

Department of Health and Wellbeing

Carers Partnership

Chair: **Anna Smith, NHS Bradford District and Craven CCGs & Tony Sheeky, Health and Wellbeing**

Contact: Tony Sheeky, Commissioning Officer
01274 433559
tony.sheeky@bradford.gov.uk

The purpose of the Carers Partnership is to improve the lives of carers in Bradford district and Craven by developing strategy, agreeing and progressing actions, and by sharing good practice.

The Carers Partnership will obtain and act on views expressed by carers from all parts of the district. It will undertake wide community engagement, actively seeking input from other formal and informal organisations and networks

Notes of the Carers Partnership meeting held on 27th January 2021 held on-line.

Item 1: Welcome, introductions and apologies

Present at the meeting were:

Anna Smith (Bradford District and Craven CCG)
Chris Whiley (Carers' Resource)
Gavin Williams (Carers' Resource)
Joyce Anderson (Equality Together)
Imran Qadeer (DWP)

Hannah Brown (NYCC)
Bev Burne (Alzheimer's Society)
Natasha Lawson (Action for Children)
Carol Beardmore (SNOOP)
Tony Sheeky (CBMDC)

Apologies were received from:

Isla Skinner (NHS)
Najum Saleem (CBMDC)
Lou Bilenko (CBMDC)

Sallie Turner (NHS)
Sally Townend (CBMDC)
Louise Connors (PFBA)

Item 2: Conflicts of Interest

There were no Conflicts of Interest

Commented [SA1]: I don't think we covered this

Item 3: Minutes of the October meeting and matters arising/actions (All)

There was one matter arising from the minutes of the October meeting, this related to item 4 of that meeting's agenda.

Anna Smith asked partners if they had experienced increased incidence of or take up of service related to use of alcohol. Specifically have services seen any evidence to suggest increased use of alcohol amongst carers.

Carers Resource reported that during Wellbeing Reviews they were beginning to see carers indicating they have increased their use of alcohol during Covid. The evidence is largely anecdotal but never the less growing.

Imran Qadeer suggested that the Bridge Project well placed to take referrals for people needing support around alcohol use.

Actions:

Anna will check the current pathway for alcohol support in the district and check with Mental Health Wellbeing for any trends identified.

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Item 4: MOU Update

Anna briefly went through the current MOU V0.1 confirming that this version now reflected the comments feedback received from partners. It is aligned to our carers strategy and vision, it reflects our strategic purpose to 'empower' carers and includes reference to potential transitions at various points through a carers life. It will require signatories to the MOU to promote actions around, identification of, assessment of and safeguarding carers etc.

Carol Beardmore asked for clarity on who might be a signatory to the MOU. In response it was suggested that the widest possible range of organisations and agencies should be invited to sign up to the MOU. A general discussion about potential signatories to the MOU identified a number of signatories, the Council, CCG, BDCT and other members of the Carers Partnership being key. It was suggested that rather than individual VCS organisations being signatories that the VCS Assembly might sign the MOU representing all VCS groups in the district.

The discussion then touched on carers workstream governance arrangements to which the MOU work relates. Anna confirmed that she and Tony had a meeting planned with their respective strategic leads for early February to discuss this and they would feedback that discussion to the partnership.

Gavin Williams suggested that to support an open door concept perhaps Housing and TMO's might also be encouraged to be signatories. He offered to provide documents that showed what he had been involved in through his work in Manchester re; an open door concept.

The next stage is to take this to strategic leads within the CCG and Council.

Action:

Anna and Tony will take the MOU to a meeting of strategic leads in February. Gavin was asked if he could email documents related to the Manchester model.

Item 5: Governance for carers Workstream in Bradford and Craven

This item was covered in the MOU discussion.

At this point reference was made to a Primary Care Networks graph showing prevalence rates of carers identified by PCN's. [Primary Care Networks are groups of GP practices.](#) The graph showed ~~SystemOne~~ data [from SystemOne \(the GP clinical system\)](#) on numbers of carers identified ~~on SystemOne~~ by individual PCN.

Anna talked the partners through this. The graph showed that whilst some PCN's were performing well in identifying carers others were not. The graph suggested ~~that that two~~ PCN's in ~~areas~~ [areas](#) of high deprivation and with high levels of ill health [in central Bradford \(PCN 4 and PCN6\) seem to be less effective at identifying carers have relatively low rates of carers identified.](#)

The feeling is that where there are high levels of ill health we would expect there to be high numbers of carers as well. ~~For example, PCN4 and PCN6 and wards in Keighley and two wards in Skipton on the graph are in areas of high deprivation and experience high levels of ill health but are showing lower levels of carers identified.~~

Gavin suggest that in Manchester where he had worked previously, the EMIS system used there required GP's to ask and record patients response to the mandatory question, 'is someone looking after you' as a way identify carers. The patient report could not be completed without recording this response.

Action:

Anna to talk to CCG's team to see if it is possible to do this on SystemOne.

Item 6: Additional Provision for Infection Control

Tony informed the partners that in response to Covid impacts national government had given the Council additional IPC funding to support Covid infection control measures. Whilst the bulk of this funding was tagged for use by care homes, supported living etc. a small part of the IPC budget had been set aside for use to support community initiatives.

The Council wanted to make a portion of this funding available to carers and had approached Carers Resource to run an IPC grant based scheme alongside the existing Wellbeing Grant pot. The IPC funding would be available in the form of small grants to carers who could benefit from this additional support e.g. to pay for home delivery of supermarket shopping, to pay for taxi fares and other measures that reduce the risk of infection through increased contact. All partners should refer to Carers Resource any carers they are working with that might benefit from this funding.

Chris informed the partners that so far around 250 IPC grants have been approved, the fund will provide for approximately 1,000 grants and the fund needs to awarded in grants by the end of March 2021.

Gavin informed partners that the availability of the fund had been promoted to carers via Mail Chimp and Tony confirmed that the Council would be putting a statement out about availability of the fund within the next week to ten days.

Hannah made the partners aware that NYCC hadn't as yet gone down this route. Given the particular geographic consideration of North Yorkshire this was still under consideration. She asked if Bradford would be prepared to share their grant agreement as model they might reference to.

Action:

Tony to send Hannah the Bradford variation document that includes arrangements around the IPC funding.

Item 7: Wellbeing Service

The partners were made aware of the new Wellbeing Service commissioned by Public Health in partnership with the CCG's.

As a result of a response to Covid pandemic this new time limited service was put in place following a procurement process. The Wellbeing Service is being delivered by Carers Resource and is additional to but sits alongside their main carers service.

Gavin Williams presented and talked through a series of slides that broadly outlined the service model. Essentially this is being driven by Community Development workers who will on a time limited basis focus on specific areas of the district targeting and working with community organisations that work with BAME communities, carers who are new to caring during Covid and Young Carers.

The aim is to reach and identify those new to caring and once contacts have been established promote and create referral routes to the main carers service Locality Workers and other organisation able to support carers.

The new service aim is to reach 60 organisations creating pathways from these organisations to support services.

Action:

Tony to circulate presentation slides with the minutes.

Item 8: How do carers find out what support is available to them in the community and local to them now?

~~This item featured in other agenda items to a great extent, it was agreed that sufficient time had been given to this subject at this meeting but we may return to this topic at a future meeting. The Bradford Council website Connect2Support is a public information resource on support available.~~

~~This information is not accessible to carers who do not use the internet but can be accessed by people advising them.~~

Action:

~~No action required. All providers to update information on their services at [Connect2Support](#).~~

Item 9: Carers Assessment Pathway Work

Tony made the partners aware of work currently being undertaken to review the carers assessment pathway. A project group led by Claire Oates within the Council had met a

number of times to consider carers assessments and barriers within current pathways to a statutory Care Act assessment for carers.

An initial paper had been submitted to Council DMT to update on progress to date, this included initial options for improvements to pathways to assessment. DMT responded to paper acknowledging that further more detailed work on the options was required and that from the initial outline of options DMT also acknowledge that any option may have resource implications both for in-house and provider sides of the assessment process. This further work is yet to begin. The partnership will be updated as it progresses.

Carol suggested that a large part of the problem is that carers don't know what to expect from an assessment and not prepared to take part in the assessment. There needs to be more information available to carers on what an assessment is and can do. Gavin agreed that carers need to be supported to be better prepared to take part in a Care Act assessment.

Anna pointed to the fact sheet on Carers Resource website as a good source of information.

~~Chris suggested that any information provided needs to reference to thresholds for support as most carers assessments don't lead to statutory support.~~

[Under the Care Act any adult carer providing care for an adult can request a statutory assessment . A carer is eligible for support if they are unable to meet personal 'outcomes' and if this could have a significant impact on their wellbeing.](#)

Actions:

Tony to update the partnership as and when this work is progressed by the Carers Assessment Pathway project group.

Item 10: Updates & A.O.B.

Due to time constraints updates were not covered at this meeting. No other business was tabled. The meeting closed at 12.20.