

REPORT

Item No: 5

SUBJECT:	Implementation of Carers Act 2018/19
TO:	IJB Sub Committee
Lead Officer for Report:	Head of Planning, Performance and Quality Assurance
Author(s) of Report	Geri McCormick, Manager Commissioning and Quality Assurance
DATE:	24.09.18

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This paper is coming to the Sub-Committee

For approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	For endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/>	To note	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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This paper will provide the Sub-Committee with an update in relation to the commissioning of Carer Support Services to meet the duties of the Carers Act (Scotland) 2016.

2. ROUTE TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE

This paper has been:

Prepared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reviewed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed	<input type="checkbox"/>
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This paper has been prepared by the Manager, Commissioning and Quality Assurance and reviewed by the Head of Planning, Performance and Quality Assurance and Head of Adult Social Work Services.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to:

- Note the contents of the report
- Request further updates on progress of the tender to establish carer support services and on-going progress of the implementation of the Act.

4. BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 Carers are recognised as equal partners in the delivery of support and care and North Lanarkshire has developed and benefitted from a long term relationship with the people who care for the most vulnerable individuals in North Lanarkshire and the organisations who support them.
- 4.2 The Act is designed to support carers' health and wellbeing within each Health and Social Care Partnership area. The emerging guidance includes:-

- A duty to provide support to carers based on their assessed needs, in line with a locally developed eligibility criteria;
 - Ensure that carers and young carers will be at the centre of decision making on how services are designed, delivered and evaluated
 - Development of a specific Adult Carer Support Plan and Young Carer Statement to identify carers' needs and personal outcomes including a break from caring ; and
 - A requirement to have an information and advice service for carers on, amongst other things, emergency and future care planning, advocacy, income maximisation and carers' rights
- 4.3 As previously reported, extensive work has taken place to ensure the effective implementation of the Carers Act, supported by the Carers Strategy Implementation Group. This has included a key focus on the following work areas:
- Adult Carers - Direct Support, Short Breaks and Adult Carer Support Plans
 - Young Carer – Direct Support and Young Carer Statements
 - Eligibility Criteria including Carers GSA
 - Campaigning and Representation
 - Carers involvement in Hospital Discharge Process
 - Carers Strategy
- 4.4 One area that requires further work is in respect of Section 28 of the Act which supports carers in respect of hospital discharge. Due to the geography of North Lanarkshire and the location of the three hospitals, some pan-Lanarkshire work is required to ensure a consistent and equitable approach across the area. Progress to date will be presented at an upcoming Patient Reference Forum.
- 4.5 An open procurement process is about to commence, which will establish services to support carers in North Lanarkshire. It is envisaged that these contracts will be in place and operational from 1st March 2019.
- 4.6 The specification and design of these services were shaped by the work of the multi – agency group referenced in 4.3.
- 4.7 The work of the existing contracted providers is acknowledged along with their commitment to ensure the continued support to carers and the progress made to date could not have been done without the positive and forward-thinking attitudes of all involved.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The tender for Carer support will allow North Lanarkshire to establish services to further implement and develop our commitment to carers. The successful organisation/s will play a pivotal role in the development of the North Lanarkshire Strategy for Carers which will cover 2019 onwards.
- 5.2 In order to meet the commencement date of the contracts and in line with Council standing orders the outcome of the tender will be reported to the Convener of social work sub-committee. A report will be presented to the November Social Work Sub-Committee outlining these timescales.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 NATIONAL OUTCOMES

This work has implications for all nine national outcomes, but particularly outcome 6 around unpaid carers.

6.2 ASSOCIATED MEASURE(S)

The outcome of the tender and on-going work will be reported to all relevant committees.

As part of the contract and in line with existing practice all providers will be subject to rigorous monitoring.

6.3 FINANCIAL

This paper has been reviewed by Finance:

Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6.4 PEOPLE

H&SCP has a dedicated Carers lead officer and this role remains pivotal in the successful provision and partnership working with carers organisations.

6.5 INEQUALITIES

EQIA Completed:

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
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An EQIA is underway as part of the contracting process.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. APPENDICES



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CHIEF ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER (or Depute)

Members seeking further information about any aspect of this report, please contact Geri McCormick on telephone number 01698 332084