

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CARERS STRATEGY 2018-20****Purpose of the Report**

1. The report seeks approval of the Nottinghamshire Carers Strategy 2018-2020, attached as **Appendix 1**, as recommended by the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

**Information**

2. Over the previous two years, the Council has undertaken consultation with carers, partner organisations and its own social care workforce to identify what carers value and how they would like to see services develop in the future. This has included formal public consultation as well as workshop sessions with carers and provider staff using a co-production approach.
3. This work has formed the basis of a new Nottinghamshire Carers Strategy 2018-2020 to replace the previous strategy which spanned 2015-2018. It has also informed the development of a revised carers support offer which will be implemented from October 2019 in order to coincide with the start of the new Carers Hub contract. This revised offer will encompass changes to both the Council's assessment and support planning processes as well as its commissioned information, advice and support services.

**Nottinghamshire Carers Strategy 2018-20**

4. The Nottinghamshire Carers Strategy 2018-2020 is presented to the Committee and is attached as **Appendix 1**. It will be supplemented by annual action plans, which will set out development activities for the Council and its partners. A copy of the Action Plan for 2018/19 is included within the appendix.
5. The Strategy sets out key principles that will underpin all work to support carers and includes a summary of information about the situation in Nottinghamshire and the performance measures that will be used to assess progress. The principles are:
  - a. use an integrated approach to develop and deliver services, considering all support available including wider community resources as well as those services directly delivered or commissioned by the County Council and the NHS.

- b. make use of existing resources, including carers' own capacity for supporting each other, and provide opportunities to share experiences.
  - c. help carers to navigate a complex health and social care system to better understand and meet the needs of the person that they care for and to plan for the future, including planning for a crisis.
  - d. consider carers' own wellbeing and life aspirations and enable carers to access activities or resources to promote these.
  - e. use a personalised approach to assessment and support planning, drawing on a wide range of support and community resources and assist carers to access these
  - f. consider the varying situations and requirements of carers at differing stages of life, including young carers, working age carers who may also have childcare or work commitments, and elderly carers who are more likely to be managing their own health conditions or care and support needs.
6. The Strategy has been developed in consultation with the Nottinghamshire Carers Implementation Group, which includes carer representatives, and representatives from Clinical Commissioning Groups, provider organisations and other stakeholders, and provides a forum for discussion of strategic direction and initiatives to support carers.
  7. It has been approved as a joint commissioning strategy by the Nottinghamshire Carers Commissioning Forum which includes representatives of Clinical Commissioning Groups, oversight of the shared Better Care Fund budget and joint commissioning intentions. Representatives at this meeting ensure that decisions made are approved through their own governance structures. Regular reports and updates are also taken to the Better Care Fund Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
  8. At its meeting on 8 October 2018, the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee recommended the proposed strategy to Policy Committee for approval. The Strategy aligns with the County Council Plan 2017-2021 and with the Adult Social Care Strategy. It will contribute to achieving the commitment in the Council Plan that 'People live independently for as long as possible'. The Strategy has focused on local views about what is important for Nottinghamshire, whilst also taking account of national developments, including the national 'Carers Action Plan 2018 - 2020 - Supporting carers today'. The anticipated national Green Paper on social care is expected to include further policy related to carers. The annual action plans that support the Strategy will respond to any future developments in national policy.
  9. The supporting annual Action Plan for 2018/19 includes four key workstreams: to review the Carers Assessment and Support Planning Process, to review arrangements for carer respite, to review commissioned support services, and to develop a County communication and information plan.
  10. Corporately, the Council will be able to support the Strategy by increasing awareness of carers across all its public-facing services, for example: cultural services, registrars service, trading standards, transport services, and business support services. Joint working across services for adults and children will promote a whole family approach. In

addition, the Council has a role as an employer of a significant number of carers, supporting them through its flexible working provisions.

### **Other Options Considered**

11. To not make any changes to the way services are currently provided to carers: this would not help the Council and partners to respond appropriately with regard to developing the services and support that are considered to be of most value by carers in the County.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

12. A series of carers consultation activities sought feedback on proposals for changes to, and investment in, the support provided to carers in order to ensure that support focuses on those things that people have said are the most useful in terms of improving carer wellbeing or enabling them to continue caring. This included formal public consultation in autumn 2017. This information has been used to develop the Strategy.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Data Protection and Information Governance**

14. Any changes to the Adult Social Care assessment and support processes and the commissioning of services will need to be compliant with the relevant data protections and information governance legislation.

### **Financial Implications**

15. There are no financial implications to the Council arising directly from this report.

### **Public Sector Equality Duty implications**

16. An Equality Impact Assessment was completed prior to public consultation on the proposals. Further assessments will be undertaken as part of the work to develop a revised carers support offer, in consultation with partners and carers. Carer support services are more likely to be used by women and by those aged over 40. However, the proposed changes to support services are not expected to have any disproportionate impact on these groups.
17. Developing proposals for service delivery will take account of the recommendations in research that the Council commissioned into supporting Seldom Heard Carers, and national research and guidance on best practice, for example, guidance on delivering LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transsexual) inclusive services.

## **Implications for Service Users**

18. Support to carers will be developed in line with information that they have provided about what is most valuable to them.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That Committee approves the Nottinghamshire Carers Strategy 2018-2020, attached as **Appendix 1**.

**Councillor Stuart Wallace**  
**Chairman of the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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## **Constitutional Comments (LW 04/04/19)**

19. Policy Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report.

## **Financial Comments (DG 05/04/19)**

20. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 15 of this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Nottinghamshire Carers Strategy and revised Carers Support Offer – report to Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

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