

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Supporting Carers</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>25.11.13</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Executive Director Adult Services</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Gemma Scambler</b>	<b>Tel: 29-5045</b>
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<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 This report gives information on the current support available for carers within Brighton and Hove, funded through joint commissioning arrangements between Adult Social Care and the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 1.2 The report also outlines the future developments aimed at further improving the support to carers locally.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the support available for carers, funded jointly between Adult Social Care and the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 2.2 That the Committee notes the projects and activities, aimed at further improving the services for carers.

**3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION****3.1 Current services and support available for Carers:**

Informal carers (friends and family members) provide the majority of care within the UK. Carers provide unpaid care by looking after an ill, frail or disabled family member, friend or partner. A tenth of the population of England and Wales provide unpaid care – just under 6 million people, according to the 2011 Census. Within Brighton and Hove the 2011 Census stated that 23,967 people defined themselves as a carer, which represents 9% of the local population. Of those 68% provide 1 to 19 hours per week; 12% provide 20 to 49 hours per week; and 20% provide 50 or more hours per week (further information can be found on the within the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Summary Carers <http://www.bhlis.org/profiles/>).

Brighton and Hove has developed a range of services to support carers locally, through joint commissioning and budgets between Adult Social Care and the

Clinical Commissioning Group. The joint carers funding for 2013/14 is approximately £1.5 Million, (a breakdown of the expenditure is in Appendix 1).

Contracted services for carers include a range of information; advice; support; engagement; assessment; and specialist training opportunities for to both Adult and Young Carers. Plus the provision of home-based respite services, which is now transitioning from carers services to Community Care services.

Additional support services for carers include:

**Carers Card** provides discounts on leisure activities; health and fitness opportunities; and legal services.

**Carers Emergency Back Up Scheme** the plan describes the support they provide and who they would want to provide this support if they were unable to.

**CareLink and telecare equipment** a range of equipment which may support a carer in their caring role.

**Adult Social Care Carers Team and Carer Support Workers** dedicated carer workers to provide assessments and support directly to carers, within ASC and the Integrated Primary Care Teams.

**Carers Self Directed Support Budget** this budget is managed through the ASC Carers Team and enables carers to accessing funding for activities and opportunities which support them.

**Carers Back Care Adviser** specialist worker within Sussex Community Trust.

### 3.2 **Carers Strategy:**

Brighton and Hove City Council leads a Multi-Agency Carers Strategy, which is supported through an implementation group, chaired by Carol Mealing (carer). The membership covers Health partners, voluntary sector and ASC. This year the strategy is being reviewed, with themed meeting for each of the 5 key outcomes (Appendix 2 is a copy of the Carers Strategy Outcomes and Action Plan).

A refreshed strategy is being developed for 2014/15; then in 2015/16 a new National Carers Strategy will be published including the implementation of the new Care and Support Bill, so the local Carers Strategy will be developed to reflect the impact of both of those. The new Care and Support Bill places a greater emphasis on supporting carers, for the first time carers will be recognised in the law in the same way as those they care for. New duties include providing greater information and advice, meeting assessed eligible needs of carers (which is equivalent to the duty to meet the needs of cared for people), and to have a proactive approach to supporting carers to access carers assessments, through increased identification and recognition (Appendix 3 outlines the implications of the new Bill for carers).

### 3.3 **Carers Survey and Development Projects:**

The contract information and outcomes feedback from the current services and support is overwhelmingly positive, however the Carers survey results released earlier this year identified areas for improvement (Summary of information within Appendix 4).

**The Carers Survey identified 3 key areas for improvement:**

- *increase social contract;*
- *better and more accessible information and advice;*

- *more respite options.*

An action plan has been produced as a result of the survey and this will be monitored by the Carers Strategy Group.

There are a number of initiatives that will address the areas for improvement as identified by local carers including the development of the Carers Charter, the Carers Register and the Carers Summit will address the above areas identified by local carers. Additionally the changes to homebased respite will increase the opportunities available.

- a) **Carers Charter** – this document will amalgamate the local “Carers Quick Guide” information and the national “Carers Rights Guide”
- b) **Carers Register** – this system will provide a proportionate response to the needs of local carers – providing information and advice; access Carers Universal Services (including the Emergency Back Up Scheme + Carers Card); plus a GP alerted if requested; and opportunities for carers to join consultation groups and social media activities; and pathways to further assessments as necessary. The Register will be a vehicle for local carers to receive information and access a range of opportunities. This approach will support the new implications for carers, under the Care and Support Bill (Appendix 3).
- c) **Carers Summit** annual event, first summit is on Carers Rights Day (29/11/13); it will focus on Charter, Register and Respite, as well as providing information stalls and advice services.
- d) **Homebased Respite care:** changes to the homebased respite provided via the Carers budget should enable greater access to a range of support and less waiting times and the access will change and go through the Community Care systems, not a block contract, as agreed by Committee in November 2011.
- e) **Rebranding and reviewing the Self Directed Support Carers Grant payments:** There has been a lack of awareness that a number of collective and individual activities accessed by carers (via other organisations) are actually funded by Adult Social Care. Therefore carers aren’t always aware of the support that is being provided by the Council.
- f) **Young Carers:** discussions with Children’s services are taking place with a view to redesigning the assessment process, pathway and documentation to ensure young carers are effectively supported.

#### 4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 This report is for information only.

## **5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The report is for information only and no specific consultation has been completed for it.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 Support for carers is a major element of the role of both Adult Social Care and the Clinical Commissioning Group. The 2011 Census identified that Brighton and Hove has just under 24,000 carers, they need to be supported effectively and appropriately within their caring roles. This report identifies the services currently available and the current activities that are being developed.

## **7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The joint spend on supporting carers in 2013-14 is expected to be £1.5m, as broken down at Appendix 1. Future spending plans will be considered as part of the yearly budget setting process and jointly agreed between Adult Social Care and the Clinical Commissioning Group.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Name: Michael Bentley Date: 06/11/13*

### Legal Implications:

- 7.2 This report is for noting only so that there are no specific legal or Human Rights Act Implications arising. Committee will want to note however the anticipated change in the law in terms of future new duties to carers.

*Lawyer Consulted: Sandra O'Brien Date: 11/11/13*

### Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 This report is expected to have a positive equalities impact by promoting access to services that will support the needs of carers.

### Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 This report advocates the co-production of services for carers, resulting in a more sustainable model of provision.

### Any Other Significant Implications

- 7.5 None

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Carers Budget Commitments 2013/14

Appendix 2 – Carers Strategy Outcomes and Action Plan 2013-14

Appendix 3 The emerging issues/implications regarding carers and the Care and Support Bill

Appendix 4 – Carers Survey Nov'12

**Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. None.

**Background Documents**

1. None.

