



REPORT TO: MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD ON 25 MAY 2023

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN RELATING TO STRATEGY FOR UNPAID CARERS IN MORAY 2023-26

BY: LEAD OFFICER FOR UNPAID CARERS

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1. The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 requires the Moray Integration Joint Board (IJB) to prepare and review a local carer strategy. The associated implementation plan is to be agreed and monitored by the IJB.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1. It is recommended that the Moray Integration Joint Board:

- i) Agree the associated implementation plan relating to the Moray Carers Strategy 2023-2026; and**
- ii) Instruct the Lead Officer for Unpaid Carers to report back to the MIJB Clinical and Care Governance Committee in six months' time to monitor progress on the plan and the actions within.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 requires local carer strategies to be developed which set out plans to identify carers, provide information about local support, and provide support and services. The duty to prepare local carer strategies applies to local authorities and relevant health boards but is delegated to integration joint boards.
- 3.2. Moray's local carer strategy was developed through engagement with unpaid carers in Moray, and approved at IJB on 31 March 2023.
- 3.3. The local strategy supports the national vision of Valuing, Recognising and Support Carers. The key strategic outcomes for Scotland include:
- Carers are recognised and their contribution is understood and valued by society
 - Carer's voices are heard and their views and experiences are taken into account in decisions which affect them.

4. **KEY MATTERS RELEVANT TO RECOMMENDATION**

4.1. Health and Social Care Moray's Carers Strategy has three strategic priorities to be delivered on over the next three years. These are:

- **Recognition for Carers**

- We want carers to be able to say, 'I can identify as a carer. I am able to access the information and advice I need as a carer and I know and understand my rights'.

- **Valuing Carers**

We want carers to be able to say, 'I am listened to and valued as an equal and expert partner by people working in health and social care. I am involved in the planning and delivery of services and support for myself and for the person/s I am caring for'.

- **Supporting Carers**

Involving Carers as Equal, Expert and Valued, we want carers to be able to say, 'I am able to manage my caring role and reduce any negative impact on my health and wellbeing. I can access the support and services which are right for me. I am able to take a break from my caring role when I need to. I am not disadvantaged because I am a carer. I am able to achieve my own goals and maintain my education and/or employment'.

4.2. The high-level actions set out in the strategy have been developed into the implementation plan (**Appendix 1**). This is intended to be a live document with new actions added as they are identified and indicators in place to support performance reporting. Project plans are currently being developed in greater detail to deliver on key areas and will sit under the overarching implementation plan.

4.3. The plan directly links to the three key priorities identified within the strategy. It also supports Health and Social Care Moray's Partners in Care strategy, namely Theme 1: Building Resilience, Objective 2. The plan will be further refined to evidence where it links with the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 and also with the national Carers Strategy.

4.4. Key priorities for year one have been identified following the engagement with unpaid carers as noted within the plan. These will be further refined to ensure it is reflective of the current pressures and the potential for further actions being identified as the work is progressed. This will support the review and refinement of the Carers Strategy on an annual basis.

4.5. The first Carer Voice Group is due to take place in July 2023 and will further support the delivery of the implementation plan, ensuring it is reflective of the current landscape for carers.

4.6. Regular monitoring of the delivery plan that will accompany the strategy will be monitored through the Carers Strategy Implementation Group, as a standing item at the Clinical Care Governance Committee, and with regular updates to the IJB, the first being in 6 months' time.

5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)) and Moray Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan “Moray Partners in Care 2022– 2032”

Carers who are supported to carry out their role in a way that supports their own health and wellbeing and their educational and economic potential, are key to achieving the ambitions of the Moray IJB Strategy Plan, the Corporate Plan and LOIP. The strategy will support Theme 1 Objective 2 of the Moray Partners in Care strategy and supports HSCM to demonstrate impact on Outcome 6 of the National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes.

(b) Policy and Legal

Having a local carer strategy in place meets the legal obligation on the Moray IJB as prescribed in the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. It also supports carers' right to:

- Access a local information and advice service
- Be included in the hospital discharge of the person they are caring for
- Request and Adult Carer Support Plan (if over the age of 18) or a Young Carer Statement (if under aged 18 or younger)
- Access Support if they have eligible needs
- Be consulted on services for them and the person they are caring for

(c) Financial implications

Annual Carer Act funding is in place to support delivery of the strategy. The actions outlined within the Strategy and Action Plan, including the commissioning of the local information and advice service, require to be delivered within the existing resource envelope and through additional, applied for, funding streams where available.

(d) Risk Implications and Mitigation

The provisions of the Act are considered to contribute to overall risk management across the responsibilities of the health and social care partnership. Demand for support is likely to increase significantly as more people are identified as carers. A local eligibility criteria is in place to determine whether a carer should receive formal support.

(e) Staffing Implications

The strategy will be delivered by the workforce in partnership with unpaid carers, the public, third and independent sectors, and the wider community. The plan currently highlights risks due to current staffing resources.

(f) Property

None arising directly from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

Carers are more likely to experience inequality of outcome and more likely to be in poor health than people who do not undertake a caring role. The strategy aims to enhance equality of opportunity for all carers.

(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts

None arising directly from this report.

(i) Directions

No Direction required.

(j) Consultations

Consultations have taken place with Chief Officer, Health and Social Care Moray, Interim Chief Financial Officer, the Carer Representative and Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 The implementation plan must be monitored to ensure progress is made to deliver on the Carers Strategy.

6.2 The plan must be monitored and reviewed by all stakeholders, include carers to ensure it is reflective of the current landscape, noting that priorities may change as a result. This in turn will support the review and update of the Carers Strategy on an annual basis to ensure it remains a live document.

6.3 The plan will be monitored through the Carers Strategy Implementation Group, Clinical Care Governance Committee and the Moray Integrated Joint Board.

Author of Report: Michelle Fleming, Self-Directed Support & Carers Officer

Background Papers: Carers Strategy Implementation Plan 2023-2026

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