

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Executive Committee
Date	13 January, 2014
Subject	Informal Carers of Adults and Young Carers – Local Commissioning Intentions and Priorities
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Kenneth P Hughes
Contact Officer	Brian Jones, Older People Strategy Co-ordinator
Nature and reason for reporting	
<p>Endorse:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vision and commissioning intentions to underpin our support of Informal Carers; 2. Local performance and direction of travel against the National Performance Framework; 3. Proposed strategic priorities for Anglesey; 4. Medium term outline improvement plan. 	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues
<p>A carer can be anyone, of any age, who provides unpaid care and support to a relative, friend or neighbour who is disabled, physically or mentally ill, or affected by substance misuse.¹</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Welsh Government Carer Strategy 2013)</p> <p>The definition also includes Young Carers</p> <p>Young carers are children and young people under the age of 18 who provide or intend to provide care, assistance or support to another family member who is disabled, physically or mentally ill, or has a substance misuse problem. They carry out, often on a regular basis, significant or substantial caring tasks, taking on a level of responsibility that is inappropriate for their age or development.²</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Social Care Institute for Excellence, 2005)</p> <p>The word ‘carer’ used throughout the document includes both definitions but both definitions may also be referenced individually to highlight specific differences.</p> <p>Some characteristics of informal carers are summarised in Appendix 1 to this report.</p>

¹ Refreshed Carers Strategy Wales provides a framework which agencies across Wales can work together to deliver services and support to Carers.

² SCIE is a UK Charity set up by Government and funded by the UK Department of Health to disseminate the knowledge base for good practice in all aspects of Social Care.

B - Considerations

Carers on Anglesey have consistently said that the most important thing they need is good quality reliable support for the people that they care for, in sufficient quantity to enable them to have opportunities for themselves. To be able to carry out their caring role, people have said that what is important to them is:

- Recognition and respect
- Information and advice
- Clear and accessible assessments of their need
- Opportunities to have a break from the caring role
- Development of more respite services

Towards a Commissioning Strategy

Carers will be involved in developing a Carers Strategy and this will feed into the Local Authority's commissioning strategy. Carers Outreach has sent questionnaires to approximately 900 carers registered with them and an online questionnaire was placed on the Council website. Carers assessors have also gathered information around carers issues. Statistical evidence was also used from National research undertaken by Carers UK and the Princess Royal Trust for Carers. The 2011 census also asked people about their caring roles. We used all available information to look at what people need and to develop a menu of services to achieve the right outcome for Carers to support them in the caring role.

Young Carers services in North West Wales – Isle of Anglesey and Gwynedd are provided by Action for Children. At present discussions are being held internally to look at the future commissioning needs of this specific group of Carers in line with services provided by the other North Wales authorities.

Strategic priorities for Anglesey

- Integrate Anglesey Carers Strategy into our commissioning and service plans.
- Promote the health and wellbeing of carers.
- Promote the rights of carers to receive a separate assessment of their needs.
- Promote early identification of the needs of carers to receive appropriate and timely support services.
- Develop efficient and effective referral pathways.
- Provide specialist additional support to meet the unique needs of Young Carers
- Continue to develop a range of support services in partnership with Health and 3rd Sector to provide meaningful breaks from caring enabling carers to continue in their caring roles.
- Promote the continued development of information services and advice to as a form of support for carers.
- Continue to promote the range of respite care services available to support carers.
- Support opportunities to enable carers to continue in paid employment or return to work.
- Continue to develop support services and social recreation opportunities to improve carers quality of life.
- Support carers with good financial advice.
- Develop flexible housing solutions.
- Identify and agree supporting policies, procedures and performance management arrangements.

Social Services will be developing a commissioning strategy for carers over the coming months – for consideration and endorsement by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Executive Committee early next year.

A medium term outline Improvement Plan has been developed (**APPENDIX3**) as a basis for discussion and endorsement by both the Carers Partnership Board and the Local Authority.

C – Implications and Impacts		
1	Finance / Section 151	
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	
3	Human Resources	
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	
10	Economic	
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)	

C – Implications and Impacts

13	Outcome Agreements	

D - Recommendation

The Executive Committee is asked to endorse:

- The proposed vision to underpin our support of all Informal Carers (paragraph 2.2 above)
- Local Performance and direction of travel against the National Performance Framework (paragraph 2.5 above)
- The proposed strategic priorities for Anglesey (paragraph 2.10 above)
- The medium term outline Improvement Plan (**APPENDIX 3**)

Name of author of report

Anwen Davies

Date

27.11.2013

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Some Characteristics of Informal Carers

Appendix 2 - Other Principle Legal Frameworks – Informal Carers

Appendix 3 - Medium Term Outline Improvement Plan – Supporting All Informal Carers

Background papers

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO:	Executive Committee
DATE:	13 January, 2014
TITLE OF REPORT:	Informal Carers of Adults and Young Carers – Local Commissioning Intentions and Priorities
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	Endorse: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vision and commissioning intentions to underpin our support of Informal Carers; 2. Local performance and direction of travel against the National Performance Framework; 3. Proposed strategic priorities for Anglesey; 4. Medium term outline improvement plan.
CONTACT OFFICER:	Brian Jones, Older People’s Strategy Co-ordinator
REPORT BY:	Anwen Davies, Head of Adults Services
CORPORATE DIRECTOR:	Gwen Carrington, Director of Community

1.0 BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

1.1 Who is a Carer?

A carer can be anyone, of any age, who provides unpaid care and support to a relative, friend or neighbour who is disabled, physically or mentally ill, or affected by substance misuse.³

(Welsh Government Carer Strategy 2013)

The definition also includes **Young Carers**

Young carers are children and young people under the age of 18 who provide or intend to provide care, assistance or support to another family member who is disabled, physically or mentally ill, or has a substance misuse problem. They carry out, often on a regular basis, significant or substantial caring tasks, taking on a level of responsibility that is inappropriate for their age or development.⁴

(Social Care Institute for Excellence, 2005)

³ Refreshed Carers Strategy Wales provides a framework which agencies across Wales can work together to deliver services and support to Carers.

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The word 'carer' used throughout the document includes both definitions but both definitions may also be referenced individually to highlight specific differences.

Some characteristics of informal carers are summarised in **Appendix 1** to this report.

The term carer should not be confused with care worker or care assistant.

2.0 DISCUSSION

2.1 Why do carers need support?

- Taking on a caring role can mean facing a life of poverty, isolation, frustration, ill health and depression.
- Young carers may feel isolated in their caring role and unable to reach their full potential at school or college.
- Young Carers miss out on opportunities, like their peers, to take part in leisure and social activities
- Many carers give up an income, future employment prospects and pension rights to become a carer.
- Many carers also work outside the home and are trying to juggle jobs with their responsibilities as carers.
- The majority of carers struggle alone and do not know that help is available to them.
- Carers say that access to information, financial support and breaks in caring are vital in helping them manage the impact of caring on their lives.
- To prevent adverse impact on the wider family (including other children and siblings) due to demands of caring.

2.2 Vision

It is likely that there will be:

- A significant increase in older carers looking after a spouse or partner.
- A significant number of working age adults struggling to support parents while holding down a job.
- Carers of all ages in the caring role for longer periods of time.
- More parent carers looking after a child with very complex needs for years.
- More parents of an adult child with a disability caring well into their 80`s and 90`s.
- More young carers looking after parents, siblings and other family members, who have a variety of needs

The vision for carers on Anglesey is: - **a society, in which unpaid carers of all ages are recognised, valued and supported.**

To achieve this vision it will require the participation of carers, communities and organisations. The following outcomes for the strategy are:

- No assumption is made regarding the Carers capacity or willingness to take responsibility to continue to care.

- Carers are respected as expert care partners and will have access to the integrated and personalised services they need to support them in their caring role.
- Carers will be able to have a life outside their caring role.
- Carers will be supported so that they are not forced into financial hardship by their caring role.
- Carers will be supported to stay mentally and physically well and treated with dignity.
- Young Carers will be able to reach their full potential emotionally, socially and educationally, and are full and valued members of their local community.

2.3 Carers Profile

2.3.1 Role played by informal carers

The past twenty years has seen a much greater awareness among the general public, politicians and those who plan and commission services of the role played by unpaid carers. There is a greater recognition of the need to support carers and the advantages of doing so. With increasing numbers of older people and increasing pressures upon public services there are clear social and economic benefits to enable carers to continue in their caring role.

2.3.2 Carers in Wales

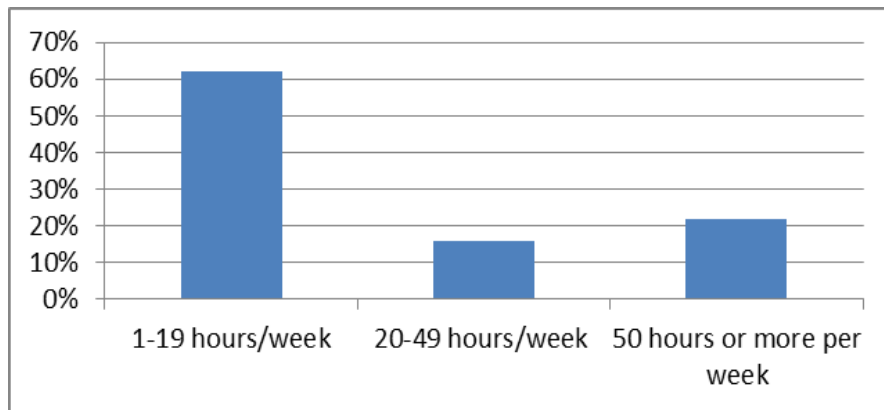
The Census 2011 cited Wales with 370,230 carers providing support for their friends and relatives. Since 2001 there has been an increase of approximately 30,000 people providing unpaid care in Wales representing an increase of 3% in the proportion providing care. The growth in unpaid care was highest in the 50 hours or more per week category. In Wales in 2011, 103,748 people in Wales fell into this category.

2.3.3 Carers on the Isle of Anglesey.

The total population on Anglesey from the 2011 census was 69,700. Of this figure, **7,220 people identified themselves as carers, which is 10.35% of Anglesey`s population**, however carers known to the Department and Carers Outreach Service numbers just under 1000 people. This demonstrates there are a large number of people who have not been identified as carers or don`t see themselves as informal carers. This clearly is one of the main priorities to identify and provide support to this cohort of people. An analysis of the registered carers demonstrates that 62% provide between 1-19 hours/week, 16% provide between 20-49 hours/week and 22% provide 50 hours or more per week.⁵ This profile is illustrated below:

⁵ Daffodil is a multiple download facility to monitor projections in the need for care services in Wales. The facility is funded by Welsh Government and hosted by the WLGA.

Diagram 1
Profile of Informal Carers on the Isle of Anglesey



Detailed statistics are not currently available regarding Young Carers on the Isle of Anglesey. We do however know that during the last quarter – July to September 2013, 111 children and young people had been identified and assessed as being Young Carers. Their profile was as follows:-

- 42 between the ages of 5 – 10 Years
- 69 between the ages of 11 – 18 years
- 52 Males
- 59 Female

Young Carers on the Isle of Anglesey are –

- Supporting parents who may have a Physical illness, Mental Illness, Learning disability, Alcohol and substance misuse;
- Or a combination of the above conditions;
- Supporting siblings who have a physical disability or a learning disability;
- Supporting grandparents who have a physical illness.

2.4 How Do We Currently Support Carers?

2.4.1 The Adults' Services Carers Team supports carers over the age of 18 who are supporting someone over the age of 18. Two carers' officers provide support to carers and they complete approximately 500 carers' assessments and reviews per annum. Social Services has a well-established Flexible Purchasing Budget arrangement which has enabled the Carers' Officers to respond to carers needs in an innovative and flexible manner.

2.4.2 Our local support, practice and mechanisms to informal carers are multi-faceted:-

- The support provided to carers covers a wide range of services and resources. While some services are provided directly to carers, other services are provided to the person with support needs and should benefit carers by reducing the impact of caring and/or the number of hours they provide caring.

- Assessment and Care Management practice takes carers needs into account when people with care and support needs are being assessed.
- A key aim is to reinforce that if carers are to be recognised and supported as partners in care, then they should be consulted when the needs of the cared for are being assessed and care plans drawn up or reviewed.
- Direct support provided to carers includes advice and information, financial and benefits advice, carer training, personal development and capacity building, emotional support and counselling and short breaks from caring. Carers are also supported to engage with agencies that support carers to undertake training, education and employment opportunities.
- It is also important that carers have access to universal services such as housing, transport, lifelong learning and cultural and leisure opportunities and support in and into employment, education and training.

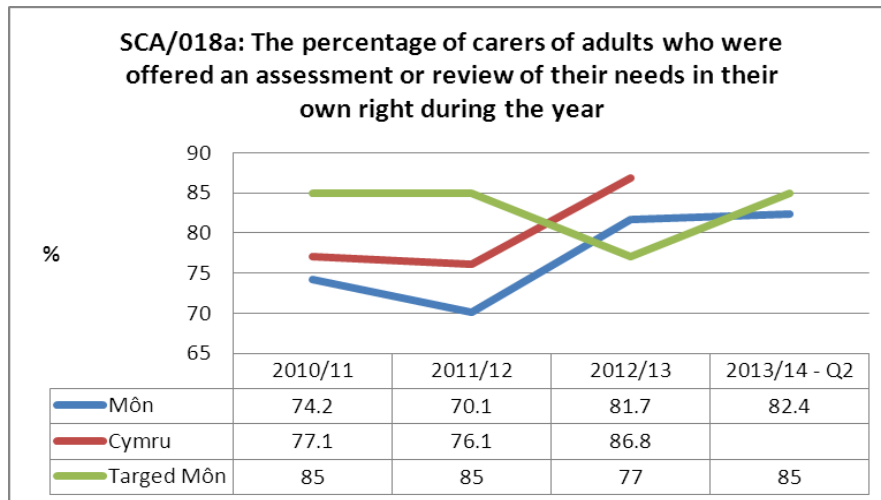
2.4.2 Action for Children currently provides direct services to Young Carers as part of a service level agreement with Children's Services. 4 part time staff are employed and offer the following services:-

- 1 to 1 support – this service is particularly important for the 48 Young Carers who are looking after parents who have a diagnosed mental illness. This aspect of the work includes direct work with the child and staff attending relevant meetings to support the family's situation.
- Group activities – these have been held during August and September instead of trips out
- Individual Respite support – this has been provided for 12 Young Carers during the last quarter (July to September 2013) who have been under considerable strain in their caring roles, because of either a deterioration in the condition of the person they care for, or other significant changes in their circumstances like relationship breakdown.
- Joint working with other agencies – statutory and non-statutory e.g. children and adult services, community nurses, education welfare, Team around the family, Hafal, Carers Outreach
- Drop in sessions – These are held on a regular basis in all secondary schools on the Isle of Anglesey. 30 children accessed this service during the last quarter
- Young Carers have directly been involved in the recruitment of staff within the service
- Action For Children staff and the Young carer review their work together on an annual basis but this can be more frequent if the child/young person is on the child protection register or there has been a change in circumstances
- Young carers and their families are also encouraged to take part in relevant research projects and consultation exercises with the support of Action for Children at a local and National level. During the last quarter families took part in consultation exercises with the local authority about the council's priorities and the Carers Strategy.

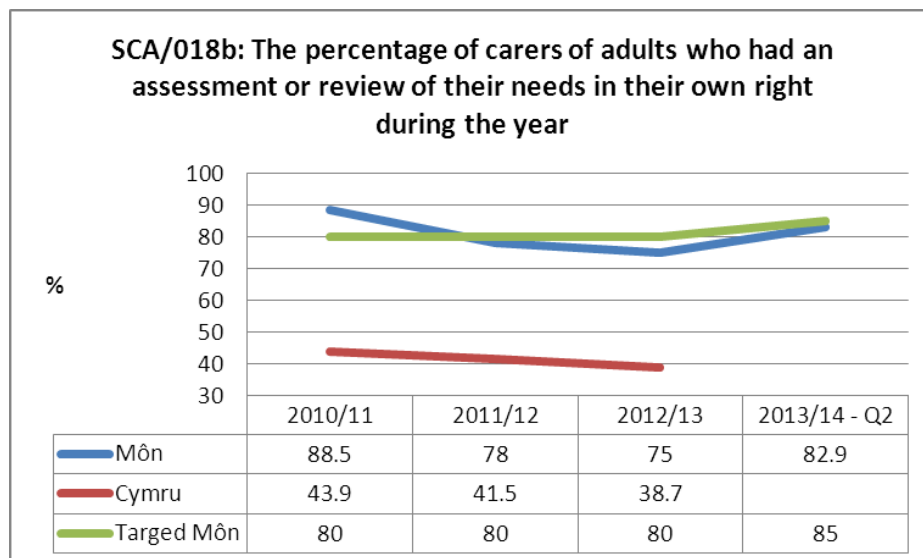
2.5 How well are we performing?

This area of our Local Authority business is the subject of one of the key performance indicators underpinning the Welsh Government performance measurement framework in respect of adult social care.

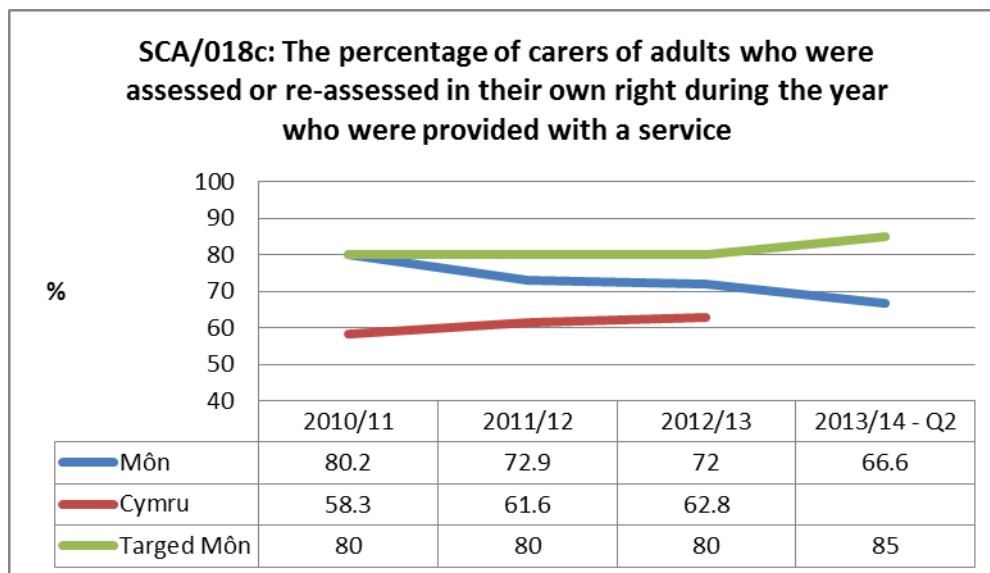
- Assessment and support of informal carers is important to us. During 2012/13, 81.7% (10% more than 2011/12) of informal carers of adults were offered an assessment or review of their needs in their own right (compared with the national Welsh average of 86.8% during 2012/13).



- 75% of carers offered an assessment received an assessment which is slightly lower than the previous year. Nevertheless we still remain far in excess of the National average (38.7% during 2012/13). Our local analysis of the data concluded that this drop in performance occurred during quarter 4 of the last year and in the main was due to long term sickness absence.



- 72% of informal carers who were assessed or re-assessed were provided with a service which more or less mirrored the previous year's performance levels and significantly above the National Average (62.8% in 2012/13).



An improvement journey is ongoing within Adults' Services as a catalyst to further improve our assessment and support arrangements for carers.

We have continued to evidence our investment and support of carers across all user groups and seek to ensure that carers are given opportunities to engage in meaningful activities outside the carer's role. One area worthy of particular reference is our drive in seeking to ensure more meaningful engagement of carers as training participants and trainers. Recognition of carers invaluable expert role and facilitating the delivery of their powerful messages to our staff groups has been a priority for us.

Action for Children collate quarterly information about the outcomes their services produce for the children and young people who use the Young Carers Services that improves their quality of life.

2.6 Legislation

There is a range of legislation that places a duty on both Local Authorities and the Health Service to provide good quality support for carers. The most recent is the **Refreshed Carers Strategy for Wales**¹. This strategy provides a coherent framework, so that agencies across Wales can work together to deliver services and support to carers.

The key priority areas in this strategy include:

- Health and Social Care
- Information, identification and consultation
- Young carers and young adult carers
- Support and life outside the caring role
- Carers and employment

The other principle legal frameworks are summarised in **Appendix 2**

2.7 Carers Champion (Elected Member)

The Local Authority has recently appointed a Carers Champion – Councillor Llinos Medi Huws. The Carers Champion will:

- Lead an effective multi-agency Carers' Strategy as required under the Carers Strategies (Wales) Measure 2010.
- Represent the Authority when there is a need to promote Carers issues at a local level and facilitate collaborative working between Council Departments in order to offer support to carers.
- Ensure carers have easy access to ways they can be heard when the authority is making plans around commissioning and service development and training staff. In particular ensure they can get involved in the scrutiny process and that Cabinet hears carers' views about progress and/or reviews of the Carers' Strategy.

2.8 Carers Partnership Board

A Carers Partnership Board has been established and currently chaired by Carers Outreach. Membership comprises Social Services including the Carers Champion, third sector organisations providing a service to carers and carer representatives providing a voice for carers. The purpose of the Partnership Board is to:-

- Share information and strengthen links between all organisations providing services for carers.
- Ensure that services for carers are effectively planned, delivered and reviewed and ensure the best use is made of available resources.
- Set the strategic direction for services for carers in Anglesey in response to local need and in response to local and national policies and strategic frameworks.

2.9 What Carers say they need

Carers on Anglesey have consistently said that the most important thing they need is good quality reliable support for the people that they care for, in sufficient quantity to enable them to have opportunities for themselves. To be able to carry out their caring role, people have said that what is important to them is:

- Recognition and respect
- Information and advice
- Clear and accessible assessments of their need
- Opportunities to have a break from the caring role
- Development of more respite services

2.10 Towards a Commissioning Strategy

2.10.1 Carers will be involved in developing a Carers Strategy and this will feed into the Local Authority's commissioning strategy. Carers Outreach has sent questionnaires to approximately 900 carers registered with them and an online

questionnaire was placed on the Council website. Carers assessors have also gathered information around carers issues. Statistical evidence was also used from National research undertaken by Carers UK and the Princess Royal Trust for Carers. The 2011 census also asked people about their caring roles. We used all available information to look at what people need and to develop a menu of services to achieve the right outcome for Carers to support them in the caring role.

Young Carers services in North West Wales – Isle of Anglesey and Gwynedd are provided by Action for Children. At present discussions are being held internally to look at the future commissioning needs of this specific group of Carers in line with services provided by the other North Wales authorities.

2.10.2 Strategic priorities for Anglesey

- Integrate Anglesey Carers Strategy into our commissioning and service plans.
- Promote the health and wellbeing of carers.
- Promote the rights of carers to receive a separate assessment of their needs.
- Promote early identification of the needs of carers to receive appropriate and timely support services.
- Develop efficient and effective referral pathways.
- Provide specialist additional support to meet the unique needs of Young Carers
- Continue to develop a range of support services in partnership with Health and 3rd Sector to provide meaningful breaks from caring enabling carers to continue in their caring roles.
- Promote the continued development of information services and advice to as a form of support for carers.
- Continue to promote the range of respite care services available to support carers.
- Support opportunities to enable carers to continue in paid employment or return to work.
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- Identify and agree supporting policies, procedures and performance management arrangements.

Social Services will be developing a commissioning strategy for carers over the coming months – for consideration and endorsement by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Executive Committee early next year.

A medium term outline Improvement Plan has been developed (**APPENDIX3**) as a basis for discussion and endorsement by both the Carers Partnership Board and the Local Authority.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Committee is asked to endorse:

- 3.1 The proposed vision to underpin our support of all Informal Carers (paragraph 2.2 above)
- 3.2 Local Performance and direction of travel against the National Performance Framework (paragraph 2.5 above)
- 3.3 The proposed strategic priorities for Anglesey (paragraph 2.10 above)
- 3.4 The medium term outline Improvement Plan (**APPENDIX 3**)

OBSERVATIONS FROM SCRUTINY

This report was submitted to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting convened on 28 October, 2013. In supporting the recommendations submitted, Scrutiny Members discussed and highlighted:

- Issues in relation to the pressures on young carers and the need to identify them;
- Need to strategically address the needs of young carers;
- The importance to carers of the provision and availability of respite care.

The version of this report submitted to the Executive Committee includes our work in support of young carers.

Some Characteristics of Informal Carers

- Many Carers live in the same house as the person they care for. Others live nearby and visit regularly. Some live a distance away and visit weekly or monthly. Some provide care for a limited period of time or as part of an informal family support network. Some provide care for more than one person. Caring often impacts on the whole family, not just on one person, and there is no typical Carer.
- Carers are individuals who may not see themselves as Carers, but see themselves above all as a parent, child, wife, husband, partner, friend or neighbour. Carers' circumstances vary enormously, as can the type of support they provide, which might be practical, emotional or financial in nature. For example, a Carer supporting someone with a fluctuating mental health problem may provide emotional support. Someone caring for a person who is sick, disabled or frail may provide personal care (i.e. help with washing) and assist with practical tasks.
- Taking on a Caring responsibility/role can be a gradual process or it can happen overnight. For example, someone can be plunged into caring when a partner has a car crash or a stroke. Other people move more gradually into a caring role when a relative's health deteriorates over time, which they see as part and parcel of family life. They don't recognise that as the person they look after needs increasingly more support, they are increasingly becoming a Carer. People don't always recognise that they have taken on more caring responsibilities, and are entitled to support in their role as Carer. Equally as important is the need to support Carers who no longer have a caring responsibility. Often those that have lost a loved one following years of caring will need support, bereavement counselling or learning/careers advice.
- Many Carers undertake a caring role as well as working, attending school or raising their own families. In addition to caring, Carers may also have to deal with other challenges in their lives, for example, they may have a disability themselves, they may be a parent Carer or Carer for a person with mental health problems, they may be trying to balance work, studying and caring. The Carer does not have to live with the person they care for to be considered a Carer and the care they provide is unpaid. Carers are a diverse group of people and have different needs and demands on their time. Carers come from all walks of life; they can be any age, any gender, and from any culture.

Other Principle Legal Frameworks – Informal Carers

The **Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Bill 2013** is a new piece of legislation which will, amongst other things, place a duty upon the Local Authority to assess carers needs for support if it appears to the authority that a carer may have needs for support.

The Equality Act 2010 provides protection for carers where they are provided with a worse service than someone who is not caring for a disabled person. It also includes protection where carers are discouraged or prevented from using a service because they are caring for a disabled person.

Older People`s National Service Framework (Welsh Assembly Government, 2006), this framework advocates involving carers in the Unified Assessment process and providing them with up to date information.

Together for Health (Welsh Government 2011), this five year vision for the NHS in Wales emphasises the importance of utilising the 3rd Sector to support carers.

Medium Term Outline Improvement Plan – Supporting All Informal Carers

Strategic Aims	Operational Actions	Performance Indicator	Commissioning Intentions
<p>Information, Identification and Consultation.</p> <p>To promote the provision of information and advice services to support all carers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to produce an information pack which provides all carers with the information which they need, can easily understand, makes the necessary linkages between services and tells carers how much the service will cost. • Ensure that all Carers are offered an assessment of their needs in their own right. • Work in partnership with 3rd sector providers to develop services in line with the carers commissioning intentions and service 	<p>No of Carers accessing information packs and receiving support through different services.</p> <p>Number of Carers who were offered an assessment of their needs in their own right</p>	<p>Strengthen arrangements with Carers Outreach to develop a carers hub model to provide advice and support plus work closer with community equipment and telecare services.</p> <p>Commission the re-establishment of a Carers Forum and a range of peer support groups.</p>

<p>To promote the early identification of all carers to receive appropriate support services.</p>	<p>intentions document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a Carers forum and a range of peer support groups, nurturing the role of “expert carer” to provide opportunities to share experience (reference to support carers of people with dementia) including Young Carers • Accessible information for the public including Council website with links to 3rd sector organisations. • Removing the stigma and isolation that can be experienced by all Carers • Promote the role of the Carers Champion and develop clear linkages with Carers so that the role is considered to be a voice for 	<p>Carers Partnership Group to review how awareness of carers issues can be raised in order that barriers can be broken.</p> <p>Number of Carers who contact the Carers Champion.</p> <p>Discuss with Carers Partnership Board.</p> <p>Number of GP practices in Anglesey who have a register of Carers.</p>	<p>Commission the development of carer’s information packs and strengthen the availability of information on partner organisations websites.</p> <p>Commission carers outreach to link with GP practices and hospitals to inform, encourage referral to statutory services at an appropriate rate.</p>
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	<p>all Carers issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a draft Carer Self-Assessment form.• Develop a Carers Charter – for adults and Young Carers -commissioned services to agree and sign up.• Work with GP`s and partners to develop a protocol in order to identify Carers within Anglesey and develop ways that this information can be better used to support Carers.• Front line staff are able to recognise all Carers and are aware of how to signpost for support in an effective and timely manner.	<p>Awareness Training for front line staff on all Carer issues.</p>	<p>Incorporation in induction training and on-going programmes – within existing training budgets.</p>
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HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE			
To promote the health and wellbeing of Carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot health check programme for Carers within the Agewell programme. • Expand the range of flexible evening and weekend support services to provide relief for all Carers. • Promotion of health and well-being training for all Carers through various providers. • Promote the availability of direct payment for carers and service users and provide assistance and support to access the direct payments scheme and to manage their own care package. 	<p>Number of carers receiving health check.</p> <p>Number of Carers registered with the Carers Outreach Service and Action For Children</p> <p>Number of carers attending training activities Number of Carers on EPP.</p> <p>Number of Carers in receipt of direct payments.</p>	<p>Commission a health check programme for carers.</p> <p>Providers to offer a range of respite/short breaks in a variety of settings including flexible evening and weekend support. Opportunities can include Livability holidays for carers and the cared for person.</p> <p>Commission the development of a Shared Lives programme on Anglesey.</p> <p>Promote the uptake of direct payments and personal budgets for carers.</p> <p>Commission health and wellbeing training for carers through various providers.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop mechanism to ensure that all Carers are offered an annual assessment/health check to identify their own health and social care needs. • Increase the access and availability of counselling services for Carers. 		Commission support services which provide customised support to the service user and their carer and provide emotional support and guidance through a maze of options.
<i>Carers and Employment</i>			
Promote opportunities for Carers to remain in employment or to return to work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support services • Provision of occupational training opportunities for Carers through further education establishments. • To promote and make available information and advice regarding income maximisation and take-up of available benefits • To promote the adoption of Carers in work policy amongst all employers. 	<p>Number of carers signposted to appropriate support agencies.</p> <p>Number of Carers supported through carer-friendly work practices by all statutory agencies and partners.</p>	<p>Commission holistic advice service to ensure maximum options for maintaining lifestyle whilst providing care.</p> <p>Ensure carer support in the work place through existing SLA`s.</p>

<p><i>Support and Life Outside of the Caring role.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide social/leisure opportunities for all Carers through the 3rd Sector. • Further promote training opportunities for all Carers in partnership with education/training providers. • Ensure that Young Carers are able to reach their full potential at school and college and transition to adult support services if necessary 	<p>Numbers of carers supported to access social/leisure opportunities.</p> <p>Number of carers accessing training opportunities.</p>	<p>Incorporate the promotion of social/leisure opportunities for carers within existing SLA`s.</p>
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