

Department of Health and Wellbeing

Carers Partnership

Chairs: Tony Sheeky, CBMDC Health and Wellbeing
Rashmi Sudhir, Bradford Clinical Commissioning Group

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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 30th November 2021 held on-line.

Item 1 and 2: Welcome, introductions, apologies and conflicts of interest.

Present at the meeting were:

**Bev Burne (Alzheimer's Society)
Cath Dew (CBMDC)
Chris Whiley (Carers' Resource)
Carol Beardmore (SNOOP)
Chris George (CBMDC)
Lisa Stead (BDCFT MHST)
George Reynolds (BTHFT)
Najum Saleem (CBMDC)**

**Natasha Norman (Action for Children)
Katy Swinhoe (NHS Wakefield CCG)
Pam Sheppard (NHS Wakefield CCG)
Joyce Anderson (Equality Together)
Jill Griffiths (Equality Together)
Rashmi Sudhir (CCG)
Sally Townend (CBMDC)
Tony Sheeky (CBMDC)**

Apologies were received from:

**Isla Skinner (BDCFT)
Carly Driscoll (BDCFT)
Gavin Williams (Carers' Resource)
Ali Akbar Azam (CBMDC)**

No conflicts of interest were recorded.

Item 3: Guest Speaker - Katy Swinhoe and Pam Sheppard of Wakefield CCG - Contingency Planning App

Pam Sheppard and Katy Swinhoe delivered a presentation on the development of a Contingency Planning application was well received by those at the meeting. The app will be hosted on an NHS platform. The purpose of the presentation was to show what the current variant of the app could do and how it might be used. Where the carer is a parent carer the app can link parent carer and child records. Unfortunately, at the moment it can't link spouse carer to cared for records. Partnership members were asked for comments and suggestions as to how it might be developed further.

The potential of the application as a contingency planning tool was welcomed and considered a useful.

Actions:

Tony to circulate presentation slides

Item 4: Minutes of the July meeting and matters arising/actions (All)

All actions had been completed or progressed, there were no matters arising. The minutes were accepted.

Actions:

No actions to take forward.

Item 5: Identifying Carers Update – Top Ten Tips

At the immediately previous meeting an action was taken to develop a set of Top Ten Tips (TTT's) to support the identification of unpaid carers. The purpose of the TTT's was to promote and support the identification of unpaid carers by frontline staff in health and social care settings e.g. GP practices etc. The request of partners is that they review and feedback comments and suggested revisions on the draft version of the TTT's via email.

Actions:

Tony to circulate the draft TTT's with the minutes. **Deadline for feedback is 17th of December.**

Item 6: Guest Speaker - Lisa Stead of BDCT - Mental Health Support Team

Lisa Stead's presentation on the work of the Mental Health Support Team in schools was well received by those at the meeting. This covered getting help and advice, the referral process and identified the school's currently being worked with. Partners were asked for comment's. Points raised included do the MHST adopt a whole family approach and trauma informed approaches to delivering support and who is the current Mental Health lead for school's?

The presentation stimulated wider discussion on support for young carers under agenda item 7.

Actions:

Tony to circulate presentation slides with the minutes.

Rashmi to speak to Joanne Tooby regarding Mental Health lead.

Item 7: Themed Discussion – Action Plan Objectives; Obj 4) Better Support for Carers & Obj 5) Specialist Carer Support

Tony opened the discussion with a presentation on the current Carers Strategy Action Plan actions on objectives 4 and 5. The focus of the discussion was around what's currently in place for Young Carers and what more do we need to do.

Questions posed included; what support is on offer for older young carers to ensure their life chances/choices are not limited by their caring role. What's on offer for those aged 14 + and those potentially of University age? What support do schools need to help young carers of all ages? Currently the focus seems to be on the younger end of the young carer spectrum. How do we develop 'safe spaces in schools, are any currently in place? We know that there are Early Help Coordinator's and crisis support, what else is needed e.g. support for foster carers.

Particular emphasis was placed on carer needs of young carers at 'Transition'. Whilst it was recognised that the needs of all carers often change quite frequently this is particularly the case with young carers during transition to adulthood. Young carers don't always identify as a carer, the more common perception is that they are simply helping to look after Mum or Dad or a sibling. Equally parent carers identify as Mum and Dad and don't recognise their position as carer.

The development of 'What If' plans was considered essential on both counts but in particular before 'Transition'.

At this point two wider considerations were tabled; the need for a review of Carers Allowance eligibility requirements and the impact of Covid-19 and staff resource pressures being faced by the health and social care sector, statutory and non-statutory. Both have potentially disproportionately impact on all unpaid carers access to support.

Actions:

Tony to update the action plan log in line with the discussion notes above to add new and specific actions/tasks and circulate this to the group for comment and refinements.

Item 8 & 9: Carers Assessments and MOU Update

On development of an MOU partners were asked, do we still need to progress this work. There is already a protocol in place between Children's and Adult's service regarding access to support for carers, no closed doors, etc. and as partners we have all signed up to our local carers strategy. It was agreed that we don't need to progress a separate MOU.

On carers assessments Tony informed the meeting that papers were currently being drafted on proposals for a pilot project for carer assessments. When this is complete it will be brought to the partnership meeting.

Actions:

No actions recorded against this item at this time. Further update to be provided on carers assessments I due course.

Item 10: Updates and A.O.B.

Jill Griffith reminded the members that Equality Together were holding an open day and all were welcome to attend.

No other business items were raised. The meeting closed at 4.15 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for 2.00 pm on Tuesday the 25th of January. This will be an MS Teams meeting, joining link below and sent out previously via email;

Microsoft Teams meeting

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