



Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report:

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Report of: *Strategic Director of Adult Care and Wellbeing*

Report to: *Adult Health and Social Care Policy Committee*

Date of Decision: *20th March 2024*

Subject: *Update on the Carers Delivery Plan (2022-2025)*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No		<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 2643					
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No		<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken? <small>(see Section 4.4 for summary of climate implications)</small>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-					
<p><i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i></p>					

Purpose of Report:

This report provides an update to the Adult Health and Social Care Committee on progress of our multi-agency Carers Delivery Plan (2022-2025).

The Delivery Plan supports the ‘Young Carer, Parent and Adult Carer Strategy’ and ‘Living the life you want to live,’ the Adult Social Care Strategy 2022 to 2030.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Adult Health and Social Care Policy Committee:

1. Recognise the positive progress made on delivery of the Carers Delivery Plan (2022-2025).
2. Reaffirm our commitment to people who are unpaid carers across the city, so they feel recognised, valued, and supported and request that the Strategic Director brings a report to Committee setting out how we will become a Carer Friendly City.
3. Acknowledge the future actions the Delivery Plan aim to deliver.
4. Request that the Strategic Director Adult Care and Wellbeing brings back updates every 6 months as an assurance on delivery of the plan.

Background Papers:

- Appendix 1: the 'Carers Delivery Plan 2022-2025'
- Appendix 2: ['Young Carer, Parent and Adult Carer Strategy' link to website](#)
- Appendix 3: ASCOF Adult Carers Survey Analysis
- 'Living the life you want to live', the Adult Social Care Strategy 2022 to 2030
- 'Our Sheffield Delivery Plan 2022-23' Sheffield City Council

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Laura Foster
		Legal: Patrick Chisholm
		Equalities & Consultation: Ed Sexton
		Climate: Catherine Bunten
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	SLB member who approved submission:	<i>Alexis Chappell</i>
3	Committee Chair consulted:	<i>Councillor Angela Argenzio</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	Lead Officer Name: Janet Kerr	Job Title: Director of Operations
	Date: 12 th February 2024	

1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 There are approximately 60,000 carers in Sheffield (1 in 10 of us) with around 7,000 being young carers. The caring population is not static; in Sheffield about 20,000 people start or stop caring each year. NHS England says it takes on average two years for someone to realise they are a carer. Academics have calculated that carers save the economy £162 billion per year, the equivalent spent on the NHS.
- 1.2 A carer is someone, of any age, who looks after a person (a family member, partner, or friend) who needs help because of their illness, frailty, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction and cannot cope without their support. The care they give is unpaid.
- 1.3 Evidence states that caring is a social determinant of health, i.e. a non-medical factor that influences health outcomes. It is therefore vital for health and social care systems to support carers.
- 1.4 The Carers Delivery Plan (2022-2025) was approved at the Adult Health and Social Care Committee on 19 December 2023. It was developed following consultation with carers and partners, who agreed that the [Young Carer, Parent and Adult Carer Strategy](#) remained relevant however what was needed was a multi-agency Delivery Plan to ensure the strategy was purposeful and delivered on its commitments and principles, which were for carers to:
- Access at the right time, the right type of information and advice for them, their family and the person they care for.
 - Understand their rights and have access to an assessment.
 - Have a voice for themselves and the person they care for.
 - Have regular and sufficient breaks.
 - Continue to learn and develop, train or work (if they wish to).
 - Look after their own health.

“Carers need all kinds of different support from lots of different agencies, including health services. The health services and social services should know about and look after carers, as well as the person who has the care.”

- Quote from a carer

- 1.5 The Carers Delivery Plan takes a multi-agency approach as partnership working between organisations is vital in order to recognise, value and support our carers. The actions are informed by the six ‘Carer Principles’ set out in the carer’s strategy. Carers told us that they want actions, not just words. The Delivery Plan provides the roadmap for change and action. The full Carers Delivery Plan can be seen in Appendix 1.
- 1.6 Carers supported through the Delivery Plan are:
- Young carers – a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person.
 - Young adult carers - young people aged 16–25 who care, unpaid, for a family member or friend with an illness or disability, mental health condition or an addiction.
 - Adult carers – an adult who provides or intends to provide care for another adult (an adult needing care)
 - Parent carers – a person aged over 18 who provides or intends to provide care for a disabled child for whom the person has parental responsibility.

1.7 Impact of Carers Delivery Plan

“...Please make carers feel valued & respected, including hidden carers...”

- Quote from a carer

- 1.7.1 The Delivery Plan is an essential tool to make our carers strategy vision a reality. Our vision states that Sheffield is a ‘City where Carers are valued and have the right support to continue to care for as long as they want to.
- 1.7.2 Our significant achievements against the Carers Delivery Plan, are highlighted below:

Theme	Key Achievements in 2023
Strategic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering our first ‘Carers Roadshow’ in which 33 support agencies held stalls, enabling 1728 contacts between carers and support organisations and 2041 pieces of information given out. • Launch of the multi-agency Carers Strategy Implementation Group that governs, scrutinises, and evolves the Carers Delivery Plan in collaboration with adult and young carers. • Adult Care and Wellbeing improve its Adult Social Care Outcome Framework (ASCOF) scores for carers in 4 out of 5 measures. • Sheffield Carers Centre creating their 'Involvement Network' which currently has approximately 100 active members who share their lived experience to shape services and policies. • Young people and staff in Sheffield Young Carers worked with Paul Blomfield MP, alongside other national partners and MPs, to ensure young carers were included in the Health and Care Act, which gave Integrated Care Boards and hospitals new duties relating to young carers. • 23 young people from Sheffield Integrated Care Board started a carer support group for its staff who are in a caring role • the Young Carers National Voice submitting a collective video giving evidence to the All-Party Parliamentary Group Inquiry on Young Carers and Young Adult Carers. Sheffield Young Carers took a young adult carer to Parliament for the launch of the report from this inquiry on 14th November. • A full programme of activities for Carers Week created and delivered in a multi-agency way. • Adult Care and Wellbeing referred more carers to the Carers Centre than ever before: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 750 in 2023 (62.5 carers per month) from 458 in 2022. ○ That is a 63.8% increase in referrals from 2022 to 2023.

Theme	Key Achievements in 2023
Operational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes made to the Council’s Liquid Logic system to enable easier referrals to the Carers Centre and Sheffield Young Carers. • Sheffield Teaching Hospitals creating a ‘Carer Passport’ which it is currently piloting on several wards. • Sheffield Teaching Hospitals working with the Carers Centre producing a discharge guide/animation to get support information to carers and better connect health / social care systems and creating prompts in the admission and discharge checklist on the patient administration system - this prompts staff to ask if a patient has a carer and asks whether this is a young carer – a check box enables monitoring. • Sheffield City Council's Community Youth Services working on their database / forms to ensure they routinely identify young carers and link into the Young Carers Register. • Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust benchmarking in-patient services for the ‘Triangle of Care’ accreditation. • Sheffield Young Carers and Sheffield Carers Centre delivered three training sessions per year (open to health and social care professionals) to raise carer awareness. • Improved data governance to track referrals and non-referrals. • Dedicated carers training on unpaid carers for social care teams.

1.7.3 A highlight of the year was the first ever Sheffield Carers Roadshow. A public event held at the Winter Gardens. The concept was to put carers at the centre of the day and wrap a range of complementary services, advice workshops and information sharing around them, all in one place, making it as accessible as possible for carers. The event evidenced the power of multi-agency working between Sheffield Integrated Care Board, Sheffield City Council, Sheffield Carers Centre, Sheffield Young Carers and Carers UK as they worked together to plan and

coordinate the day. The approach embodied the Council's core values, specifically, 'people are at the heart of what we do and 'together we get things done'.

- 1.7.4 The Roadshow also raised carer awareness with notable attendees to help promote the carer agenda including Paul Blomfield MP; Colin Ross, the Lord Mayor; John Burkhill, Sheffield's own 'Man with a Pram' and many of our local Councillors.
- 1.7.5 Feedback on the day was incredibly positive and this was further supported via a short follow up questionnaire. 100% of respondents said the roadshow made them feel valued and supported.
- 1.7.6 A substantial action within the Carers Delivery Plan was to 'improve our carers Adult Social Care Outcome Framework (ASCOF) results'. ASCOF measures how well Care and Support Services achieve the outcomes that matter to people. There are five carer specific measures, with a Local Authority's scores being determined by responses to the Survey of Adult Carers in England (SACE).
- 1.7.7 The table below gives Sheffield's scores for the carer measures in 2021/22 and 2023/24, plus national and regional scores for context. We have made sizable progress on four out of five outcome areas which is extremely positive considering the ongoing cost of living crisis. There is still work to do but the evidence from 577 carers (who responded to the SACE), tells us that carers' quality of life is improving, which is exactly what the Strategy and Delivery Plan aim to do.

ASCOF Measure	Measure Description	Sheff 2021/21	Sheff 2023/24	National 2021/22	Y&H 2021/22
1D	Carer reported quality of life	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.7
1I2	Proportion of carers who reported that they had as much social contact as they would like	30.0%	33.9%	32.5%	35.8%
3B	Overall satisfaction of carers with social services	34.7%	31.2%	38.6%	40.1%
3C	The proportion of carers who report that they have been included or consulted in discussions about the person they care for	62.4%	66.7%	69.7%	70.7%
3D2	The proportion of carers who find it easy to find information about services	53.2%	56.0%	62.3%	63.4%

1.8 Priorities for the next 12 months

"Some people can shout and make others understand what they need . Others find that hard. None of us ever thought we would be carers. That's our job. Just make sure you are all doing yours right for people like me."

– Quote from a carer

- 1.8.1 The Carers Delivery Plan is already having a positive impact on the lives of carers. There is evidence that tells us carers feel valued and supported and that their quality of life is improving, however, whilst partners should be proud of the achievements over the last 12 months, there is no room for complacency.
- 1.8.2 The priorities for the next year are set out in the full Delivery Plan in Appendix 1, however our agreed priority goals include:
- **Identification** - Identify more carers, ensuring they are linked to appropriate support, advice, and networks. Adult Care and Wellbeing has carer focused roles in the Short-Term Interventions Team plus Adult Future Options and is aiming to have roles in Living and Aging Well in the future.

- **Awareness** – Updating and providing information for the public to assist people to recognise themselves as carers, including further campaigns.
- **Equality** – Reach and engage with minority and diverse communities to identify carers and work with communities to develop supports which are personalised.
- **Governance and Partnership** - Review the governance and membership of the Carers Strategy Implementation Group, particularly ensuring that carers voices remain central to driving and informing improvements.
- **Personalised and Joined Up Support** - Work with partners to improve the connectivity of services and enabling personalised supports.
- **Young Carers** - Ensure more young carers get added to our Young Carers Register and review / improve the service offer to young adult carers.
- **Involvement** - Expanding the membership of the 'Involvement Network' – Sheffield Carers Centre.
- **Strategy** - Completing the Carers Centre's Carers Strategy.

1.8.3 As we continue to embed and further implement our Carers Delivery Plan, our ambition is Sheffield is a Carer Friendly City. We want Carers to be valued, supported and recognised. To do this, a priority to work with carers to set out how Sheffield can become known as a Carer Friendly City.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

2.1.1 This multi-agency Delivery Plan aligns with the mission of our new draft four-year Council plan which is 'together we get things done.' The Carers Delivery Plan contributes to outcome 1 which is *'A place where all children belong, and all young people can build a successful future'* and outcome 3 which is People live in caring, engaged communities that value diversity and support wellbeing

2.1.2 In regards Outcome 1, Caring can have a profound impact on our children, findings from the [All-Party Parliamentary Group enquiry](#) in 2023 found that:

- 10% of all pupils provide high or very high levels of care – equating to at least 2 carers in every class.
- 13% of all pupils surveyed had caring responsibilities.
- Young carers miss an average of 27 school days per academic year compared to peers without caring responsibilities:
- Higher prevalence of anxiety and depression (13%) compared to non-carers (8%).
- Have a higher prevalence of self-harm (25%) compared to non-carers (17%).
- Of those who self-harm, twice as likely to do so in an attempt to take their own life (17% compared to 7% of non-carers).
- 32% 'always' or 'usually' face additional costs because they are a carer.
- 57% said they are 'always' or usually' worrying about the cost of living and things being more expensive.
- Five times more likely to drop out of college.
- 38% less likely to achieve a university degree than their peers without a caring role.
- 32.9% were not currently in education, employment or training (NEET), compared to 5.3% who were not carers.
- 40% of registered carers and 31.3% of unregistered carer had spent over 18 months being NEET.
- 40% say caring 'always' or usually' affects how much time they can spend with their friends.

2.1.3 The Carers Delivery Plan has a positive impact on young carers who are learning in our schools, colleges and universities. It ensures that young carers are identified and that they are

not undertaking inappropriate caring tasks or take on responsibilities that could impact their education or wellbeing.

- 2.1.4 In regards outcome 3, The Carers Delivery Plan will also contribute to outcome 3 of our four-year Council plan which is 'People live in caring, engaged communities that value wellbeing.'
- 2.1.5 Carers are essential to our communities and a vital partner in supporting those with health and social care needs; this is recognised in the long-term strategic direction and plan for Adult Social Care 'Living the life you want to live'. This strategy commits to: 'Recognise and value unpaid carers and the social care workforce and the contribution they make to our city.'
- 2.1.6 We know that carers can be negatively impacted by their caring role, including mental, physical health, educational attainment, employment status, potential earnings, pension accrual, and perceived status e.g. 'you're just a carer'. The Coronavirus and the cost-of-living crisis disproportionately affected carers and this continues. For example, Coronavirus significantly increased the need for unpaid care, meaning that there are more carers, and for many, caring has become more intensive. As the majority of carers are female (57%) the pandemic is likely to have exacerbated gender inequality as women are more likely to provide care and change their circumstances in order to care, e.g. reduce hours in work / leave work, etc. however, caring is still satisfying and a source of pride for many. We need to help our carers continue to care, if they want to, and reduce the inequalities they can face.
- 2.1.7 The Carers Delivery Plan also contributes towards delivery upon the Adult Social Care Strategy Living the Life You Want to Live, specifically Connected and Engaged and Aspire and Achieve Outcomes. It also contributes to delivery upon our All Age Autism Strategy, All Age Emotional and Mental Health Strategy, Learning Disability Strategy, Dementia Strategy, Hospital Discharge Model and Workforce Strategy.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 Our Carers Strategy Implementation Group is a multi-agency group where carers, parents and young carers join colleagues from Social Care, Health, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, ICB and carer representative organisations. This group actively govern, scrutinise and promote activities within Carers Delivery Plan.
- 3.2 The Plan delivers on an existing co-produced carers strategy. Carers and other key stakeholders created the Strategy that drive actions / outcomes for carers. The consultation process was extensive, and the strategy was informed by carer support groups, carers cafes, carers organisations / stakeholders, over 700 carer questionnaire responses, etc.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality Implications

- 4.1.1 Unpaid carers are at risk of health and social inequalities. Government has acknowledged that caring should be considered a social determinant of health. This Plan helps identify carers and links them into appropriate support. This prevents, reduces and delays needs developing and reduces inequalities that can be caused by being a carer.
- 4.1.2 We have legal requirements under sections 149 and 158 of the Equality Act 2010. These are referred to as the 'general duties to promote equality.' Section 149(1) contains the Public Sector Equality Duty, under which public authorities must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is connected to protected characteristics and prohibited by or under this Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 4.1.3 The Council recognises carers as a group in its own right when carrying out equality analysis,

going beyond the statutory scope of protected characteristics.

- 4.1.4 This Plan aids reducing inequalities, we know that carers can be impacted by their caring role. As the majority of carers are female (57%) it creates a gender inequality for women as they are more likely to provide care or change their circumstances in order to care, e.g. reduce hours in work or leave their employment. The Plan has a positive impact on young carers who are learning in our schools.

4.2 **Financial and Commercial Implications**

- 4.2.1 This Delivery Plan supports existing investment in carer services. There is the risk that, should we not continue to invest in the Carers Service, that social care costs may increase.
- 4.2.2 For 23/24, the gross budget for the Adults Care and Wellbeing Carers Service is £830,700, including £242,500 of Public Health funding.
- 4.2.3 A 3.5% uplift to the Public Health Grant element of the budget was applied in 23/24 for inflationary pay pressures. Any further funding requests are subject to a formal approval process.

4.3 **Legal Implications**

- 4.3.1 Focusing on identifying more carers the Delivery Plan will support the Council to discharge its section 2 Care Act 2014 duties regarding it 'preventing needs for care and support'. Section 2 states that '(1) A local authority must provide or arrange for the provision of services, facilities or resources, or take other steps, which it considers will -...
(b) contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by carers in its area of needs for support ...
(d) reduce the needs for support of carers in its area'.
- 4.3.2 The Delivery Plan can also support the wider health system to deliver section 91 of the Health and Care Act 2022 which states:
(1) Where a relevant trust is responsible for an adult hospital patient and considers that the patient is likely to require care and support following discharge from hospital, the relevant trust must, as soon as is feasible after it begins making any plans relating to the discharge, take any steps that it considers appropriate to involve -
(...B) any carer of the patient'
Although these requirements are placed on health trusts, there is a duty on Local Authorities to co-operate with such bodies in this activity. "

4.4 **Climate Implications**

- 4.4.1 As a multi-agency Delivery Plan, there is no single Climate Impact Assessment Tool. The Delivery Plan will aim to contribute to the Climate Statement approved at Committee in January 2024 through encouraging all partners involved in delivery to consider actions which can respond to impacts of climate change and contribution to Net Zero.
- 4.4.2 **Transport**
When partners meet, we can use MS Teams for many meetings, reducing the need to travel. When meeting in person, 'active travel' and public transport is promoted in invitations.
- 4.4.3 **Working with stakeholders**
We collaborate with partners who are engaged with the climate agenda, for e.g., Sheffield Teaching Hospitals are 'committed to becoming a more sustainable Trust, reduce their climate footprint and impact on climate change.' The Trust are run a project called 'Be Green' to help their hospitals and offices operate in a more environmentally friendly way.
- 4.4.4 Council-funded carers support services are due to be reproced in December 2026. A detailed Climate Impact Assessment will be completed as part of the Procurement Strategy.
- 4.4.5 The partnership includes unpaid carers; we use our partners to communicate directly with and

to encourage climate impact awareness. This contributes to supporting this vulnerable group adapt to some of the impacts of climate change, including extreme weather / heat events, resource scarcity, price increases, energy / water/ resource efficiency advice, travel options, etc. by signposting people to climate-friendly resources where appropriate.

4.5 **Other Implications**

N/A

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Option – Not to update to the Delivery Plan – Rejected.

5.2 Now is the right time to reaffirm our commitment to carers. The Council and its partners want to continue to make Sheffield a carer friendly city.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 We want to be bold and ambitious and make Sheffield a carer friendly city. We recognise, value and support our carers and the vital role they have in our communities. We know from the first 12 months that the Carers Delivery Plan has positively impacted the lives of carers but there is still much more to do.

6.2 Carers are vital to our health and social care systems. They provide care to some of the most vulnerable in our communities and in doing so save the economy billions of pounds per year, however being a carer can lead to social, educational and health inequalities. It is therefore essential that we recognise, value and support those in a caring role and prevent inappropriate caring, especially with young carers; our Carers Delivery Plan empowers us do this.

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