

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Performance & Audit Committee	
Held on	30th May 2023	
Agenda Item:	7	
Title:	Progress Report on Adult Carers Strategy 2019-2024	
Summary:		
<p>The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Performance and Audit Committee on the progress of the actions contained within the Adult Carers Strategy.</p> <p>This report and the attached update was produced through the performance monitoring system (Pentana) (see Appendix 1), providing a further update on each individual action item contained within the Implementation Plan.</p>		
Author:	Phil White	
Recommendations:		
<p>It is recommended that the Performance & Audit Committee</p> <p>i. Note the progressed action plan attached at Appendix 1 ii. provide any comment in relation to this progress.</p>		
Route to meeting:		
<p>The Adult Carers Strategy was approved at the meeting of the Integration Joint Board on 16 May 2019. Progress reports are submitted to the Performance and Audit Committee on a six-monthly basis.</p>		
Implications:		
Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>	
HR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>	

PROGRESS REPORT ON ADULT CARERS STRATEGY 2019-2024

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Performance and Audit Committee on the progress of the actions contained within the Adult Carers Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board

- i. Note the progressed action plan attached at Appendix 1
- ii. provide any comment in relation to this progress.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2018 sets out statutory requirements for Health Boards and Local Authorities to develop local Carers and Young Carers Strategies. The legal duties were subsequently delegated to Health and Social Care Partnerships across Scotland.

3.2 The Act came into effect on 1st April 2018 and is designed to support carers' health and wellbeing, helping them to remain in their caring roles and be able to manage their own life alongside their caring responsibilities.

3.3 Key aspects of the Act include:

- *A duty to develop and offer an adult carer support plan to someone who is identified as a Carer.*
- *A duty to set out and publish local eligibility criteria including recognition that support will be provided if the eligible criteria are met.*
- *A duty to provide support to carers*
- *A duty to publish a Short Breaks Statement.*
- *A duty to provide carers with information and advice services.*
- *A duty to have in place support for carers at the point of hospital discharge.*
- *A duty to involve both adult and young carers in the planning of services; and*
- *A duty to develop a local adult's carer strategy.*

3.3.1 A decision was taken in South Ayrshire to develop separate Adult and Young Carers Strategies while recognising the need for significant linkage. South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board separately approved the Young Carers Strategy in 2020.

3.3.2 The South Ayrshire Carers Strategic Planning Group developed the Adult Strategy and its associated strategic implementation plan with support from local partners, including South Ayrshire Carers Centre, Crossroads and Ayrshire Hospice.

3.3.3 The Adult Carers Strategy and associated Implementation Plan was approved by the Integration Joint Board on 16 May 2019. This paper provides an update on the progress made against all areas of the Action Plan, in keeping with the IJB’s agreement to remit monitoring of delivery to the Performance and Audit Committee.

3.3.4 The Implementation Plan is designed to take forward South Ayrshire’s key strategic outcomes.

4.0 Report

4.1 Carers Policy Implementation Officer.

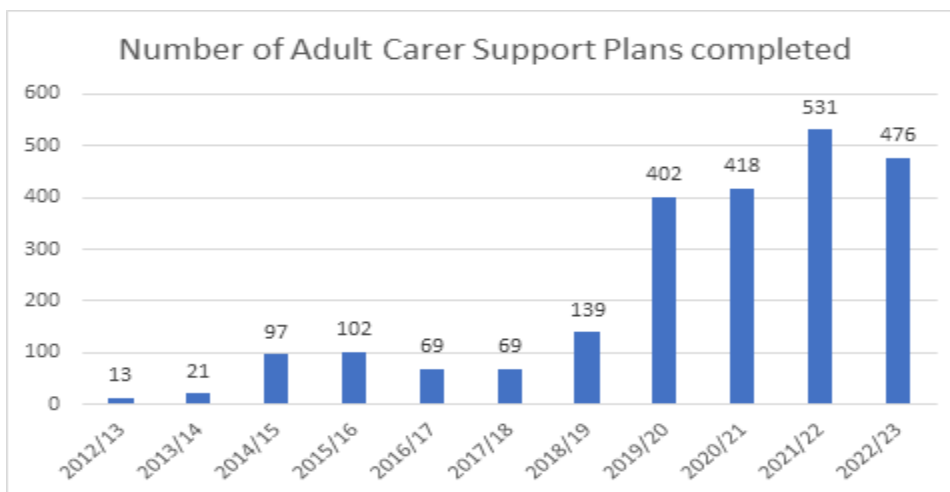
4.1.1 Important for consideration within this report is that between August 2022 and April 2023, there was no Carers Policy Implementation Officer in post. A temporary officer has since been recruited in April 2023; and progress has resumed in several key areas.

4.2 A summary table of actions in Appendix 1 provided below:

Status	Number
✓ Completed	13
🟢 On target	20
🟡 Showing some concerns	0
🔴 Not on target	0
⚙️ Not due to start	0

4.3.1 Adult Carer Support Plans

4.3.1 There has been an improvement in the numbers of Adult Carer Support Plans being offered and generated locally (formally Adult Carer Assessments) over the last five years.



4.4 Support Plan Audit

4.4.1 The sample size chosen to audit was 40 Adult Carer Support Plans completed over the past year and this was made up by taking a selection of completed plans from each of the 7 Adult Community Teams. A proportion of the completed plans were part of our annual review processes, and a proportion were new cases.

4.4.2 Overall, the findings displayed that the quality of narrative in the Adult Carer Support Plans were of a good standard, with some that could be used as exemplars for training and guidance in the future. The audit also found that most plans were written from the perspective of the carer themselves and clearly outlined the carer's outcomes, actions required to achieve these and the timeline for this.

4.4.3 The following next steps have been agreed following the Audit review:

- Further analysis of plans completed from 2018 to now, broken down by team to show trends and to identify areas requiring focus.
- Carrying out a carers survey, targeting the 534 carers who have had an assessment and gathering their feedback - by service area would be beneficial.
- Reviewing guidance in relation to contingency planning.
- Reviewing the short breaks statement and considering the plans for 'Carer Rights to Breaks' outlined in the National Care Service Plans.
- Further briefings sessions/training on the Adult Carer Support Plan that is devised and delivered operationally.
- Consulting with workers and carers to combine/condense some parts of the assessment (particularly those areas that are frequently skipped).
- Improvement work on quality of chronologies to be carried out across the Organisation.

4.5 Hospital Based Carer Support

4.5.1 As part of the Discharge Without Delay initiative, there are Carers Support staff from East Ayrshire Carers Centre working in situ in Ayr and Crosshouse Hospitals to identify and support carers in hospital contexts and enabling their registration with local carers centres in East, North and South Ayrshire to provide care and support beyond the hospital episode. This has been positively received by a range of Hospital Staff, HSCP Staff, Patients and Carers.

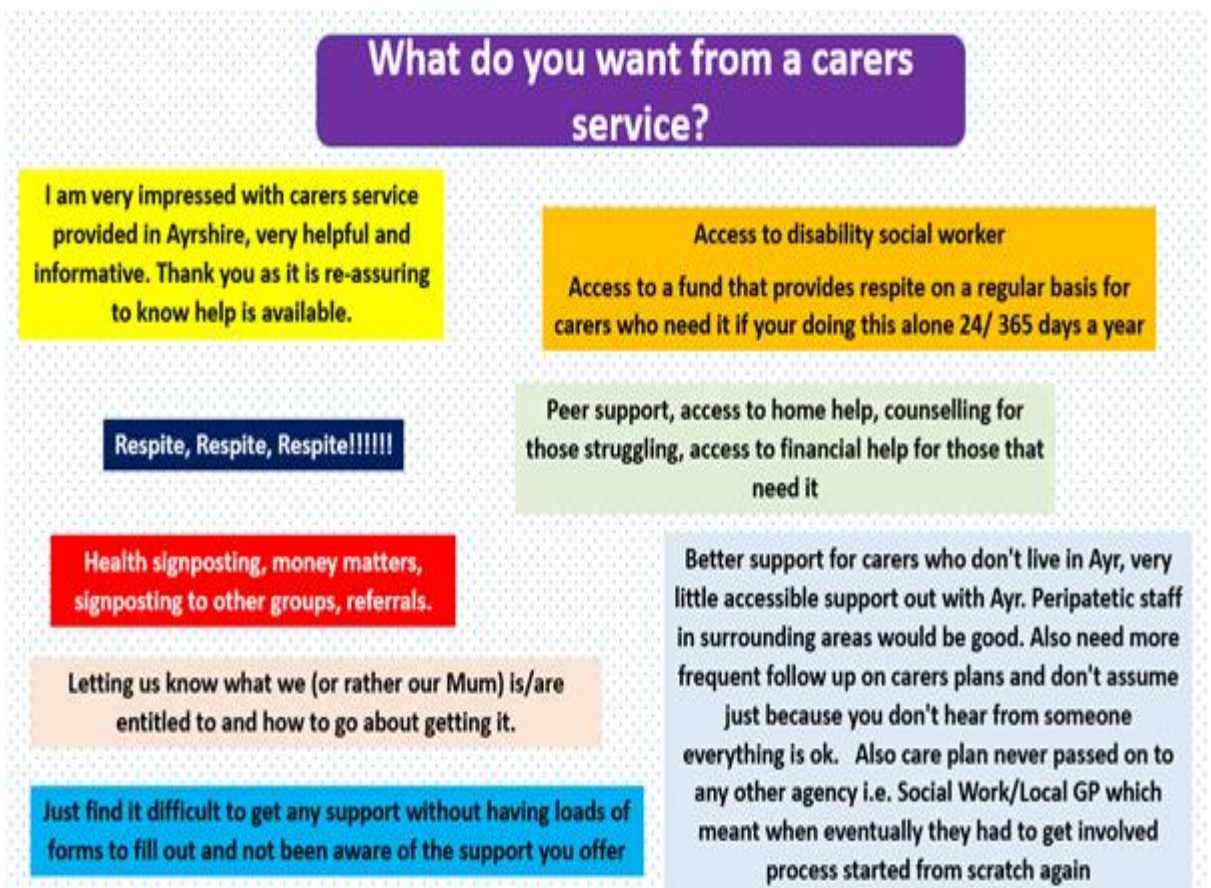
To date, South Ayrshire Carers Centre has had 60 direct registrations because of this work.

4.5.2 This work will be strengthened through joint work carried out by all 3 HSCPs and supported by Healthcare Improvement Scotland, as it is specifically included within the specification for the new recommissioning of carers services in South Ayrshire.

4.5.3 The Partnership continue to work jointly with Health Improvement through the 'Involving Carers in Hospital Discharge Project'. The next event planned with Health Improvement is a day event at Ayr Hospital in June 2023, titled 'Mapping the Journey: Improving Carer experience of hospital discharge' which will explore practice, raise awareness, coinciding with the continued development of Hospital Based Support for Carers.

4.6 Recommissioning process

4.6.1 The recommissioning process surrounding the Carers Centre is presently underway with our Commissioning Services; To inform the process and specification, a survey was carried out with carers known through HSCP and Carers Centre asking their perspective about what they value. This is summarised in the graphic below:



4.7 The Performance and Audit Committee may wish to note the following highlights, under each of the Adult Carer themes.

4.7.1 I am recognised and valued in my caring role.

4.7.2 The HSCP continue to develop and deliver a full programme of events including Local Carers Days and Carers Week in the remainder of 2023. Planning includes exploring a further Carers Day in Girvan, Prestwick, and Troon to increase identification and the profile of celebrating Carers, drawing attention to support that can be accessed. Carers Week in June of this year will see an in-depth program of events across several areas including Employability, Wellbeing, Health, and Social Care.

4.7.3 Prestwick Carers Day took place at Prestwick Academy on Friday 17th June 2022 and was attended by carers from Prestwick, Symington, and Monkton as well as other local representatives and organisations. Attendees were very positive about the event and the next Prestwick Carers Day is scheduled for September 2023, with planning already underway. Troon Carers Day took place at Marr College on Friday 30th September 2022.

4.7.4 The wellbeing survey has continued to inform on Carers related experiences within South Ayrshire in addition to the Carers Reference Group. A specific annual Carers survey has continued to be developed as part of the recommissioning works with the Carers Centre tendering process.

4.7.5 Representatives from Carers Reference Group, who assist the Partnership in collecting the views of a wide range of carers meet each Month within the Carers Centre. This group gives carers the opportunity to comment on strategies and statutory services for carers and the people they care for, continuing to have seats on both the Integration Joint Board and Strategic Planning Advisory Group.

4.7.6 I am supported in my caring role.

4.7.7 South Ayrshire Carers Centre continue to deliver advocacy and support to Carers as part of their commissioned services. There is a referral pathway in place for independent advocacy for Carers where required through local organisations such as the Circles Advocacy Group. The Strategic Group will continue to review advocacy for Carers and identify any gaps within the current provision.

4.7.8 South Ayrshire Carers Centre has continued to provide income maximisation/sign posting as part of the current commissioned service. Due to the wider cost of living crisis within Society; there has been increased demand on Carers and increased need to maximize their income. This has been primarily completed through signposting to the Information and Advice Hub for their services in this area. At present there are ongoing discussions surrounding joint working with Thriving Communities in respects of hosting drop-in sessions at the Carers Centre for a budgeting/income maximization workshop to further assist Carers.

4.8 **I am able to take a break from caring and look after my own health**

- 4.8.1 Carers continue to be supported to access short breaks through Self Directed Support as part of the Support Planning process and completion of their Adult Carers Support Plan document. There has been real creativity within the exploration as to what can constitute as a 'short break' recognising that a 'break' can mean different things to different people. This has offered a more individual package of support for carers allowing for more a preventative approach in Support Planning.
- 4.8.2 Holistic and complementary therapies for Carers are presently accessible one day per week from the Carers Centre. This will continue and be included as part of the Carers service commissioning process with future providers.
- 4.8.3 Young Carers aged 5-18 are entitled to an Active8 leisure card which provides free access to sport-specific activities such as swimming, gymnastics, and access to gym facilities. This access was extended to adult carers for one month as part of 'Carers Active Week'. Feedback from Carers accessing the pass as collected by the Carers Centre.
- 4.8.4 *"Thank you, too, to the lady who phoned me in connection with Active April. an initiative by South Ayrshire Council to benefit unpaid carers.*

I most certainly have benefitted! When I collected the card at the Citadel, I was told that it was for one month. I have now been going swimming twice a week since & it doesn't expire until the 23rd of May. It's been wonderful, cost me a new swimsuit but I've lost some of that extra weight which I've been carrying. A win, win situation which I will continue in the future. Thank you to everyone for your kindnesses"

- 4.8.5 *"Managed to go for my swim this morning & found out our citadel cards are valid for a month, so happy."*
- 4.8.6 Additionally, the nationally recognised carers organisation – Carers UK, have requested additional details from South Ayrshire, as they plan on using South Ayrshire as a best practice example for Carers Active Week.

4.9 **I am not defined by my caring role**

- 4.9.1 The South Ayrshire Volunteer Strategy 2021-24 is presently in progress and aims to help to provide carers opportunities to participate in volunteering. VASA are presently working alongside the Carers Centre to offer a variety of opportunities should a Carer identify they wish to Volunteer.
- 4.9.2 Ayrshire College and UWS have continued to develop their Carers programs and support during the application process. Both have published a standalone information Guide, fully covering higher and further education to compliment

the support offered to Carers. These are available on their websites and are easy to locate/access.

4.10 Key areas moving forward for the strategy:

- Training and awareness raising; Revisiting briefings for front-line Social Work and other staff.
- Continued roll out of Locality Carers Days
- Continued Celebration of Carers Week
- Production and release Carers Video, surrounding identification and support.
- Continued development of Hospital based support work.

5 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

5.1 The Adult Carers Strategy supports the Partnership's Strategic Objectives, namely:

- We focus on prevention and tackling inequality
- We nurture and are part of communities that care for each other
- We work together to give the right care in the right place
- We help to build communities where people are safe
- We are an ambitious and effective Partnership
- We are transparent and listen to you
- We make a positive impact beyond the services we deliver

6 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

6.1.1 There are no financial implications for the IJB Integrated Budget in considering this report.

6.2 Human Resource Implications

6.2.1 There are no staffing implications in considering this report.

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 There are no Legal Implications in considering this report.

For reference, The Carers (Scotland) Act (2016) sets out statutory duties in relation to Carers and young carers that have been delegated by both parent bodies for the IJB to address. This report reflects areas of these legal duties and how they are met through there various bodies of work.

6.4 Equalities implications

6.4.1 There are no equality implications arising from the consideration of this report.

6.5 Sustainability implications

6.5.1 There are no environmental sustainability implications arising from the consideration of this report.

6.6 Clinical/professional assessment

6.6.1 There is no requirement for a Clinical/Professional assessment for consideration of this report.

7 CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with the relevant officers.

8 RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 There are no immediate risks associated with the approval of this report. Delivery the action items set out in the Plan at Appendix 1 will minimise risks to the successful integration of health and social care services in South Ayrshire and lead to effective and collaborative working at all levels – strategic and operational across the system.

REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT

Name: Phil White - Partnership Facilitator

Phone number: 07816 532279

Email address: Phil.White@aapct.scot.nhs.uk

Name: Aaron Cyr

Phone number: 01292 294304

Email address: aaron.cyr@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS