notes the reallocation of funding directed to individuals for a carer's service to ensure that these services are available to a greater number of carers as detailed at 3.2.3.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

### 3.1 ***The Carers Strategy refresh***

3.1.1 The Carers Strategy is a multi-agency strategy and details priorities for both the city council and Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Sussex as well as the wider local health economy and voluntary sector. It is to be noted that NHS expenditure on carers' services in Brighton & Hove continues to be above average compared with other PCTs (Princess Royal Trust for Carers).

3.1.2 This report highlights key achievements to date and recommends priorities for the work programme to March 2013. A delivery plan update is attached at Appendix 1. Key achievements include:

- Carers Card launched April 2011
- The development of an End of Life and Bereavement Support service
- Young Carers Schools Worker in place
- A range of training courses to support carers in their caring role including:
  - Carers Information Project for Dementia Carers,
  - Amaze's "Looking After You" relaxation course for parent carers,
  - Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy
  - "Positive Caring" an introductory course for any carer delivered by the Carers Centre
- Carer Awareness training co-delivered by voluntary sector providers and carers offered widely across the city council, local health economy and independent sector

3.1.3 There is a wide range of priorities identified through the refresh, many of which are already underway or in the planning stages. A detailed summary is attached at Appendix 2.

Key priorities include:

- Carers Centre Reaching OUT project for Black and Minority Ethnic communities (BME), Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) and other disadvantaged communities
- Long Term Conditions Carer Support Service
- Increase numbers of Key Workers for parent carers
- Support to working carers
- Support to carers to access education, training and employment
- Universal offer for carers
- Development of independence/life skills training with cared for person including through respite provision
- Range of training courses that include information, coping skills, relaxation, peer support, health and wellbeing etc
- Joint working between services for adults and services for children and whole family work and young carers pathway across all services

3.1.4 A specific area of work, to be led by the city council, will be to look at how working carers can be supported and how current and former carers can access education, training and employment opportunities.

## 3.2 ***Universal Services and Targeted Services***

3.2.1 It is proposed to develop a universal offer for all carers of adults in the city. Universal offers will be available to all carers who are caring for an adult living in the community in Brighton and Hove. Carers will be able to access these services directly without meeting any additional eligibility criteria. The aim of Universal services is to enable carers to access low level, low cost, support services to sustain their caring role, enable them to have a life of their own and stay mentally and physically well thus preventing or delaying the need for more targeted, higher cost services or emergency placements etc. Children's Services are also looking at the possibility of developing a similar offer for parent carers, subject to funding.

3.2.2 The offer will cover the following themes:

- Information and advice
- Support and peer groups
- Health and wellbeing
- Training courses
- Concessions
- Engagement

A detailed breakdown of these proposed universal services is attached at Appendix 3. Many of these services are already in place for carers, however, given that the Carers Card has already led to carers previously unknown to statutory services coming forward and that both the Reaching OUT project and the Integrated Primary Care Teams Carers Support Service aim to identify and engage with significant numbers of carers we need to anticipate and assess the impact on the budget of increased demand for these services (see 5.1 below). Therefore, it is proposed that, whilst the principle of a Universal offer for carers is agreed, the detail of what is available will need to be subject to change. This will be piloted during 2012/13 in order to monitor both the financial impact and the outcomes for carers. It is also to be noted that although Universal services will be for all carers there will be some that are targeted at specific groups such as a dementia carers training programme, a stroke carers support group and support for male carers, etc.

3.2.3 Other targeted services will be available to carers based on eligible need. Services to individual carers will follow a carers needs assessment or review. Whilst local authorities have a duty to meet the identified needs of service users, including respite breaks for their carers, there is only a power, not a duty, to provide services to carers in their own right. Brighton & Hove has always exercised this power both through universal services and through individually allocated self directed support, usually as a direct payment, to contribute towards a range of support This support includes transport, adult education, equipment (e.g. washing machine) or holidays. Currently the maximum annual expenditure per carer is £300, but with the growing number of carers being identified through

the promotion of the Carers Card, the increasing numbers likely to be identified through the Reaching OUT project and the Integrated Primary Care Teams Carers Support Service this needs to be reviewed. Some other local authorities operate a tiered allocation based on FACS criteria or a carers' Resource Allocation System (RAS), It is recommended that in Brighton & Hove the maximum amount is reduced to £250 per annum, with a tiered allocation structure based on FACS criteria. It is also recommended that carers' services are prioritised to sustain the caring role and to help carers access education and/or employment. Services that are offered at a discount through the Carers Card will not normally be funded additionally. Potential services include respite breaks provided through alternative care to the service user.

3.2.4 An outcomes survey of carers receiving self directed support was carried out for those receiving breaks and services over a three month period. The results show that 83 percent of carers were satisfied or very satisfied with the service, 63 percent were more able to manage their caring responsibilities and 66 percent were more relaxed since they had received a funded service.

### 3.3 ***Carers Challenge 2011***

3.3.1 This year the Carers Challenge was issued jointly by the Chief Executives of the Brighton & Hove City Council and NHS Brighton and Hove, administered by the Carers Centre for Brighton & Hove it took place over four weeks from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 24th June 2011 with the following aims:

- To raise the profile of carers across the city
- To encourage organisations to consider the impact of their services on carers
- To encourage employers to think about how they can support carers in the workplace
- To enable professionals taking part the chance to learn first-hand what it is like to be a carer, allowing them to use that learning in their respective jobs and to disseminate that knowledge to colleagues

23 matches took place and feedback from both carers and those they met with was very positive. The Carers Strategy Group has agreed to continue the Carers Challenge in 2012. An evaluation of this year's challenge is attached at Appendix 4.

### 3.4 ***Integrated Primary Care Teams Carer Support Service***

3.4.1 The JCB were informed of the development of a carer support service to work alongside the new model of eleven multidisciplinary integrated primary care teams aligned to GP practices in July 2011. The procurement process is underway and the tender will be advertised in early November. Colleagues from both NHS Sussex and Adult Social Care, a clinician and carer representatives will be part of the evaluation team.

## 4. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Consultation for both the Carers Strategy refresh and the development of a universal offer for carers has taken place through the Carers Strategy Group membership of which includes Adult Social Care, Children's Services, the local NHS Trusts, local carers organisations and two carer representatives. Consultation has also been held with a range of carers support groups facilitated by the Carers Centre. The views of carers and the strategy group have been included in the refreshed priorities of the strategy.

## 5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

### 5.1 Financial Implications:

- 5.1.1 The Carers Strategy is expected to be delivered within the current financial envelope subject to decisions on the 2012/13 budget.. Joint health and social care funding available to support carers in 2011/12 is £1,491,000 (£763,000 Council, £728,000 Health).
- 5.1.2 This report recommends a reduction in the maximum funding available to individual carers through Self Directed Support (currently £300 p.a. to £150 p.a.). It is expected that this reduction together with the range of offers available at discounted rates through the Carers Card will ensure that proposed services will remain within budget. This will be monitored through the budget management processes.

The Universal offers one year pilot will be delivered within the current financial envelope. The majority are delivered at a very low unit cost and can prevent the need for more expensive individualised services. The demand for these services and financial impact of the pilot will be monitored and reported back.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley*

*Date: 26/10/2011*

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 JCB is the body with responsibility for approving commissioning and delivery of services within the joint arrangements agreed between the Local Authority and PCT in addition to monitoring of the same. In considering commissioning and delivery arrangements regard must be paid to the duty to the public purse and value for money.

The specific legal duties and powers of the Local Authority in relation to carers are referred to in the body of this report. Provision of any services must take into account individuals' Human Rights as enshrined in the Human Rights Act 1998; in particular the Right to Privacy and Family Life.

*Lawyer Consulted:*

*Name Sandra O'Brien*

*Date: 17/10/11*

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The Equality Impact Assessment undertaken as part of the original Carers Strategy development has been updated. (Appendix 5.)

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 Assessment Tool attached Appendix 6.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None identified

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.5 None identified

Public Health Implications:

5.7 A health, equalities and wellbeing assessment is attached at Appendix 7.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.8 None identified

**6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

6.1 Alternative options are detailed in the report.

**7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 Universal offer

7.2 The aim of Universal services is to enable carers to access low level, low cost, support services to sustain their caring role, enable them to have a life of their own and stay mentally and physically well thus preventing or delaying the need for more targeted, higher cost services, emergency placements etc.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. Carers Strategy Refresh Delivery Plan Update
2. Carers Strategy Refresh proposed priorities
3. Proposed Universal and Targeted Services
4. Carers Challenge 2011 Evaluation

5. Equalities Impact Assessment Action Plan update
6. Sustainability Implications
7. Health and Wellbeing Implications

**Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. None

**Background Documents**

1. None

