

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Carers Strategy Refresh</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>25 January 2012</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>The Director of Adult Social Care and Lead Commissioner, People, Brighton &amp; Hove City Council.</b>		
	<b>Chief Operating Officer, Brighton &amp; Hove Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Sussex</b>		
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All		

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report updates the Carers Strategy published November 2009 informing HOSC of key achievements detailing agreed priorities in the strategy for 2012/13.
- 1.2 This report describes 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 members:
  - (1) Note the Carers Strategy refresh and key priorities to March 2013.
  - (2) Note the development of a universal offer for carers of adults to be piloted from April 2012 for one year.

#### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 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 Clinical Commissioning Groups (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 has been agreed 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

3.2.3 A detailed breakdown of these universal services is attached at Appendix 3. These 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.

3.2.4 Other targeted services will be available to carers based on eligible need. Services to individual carers will follow a carer's needs assessment or review.

3.2.5 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.

#### **4. 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:**

##### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 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).

The Universal offers 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.

##### 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.

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 Services for carers will contribute to the building of sustainable communities by supporting those with caring responsibilities to identify themselves as carers at an early stage, recognising the value of their contribution and involving them from the outset both in designing local care provision and in planning individual care packages; will maximise health promotion by supporting carers to remain mentally and physically well and support a sustainable economy by enabling those with caring responsibilities to fulfil their educational and employment potential. There is specific priority in Carers Strategy re support to working carers and access to education, training and employment

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7

## **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