

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING BOARD

15 FEBRUARY 2022

A CARER FRIENDLY WORCESTERSHIRE AND A COMMITMENT TO CARERS

Board Sponsor

Paula Furnival, Strategic Director of People

Author

Steven Medley, Lead Commissioner, People Directorate

Priorities

Mental health & well-being

Being Active

Reducing harm from Alcohol

Other (specify below)

Unpaid Carers

(Please click below
then on down arrow)

Yes

Yes

Yes

Safeguarding

Impact on Safeguarding Children

If yes, please give details

Yes

The All-Age Carer Strategy and the delivery of an annual all-age carers action plan will contribute to ensuring that Worcestershire is a place for all children and young people to grow up be happy, healthy, and safe.

Impact on Safeguarding Adults

Yes

The All-Age Carer Strategy and the delivery of an annual all age carers action plan will support carers of adults to make safeguarding personal.

Item for Decision, Consideration, or Information

Decision

Recommendation

1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve:

- a) the 'Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care System (ICS) Commitment to Carers'; and
- b) the All-Age Carer's Strategy for Worcestershire (2021 to 2026).

Background

2. The Commitment to Carers and All-Age Carer's Strategy have been developed in consultation with carers, working alongside Health and Social Care partners.

ICS Commitment to Carers

3. The Commitment to Carers provides overarching principles against which all the carers work within Worcestershire will be developed. It is anticipated that local organisations will strive to meet these commitments in whichever ways will have the greatest positive impact on the carers associated with, and employed by, their organisations.
4. The Commitment to Carers statements have been developed based on key national guidance and in consultation with the ICS Carer Reference Group.
5. Organisations that sign up to meet these commitments will be asked to produce an annual report detailing their progress. The format of this report will be developed by the ICS Carer Reference Group.

All-Age Carer's Strategy (the Strategy)

6. The Strategy was developed with a wide range and number of key stakeholders who work with, or have an interest supporting unpaid carers, also with young carers through to young adult and adult carers. The engagement was to ascertain whether the former vision and outcomes for carers were still relevant, what was working well, and to identify gaps and opportunities for improvement. It is also informed by best practice, guidance, and legislation that protects and supports carers.
7. The rationale is to minimise the gap between Adult and Children's Services, to work in partnership to provide a more integrated offer to carers recognising that the vision and outcomes are the same for all carers, albeit supported in different ways with a different ethos. The All Strategy is particularly important to parent carers whereby the cared-for person transitions from Children's to Adult Services.
8. The Strategy details the present situation for unpaid carers within Worcestershire, outlines the future, and identifies how to get there – together. However, it is recognised that it is not a static document; but one that will change as new circumstances arise and the services respond to them.
9. The delivery of Strategy will fall under the remit of Worcestershire's Health and Wellbeing Board. It will be implemented by working groups overseen by the Carers' Partnership.
10. A wide range of partners collaborated to deliver the Strategy, including Worcestershire County Council's Public Health, Young Adults, Learning Disability and Mental Management, Worcestershire Children First/Children Services (including Children with Disabilities and Early Help), Worcestershire Association of Carers, the Stroke Association, YSS, Families in Partnership, the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, Worcestershire Health and Care Trust, the University of Worcester and Healthwatch. Other agencies supported with carer engagement including Jigsaw, the Autism Focus Group and Age UK (Dementia Meeting Centre).

11. The annual action plan will be devised in partnership with key stakeholders including carers. The delivery of these actions will make a difference to carers lives and will how services and the public interact with them in their daily lives at home, in education and at work.

Legal, Financial and HR implications

12. There is a legal responsibility to support and include carers of all ages; set out in six key pieces of legislation below. These affect the commissioning of information, advice, and support for Carers. There are other related pieces of legislation such as the Employment Act, Equalities Act, Mental Capacity Act, and the Mental Health Act.

- a) Care Act (2014)
- b) NHS long term plan (2019)
- c) Health and Social Care Act (2012)
- d) Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007)
- e) Children Act (2004)
- f) Children and Families Act (2014)

13. There are agreed funds for the various elements of the services for Carers, drawn from Adult Services and the Public Health Ring Fenced Grant for example. Other related funding such as Replacement Care and Carer Direct Payments will be considered in the holistic picture of funding for carers.

Equality and Diversity Implications

14. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and submitted, with no implications for the attention of the Health and Well-being Board.

Privacy Impact Assessment

15. A Data Protection Impact Assessment has been completed and submitted, , with no implications for the attention of the Health and Well-being Board.

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

County Council: 01905 763763

Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

Specific Contact Points for this report

Paula Furnival, Strategic Director for People

Tel: 01905 843628

Email: pfurnival@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of People) the following are related background papers: [The Worcestershire All Age Carers Strategy 2015-2020](#)

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 - All-Age Carers Strategy "Carer Friendly Worcestershire – Carer's Strategy for Worcestershire 2021 – 2026" (Available online)
- Appendix 2 - ICS Commitment to Carers