

meeting COUNTY COUNCIL

date 22 September 2011

agenda item number **11**

## REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

### Young Carers Strategy for Nottinghamshire

#### Purpose of report

1. This report seeks the approval of the County Council for a Young Carers Strategy for Nottinghamshire in respect of work with children, young people and their families.

#### Information and advice

##### Background

2. The actual number of young carers aged 5 – 24 years old in Nottinghamshire is not known, but it is recognised that the number of young carers in Nottinghamshire is significantly under-reported by the agencies working with them, due to the difficulty in identifying children and young people with inappropriate caring responsibilities.
3. Reducing the burden on young carers is a key priority for the current administration, allowing them to enjoy their childhood without pressures and responsibilities beyond their years.
4. The County Council established a multi agency Disabled Parents and Young Carers Steering Group in 2009, including representation from Children, Families and Cultural Services, Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection, and the Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust.
5. Also in 2009, the County Council commissioned Family Action (a national charity) to provide a Young Carers Service in Nottinghamshire. The contract is initially for three years and funding of the contract during 2011-2012 is £252,774. The contract is monitored each quarter by the Disabled Parents and Young Carers Steering Group. The Steering Group will report annually to the Senior Leadership Team of the Children, Families and Cultural Services Department.
6. The Young Carers Service works with a range of statutory, voluntary and independent sector partners with the primary aim of reducing the

burden of care on children and young people aged from 5 to 24 by:

- raising awareness of the issues young carers have to deal with
  - helping services to identify young carers and young adult carers
  - assessing the individual needs of young carers and their families
  - offering training to professionals to improve the level and quality of support offered to young carers
  - supporting services to make sure that they have procedures and protocols in place that take account of young carers
  - providing tailored support, advice and assistance directly to young carers
  - offering positive activities from their caring role to give young carers a break
  - offering support to young adults aged 18-24 with caring responsibilities.
7. In April 2011, Cabinet agreed an additional revenue investment of £900,000 per year for 2 years from 2011- 2013 to support and improve the lives of young carers. This investment will support in the main, enhanced personal budgets for disabled parents to reduce their dependency on the support of young carers. However, the funding will also support further investigation into a wider approach to supporting young carers including the development of one to one support for parents.

### **The Young Carers Strategy for Nottinghamshire**

8. In order to ensure a continuing focus on support for young carers, a longer term strategy for young carers has been developed. Nottinghamshire's Young Carer's strategy is based upon the Association of Statutory Directors of Children's Services and Adult Services joint document: "Working together to support young carers – a model local memorandum of understanding".
9. Overall the Strategy aims to promote and improve the health and well-being of carers and their families by preventing and protecting children and young people from undertaking excessive and inappropriate caring roles and responsibilities, and preventing the continuation of inappropriate caring.
10. The Young Carers Strategy for Nottinghamshire, attached as **Appendix A** to this report, sets out the ambition of the County Council and its children's services partners for young carers. This is that **young carers should have the support they need to learn, develop and thrive, to enjoy positive childhoods and to achieve their full potential. We want to ensure that young carers are actively protected from excessive or inappropriate caring and that parents and other family members are effectively supported. There will be a clear and co-ordinated means of identifying and assessing children and young people with caring responsibilities**

**who are providing regular care and support for someone in their family.**

11. The Strategy defines young carers as being children and young people under 18 and young adults aged 18-24 who provide, or intend to provide, personal care, assistance or support on a regular basis to another family member who is disabled through physical or mental illness, a physical or learning disability, or through misusing substances.
12. The Strategy has a number of key principles that will underpin Nottinghamshire's approach to supporting young carers:
  - To ensure processes are put in place to encourage and enable the early identification of young carers, including self identification.
  - To recognise there are no "wrong doors" and young carers are identified, assessed and their families are supported in ways that both prevent inappropriate caring and support parenting roles regardless of which service is contacted first.
  - To ensure earlier, better integrated and effective responses to young carers and their families are available using a whole family approach and during the transition to adulthood.
  - To ensure that children and young people are protected from undertaking excessive or inappropriate caring roles, further inappropriate caring is prevented, emotional support is available where needed, and parents feel supported in their parenting role.
  - To ensure that no care or support package for a parent or sibling relies on excessive or inappropriate caring being undertaken by a young carer to make it sustainable.
  - To ensure young carers are helped to achieve their potential by having the same access as their peers to:
    - education and career choices
    - leisure and community activities / opportunities
    - advice and support
    - information
    - youth services
  - To improve the participation of young carers and their families in shaping the delivery of services to ensure a greater choice and control, and to prevent further inappropriate caring.
13. The Young Carers Strategy for Nottinghamshire has identified a number of key development areas:
  - Promoting Early Identification
  - Assessment
  - Safeguarding
  - Schools and Young Carers

- Health of Young Carers
- Information, Advice & Advocacy

Each of these development areas has an action plan which is attached at **Appendix B** to the report.

14. Through Family Action, a group of young carers were consulted on the Strategy and their feedback used to improve the document.
15. A communication plan has been developed to support the launch of the Young Carers Strategy.
16. The Strategy together with all activities to support young carers will be led for Nottinghamshire County Council by the Group Manager for the Targeted Support & Youth Justice Service within the Children, Families and Cultural Services Department. The Group Manager will be responsible for the monitoring and review of the Strategy, which will be reviewed in January 2013. Any proposed changes to the Strategy arising from the review will be reported back to the Council.

### **Statutory and policy implications**

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report. Attention is however drawn to the following:-

#### **Personnel implications**

18. The effective implementation of the Strategy will require the profile of young carers and their needs to be raised across the County Council's workforce. Policies and processes will need to be reviewed to ensure the effective implementation of the strategy.

#### **Equal opportunities implications**

19. Public Authorities are required by law to have due regard to the need to:
  - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
  - advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not
  - foster good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not.
20. Decision makers must understand the effect of policies and practices on people with protected characteristics. Equality impact assessments are the mechanism by which the authority considers these effects.
21. An equality impact assessment has been undertaken and is available as a background paper and it is essential that Members give due regard to the implications for protected groups in the context of their equality duty in relation to this decision.

## **Implications for service users**

22. The implementation of the Strategy will lead to the needs of young carers and their families being identified earlier and appropriate support being provided at the earliest opportunity. It will ensure that young carers are protected from undertaking excessive and inappropriate caring roles and those parents and other family members are effectively supported. This will lead to improved outcomes for the young carers and their families.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

23. That the Council:
- (1) approves the Young Carers Strategy, attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
  - (2) receives a report detailing any proposed changes arising from the review of the Strategy in January 2013.

## **COUNCILLOR PHILIP OWEN**

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services

## **Reasons for recommendation**

24. The implementation of the Young Carers Strategy will improve the support provided to young carers and their families in Nottinghamshire. This will lead to improved outcomes for the young carers and their families.

## **Legal Services' comments (LM/19.08.11)**

25. Full Council has the authority to approve the recommendations in the report.

## **Financial comments of the Service Director – Finance (NDR)**

26. The funding available to support young carers is set out in the report at paragraphs 5 and 7.

## **Background papers available for inspection**

Equality Impact Assessment

## **Electoral division(s) affected**

Nottinghamshire

M19C2871



## **Appendix A – Young Carers Strategy for Nottinghamshire**

### **Executive Summary**

All children in Nottinghamshire need support and opportunities to help them succeed, develop, thrive and eventually become mature, responsible and independent adults. Young carers are no exception to this and should be given the additional support and understanding to help them achieve this. Any specific provision provided should be specifically targeted to the young carers' individual needs, taking into account their age, responsibilities and the effect (both emotional and physical) that the responsibility of caring has on them.

This is a joint strategy between Children, Families and Cultural Services of Nottinghamshire County Council, Adult Social Care, Health & Public Protection of Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and their partners. It sets out how the partners will work together to ensure that young carers are better supported not to undertake inappropriate caring, to give them appropriate help and support, and to address issues surrounding young carers. The strategy supports the local agreement to reduce child poverty.

This strategy will be led for Nottinghamshire County Council by the Group Manager for the Targeted Support & Youth Justice Service within Children, Families and Cultural Services

Supporting the Young Carers Strategy is a development plan which is attached as Appendix A. The priority areas for the development plan are as follows:

- **Promoting Early Identification**
- **Assessment**
- **Safeguarding**
- **Schools and Young Carers**
- **Health of Young Carers**
- **Information, Advice & Advocacy**
- **Overarching Themes**

### **Young Carers in Nottinghamshire**

The actual number of young carers aged 5 – 24 years old in Nottinghamshire is not known, but it is recognised that the number of young carers in Nottinghamshire is significantly under- reported by the agencies working with them, due to the difficulty in identifying children and young people with inappropriate caring responsibilities. It is therefore paramount that more young carers are identified and that their families are adequately supported, so that their caring role does not become a burden, allowing them to have the same life chances and quality of life as other children and young people their age.

Family Action currently manages the Nottinghamshire Young Carers Service on behalf of the County Council. Working in partnership with a range of statutory and voluntary, community and independent sector partners, the Young Carers Service aims to reduce the burden of care on children and young people aged from 5 to 24 by:

- **raising awareness** of the issues young carers have to deal with
- **helping services to identify** young carers and young adult carers
- **assessing the individual needs** of young carers and their families
- **offering training to professionals** to improve the level and quality of support
- **striving for inclusion** by helping services to make sure that they have procedures and protocols in place that take account of young carers
- **providing tailored support**, advice and assistance
- **running groups and activities** as a break from their caring role
- **offering support to young adults aged 18-24.**

### **Statement of Intent**

Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and their partners have a clear and positive ambition for young carers. It is that:

**Young carers should have the support they need to learn, develop and thrive, to enjoy positive childhoods and to achieve their full potential. We want to ensure that young carers are actively protected from excessive or inappropriate caring and that parents and other family members are effectively supported. There will be a clear and co-ordinated means of identifying and assessing children and young people with caring responsibilities who are providing regular care and support for someone in their family.**

Our ambition builds on the positive joint work that takes place now, and is based on a set of aims that promote the delivery of better integrated support for families with care needs and the protection from harm and improved outcomes for young carers. It is our intention to ensure that all children and young people are better supported not to undertake inappropriate caring by the provision of effective care and support for siblings and parents who need it. We will strive to achieve this within the resources available to us and the national and local policies and priorities that guide us. We will also establish clear and consistent communication with young carers and their families.

This strategy is based upon “Working together to support young carers – a model local memorandum of understanding between statutory directors of children’s services and adult social services (2009)”.

### **4. Definition**

Young carers are children and young people under 18 and young adults aged 18-24 who provide, or intend to provide, personal care, assistance or support on a regular basis to another family member who is disabled through physical or mental illness, a physical or learning disability, or through misusing substances. They carry out significant or substantial caring tasks and assume a level of responsibility which is inappropriate to their age. For young carers, their caring responsibilities persist over time and are important in maintaining the health, safety or day to day well-being of the person cared for and/or the wider family.

### **5. What is Inappropriate Caring?**

The term does not apply to the everyday and occasional help around the home that may often be expected of or given by children in families. Many children and young people help out with daily tasks and share in the care of siblings as part of everyday living within their household unit. This is not and should not be an automatic cause



for concern. Caring can be a positive and valued experience that strengthens family ties and builds personal skills.

Our concern is where caring responsibilities risk becoming too much for the child or young person. Identifying when caring has reached a point where it risks or has become “inappropriate” for carers is principally a matter for assessment of whether the family or young person need more formal support. Within this process, the views of the young carer must be taken into account.

In general, if their caring role and responsibilities are having an adverse effect on the young carer’s education or ability to form friendships or undertake social activities and pursuits, this is an indicator that the situation is inappropriate. In such circumstances further assessment of the young carer’s needs will be required.

This involves having regard to what caring is undertaken, why, its impact, how often and the extent to which the young person has sole or unsupervised responsibility for an activity which might usually fall to an adult. In making this judgement, account needs to be taken of the perspectives of both the young carer and their parent, and any tensions between them.

## **6. Key Aims and Outcomes**

Our aim is to promote and improve the health and well-being of carers and their families by preventing and protecting children and young people from undertaking excessive and inappropriate caring roles and responsibilities, and preventing the continuation of inappropriate caring. Where a parent or other family member has care or welfare needs arising from physical or mental illness, substance misuse, or a physical or learning disability, we will work together and with our partners in other statutory and voluntary organisations to ensure that:

- processes are identified and put in place to encourage and enable self identification
- there are no “wrong doors” and young carers are identified, assessed and their families are supported in ways that both prevent inappropriate caring and support parenting roles regardless of which service is contacted first
- risks to independence, safety and welfare are responded to in ways that are based around the needs of the whole family
- earlier, better integrated and effective responses to young carers and their families are available using a whole family approach and during transition to adulthood
- children and young people are protected from undertaking excessive or inappropriate caring roles, further inappropriate caring is prevented, emotional support is available where needed, and parents feel supported in their parenting role
- no care or support package for a parent or sibling relies on excessive or inappropriate caring being undertaken by a young carer to make it sustainable
- Young carers are helped to achieve their potential by having the same access as their peers to:
  - education and career choices
  - leisure and community activities/opportunities
  - advice and support
  - information
  - youth services
- effective age appropriate support is provided for emotional and psychological issues

- there is better recognition and improved participation of young carers and their families in shaping what we do and in the development and delivery of responses that promote greater choice and control, and prevent further inappropriate caring.

## **7. Multi-Agency Strategy**

Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and their partners will work together to ensure that, within the overall framework of the Local Strategic Partnership and Children's Trust, there is a specific multi-agency strategy to meet the needs of young carers. We will ensure that this strategy interfaces clearly with both current and future local Children and Young People's Plans and planning frameworks for Adult Social Care.

This strategy has been developed in collaboration with the key partners in health and local support projects for carers and families. It will embrace the views of young carers and their families and reflect the vision that is part of the national strategy. The strategy will be kept under review and progress shared with local people, young carers, families and partners.

## **8. Communication Plan**

A communication plan has been developed for the launch of the strategy to ensure all appropriate staff in partner organisations are made aware of its ambition.

## Appendix B – Acton Plan for the Young Carers Strategy

### Priority 1 Promoting Early Identification

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
1.1	To inform partners of the strategy to aid better and sensitive identification of young carers and their families so that they can access the support they need.	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% year on year increase in numbers of young carers identified through partner agencies.</li> <li>• Young carers themselves find it easier to identify themselves to professionals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An appropriate range of publicity material for young carers, their families and practitioners is produced by 30/09/11.</li> </ul>
1.2	Develop and promote a young carers' help line.	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young carers can easily contact support from the Young Carers Service.</li> <li>• Establishment and promotion of designated "help line" open during office hours (with out of hours answer-phone facility).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 'Young Carers Helpline' is set up by 31/09/11.</li> <li>• Helpline is promoted on all service literature, events and meetings by 31/10/11.</li> </ul>
1.3	Develop partnership strategies for identifying those who are most "hard to reach" and for offering	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership agreements and information sharing agreements with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic leads are identified with each key partner organisation (Health, Children, Families &amp; Cultural Services (CFCS) &amp; Adult Social Care, Health &amp; Public Protection</li> </ul>

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
	services in a way that is acceptable to young carers and their families.		<p>appropriate partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners in statutory and voluntary organisations have the skills to identify and appropriately support young carers and their families.</li> <li>Partners actively seek the views of young carers within the family as part of their assessments.</li> </ul>	<p>(ASCH&amp;PP) from Nottinghamshire County Council, (NCC) etc) by 30/09/11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young Carers Strategy to be communicated and promoted within the partner organisations by 31/12/11.</li> <li>Young Carers Service Charter to be developed by 31/12/11.</li> <li>Family Action to provide information, support and training to partners as needed.</li> </ul>
1.4	Implement integrated assessment process in ASCH&PP for service users and carers whose dependent children providing care will be identified.	Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate support will be provided to disabled parents so that young carers are not undertaking inappropriate caring tasks.</li> <li>Partners actively seek the views of young carers within the family as part of their assessments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full roll out of the Self Directed Support Assessment (SDSA) by 31.10.2011.</li> </ul>
1.5	Each partner to have a named senior staff member with lead responsibility for young	Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care, Health and Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each partner has a named senior lead for the "Young Carers Strategy".</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic leads are identified with each key partner organisation (GP Cluster Consortium (from 2013), Health, Children's Services, Adult's services, etc) by 30/09/11.</li> </ul>

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
	carers and to recognise this role within continuing professional development.	Protection  Group Manager for Targeted Support & Youth Justice  Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young Carers Strategy to be highlighted as a priority and this to be communicated to all partners by young carer strategic leads.</li> </ul>
1.6	Partner organisations' training strategies will take account of needs of young carers and disabled parents.	Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection  Group Manager for Targeted Support & Youth Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agency training plans and strategies to include core components/ modules to ensure staff are made aware of young carers' needs/issues and are able to identify inappropriate caring.</li> <li>• Partners in statutory and voluntary organisations have the skills to identify and appropriately support young carers and their families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core components in place by 31/12/11.</li> <li>• Partner agencies to include young carers as a training need for staff.</li> <li>• Family Action to contribute to agency training strategies and develop and deliver training modules to statutory and voluntary services to raise awareness of young carers.</li> <li>• Family Action to provide information, support and training to partners as needed.</li> </ul>

## Priority 2 Assessment

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
2.1	Referrals of young carers to Family Action will be supported by a completed Common Assessment Framework (CAF).	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All referrals are supported by a completed CAF.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Action begins asking for CAF forms to be used for all new referrals to service from October 2011.</li> </ul>
2.2	Family Action undertakes an assessment of all young carers' needs using the CAF process and refers cases to Joint Access Teams (JATs) where appropriate.	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The CAF process is undertaken with all young carers known to Family Action. Numbers of CAFs initiated and recorded by the Early Years and Early Intervention Service.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Action begins asking for CAF forms to be used for all new referrals to service from October 2011.</li> </ul>
2.3	Assessment processes for carers in Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection and NHS Healthcare Trust and Primary Care takes into account the needs of young carers.	Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection  Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners actively seek the views of young carers within the family as part of their assessments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numbers of young carers in contact with is recorded by Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection and NHS Healthcare Trust and Primary Care.</li> </ul>

### Priority 3 Safeguarding

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
3.1	Implement the Young Carers/Disabled Parents Joint Protocol across Children and Young People and Adult Social Care, Health & Public Protection in the County Council.	Service Director Children's Social Care  Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection  Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young Carers/Disabled Parents Joint Protocol in place and operational across ASCH&amp;PP and CFCS.</li> <li>• Staff Training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young Carers/Disabled Parents Joint Protocol adopted by both Departments formally by 30.09.2011.</li> <li>• Staff training/briefing delivered across both Departments –September to December 2011.</li> </ul>
3.2	Extending protocol to Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust.	Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection  Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust	Disabled parents with young carers receive good quality help and support across Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and NCC services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of, a lead Trust manager to work with NCC on adapting the protocol by 30/09/11.</li> <li>• Seek approval of the protocol by the Healthcare Trust Board by 31/12/11.</li> </ul>
3.3	Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Board (NSCB) and Adult's Safeguarding Board (ASB) to jointly review safeguarding	NSCB Business Manager  Service Director, ACSHPP (Personal Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding procedures and processes and knowledge to support the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review complete and resulting recommendations implemented by 31/06/12.</li> </ul>

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
	procedures for disabled parents and young carers.	and Support Young Adults)	circumstances of disabled parents/young carers.	
3.4	Establish Whole Family governance structure within the County Council.	Corporate Director CFCS and Corporate Director ASCHPP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whole Family approach embedded within the work of the ASCH&amp;PP and CFCS Departments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whole Family Executive Group established by 31/12/11.</li> </ul>

#### **Priority 4 Schools and Young Carers**

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
4.1	NCC and Family Action to work together to encourage and support schools to adopt and implement the education recommendations arising from Working Together To Support young carers – A Model Local Memorandum of Understanding between Statutory Directors for Children’s Services and Adult Social Services.	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of secondary schools in Nottinghamshire to adopt best practice outlined in the Memorandum of Undertaking including a named member of staff responsible for young carers and a policy in place which encourages practice that identifies and supports young</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young Carers Conference and pilot project in schools by 30/06/12.</li> <li>The strategic lead to write to all secondary school Head Teachers raising their awareness of the issues facing young carers; the Memorandum of Understanding and to promote best practice by 31.12. 2011.</li> <li>Strategic lead within CFCS to be identified to support and sign up to the joint protocol.</li> </ul>



	Actions	Lead	Outcomes	Milestones
			<p>carers such as adapting school arrangements if needed, provision for personal tutors and private discussions and access to local young carers' projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools in Nottinghamshire to ensure that information about young carers is included at the various key stages of transition i.e. primary school to secondary school and secondary school to college.</li> </ul>	

## Priority 5 Health of Young Carers

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
5.1	To develop a pilot programme for training primary care workers in the identification and assessment of health needs of young carers.	Director of Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary care workers to have the skills to identify and appropriately support young carers and their families.</li> <li>GP awareness of young carers and their caring responsibilities is increased including the provision of appropriate information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training package covering young carers to be produced for NHS staff by 31/12/11.</li> <li>Family Action to support and contribute to training modules.</li> </ul>
5.2	Healthcare partners and Family Action to provide accurate up to date information on the prevention and maintenance of health and well being to young carers.	Family Action Director of Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young carers are provided with appropriate information and resources to help them access support for themselves and their families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with young carers around their health needs/issues by 31/10/11.</li> <li>Evidenced based/up to date health information to be identified by the public health lead by 31/10/11.</li> <li>Individual site to be produced for young carers and then included within the 'Information Prescriptions' web site by 30/11/11.</li> </ul>
5.3	Identify short break opportunities for young carers.	Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scope existing opportunities there are available for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities for short breaks for young carers are identified by 30/09/11.</li> </ul>

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
		Health and Public Protection	young carers.	
5.4	Ensure child and adolescent mental health services support the emotional well being of young carers who are seriously troubled by their caring role.	NHS Healthcare Trust  Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CAMHS services to offer effective support for young carers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHS Trust &amp; Family Action to identify current provision of emotional and psychological support by 30/09/11.</li> <li>• Establish appropriate referral routes for young carers by 30/11/11.</li> <li>• Consultation with young carers around their health needs to take place by 31/10/11.</li> </ul>
5.5	Ensure that drug and alcohol services have policies and processes in line with 'Think Family' approach to ensure that children and young people of substance misusing parents are identified as early as possible and are given appropriate health and safeguarding support.	Group Manager for Targeted Support & Youth Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance misuse services to identify situations that give rise to concern about children's welfare and make referrals to local authority children's social care services.</li> <li>• Children and young people undertaking caring roles for their parents and siblings are supported and protected from inappropriate caring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved data recording where substance misusing parents have parental responsibility by 31.12.2011</li> <li>• Improved joint working between adult substance misuse services and children's services, providing an integrated approach to the safeguard and promoting of children's welfare by 31.12.2011.</li> </ul>

## Priority 6 Information, Advice and Advocacy

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
6.1	Utilise the CAF process within Nottinghamshire to identify a lead professional to ensure coordination of services and appropriate communication with the young carers.	Group Manager for Targeted Support & Youth Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CAF to become the common assessment and referral for early intervention and targeted services.</li> <li>• Lead professional to ensure the co-ordination of services to avoid duplication of services.</li> <li>• Young carers should be invited to attend Multi- Agency meetings whenever including JATs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify the percentage of young carers known to Family Action with a named lead professional by 30/12/11.</li> </ul>
6.2	Develop appropriate information aimed at young carers in a range of different formats.	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young carers are provided with appropriate information and resources to help them access support for themselves and their families.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with young carers about what information they would want by 30/09/11.</li> <li>• Children and young people focused information about illnesses/disabilities and treatment developed with input from Adult Services is available.</li> </ul>

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
6.3	To promote peer support through the development of a mentoring scheme for young adult carers.	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage young adult carers to share their experiences with other young carers.</li> <li>• Improve the confidence and self esteem of both young carers and young adult carers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bid to the Department of Health completed and submitted but awaiting outcome.</li> </ul>
6.4	Explore the opportunity for expanding the advocacy service within partner organisations in association with Family Action for young carers.	Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust  Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit bid for funding to The Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust Board to increase advocacy services for young carers in families supported by partner organisations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of current advocacy schemes in Nottinghamshire and the demand for advocacy within Family Action by 31/12/11.</li> <li>• Consultation to take place with young carers' forums to develop funding application by 31/12/11.</li> </ul>

### Priority 7 Overarching Themes

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
7.1	Review the Disabled Parents/Young Carers Steering Group	Group Manager for Targeted Support & Youth Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purpose and the function Steering Group is reviewed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future monitoring and review arrangements agreed and implemented by 30 September 2011</li> </ul>
7.2	Re- commission the Young Carers Service Contract	Group Manager for Targeted Support & Youth Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrangements and specification agreed for the contract</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract re-commissioned by October 2012</li> </ul>
7.3	Partner organisations to have in place effective performance management and monitoring arrangements regarding their work with young carers.	Disabled Parents/Young Carers Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner organisations are able to quickly identify numbers of young carers identified and supported.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organisations to start developing methods of identifying young carers by 31/12/11.</li> </ul>
7.4	Develop and implement a participation strategy for young carers.	Family Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young carers are given the opportunity to contribute to the strategic and operational plans at services with support them and their families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young carers to be involved in supporting this by 31/10/11</li> <li>Family Action to establish links with the Youth Service Youth Engagement Team by 30/09/11.</li> <li>Forums of 15-20 young carers to be established and meeting 4 times per year by 31/12/11.</li> <li>Partner agencies involve young carers in decision making process.</li> <li>Partner agencies provide age appropriate feedback after consultation events</li> </ul>

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
7.5	Produce an annual report on the progress of partner organisations in achieving the targets set in the development plan of this strategy.	Disabled Parents/Young Carers Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development is monitored and reviewed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Report to be produced by 31/03/12.</li> </ul>