

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00 am, Thursday, 11 September 2014

Carers' Champion – Update – referral from the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee

Item number	8.2
Report number	
Wards	All

Executive summary

The Health, Social Care and Housing Committee on 17 June 2014 considered an update on the progress made by the Carers' Champion, Councillor Work, since coming into this role in November 2012. The Committee referred the report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.

Links

Coalition pledges	See attached report
Council outcomes	See attached report
Single Outcome Agreement	See attached report
Appendices	See attached report

Terms of Referral

Carer's Champion - Update

Terms of referral

- 1.1 On 17 June 2014 the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee considered an update report on the progress made by the Carers' Champion, Councillor Work, since coming into this role in November 2012. The development of a Carers' Champion was a pledge made by the Council in August 2012 as part of the 53 Capital Coalition pledges. Since coming into the role of Carers' Champion, Councillor Work has carried out a wide range of activities.
- 1.2 The Health, Social Care and Housing Committee agreed:
 - 1) To note the various approaches taken by the Carers' Champion and the progress made to date in this role.
 - 2) To refer a copy of this report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.
 - 3) To thank the staff for the support given to the Carers' Champion.

For Decision/Action

- 2.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to note the report.

Background reading / external references

Health, Social Care and Housing Committee 17 June 2014.

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Links

Coalition pledges	See attached report
Council outcomes	See attached report
Single Outcome Agreement	See attached report
Appendices	See attached report

Health, Social Care and Housing Committee

10am, Tuesday, 17 June 2014

Carers' Champion - Update

Item number
Report number
Executive/routine
Wards

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to update on the progress made by the new Carers' Champion, Councillor Work, since coming into this role in November 2012. The development of a Carers' Champion was a pledge made by the Council in August 2012 as part of the 53 Capital Coalition pledges. Since coming into the role of Carers' Champion, Councillor Work has :

- established strong links with a range of carer organisations, regularly attending Annual General Meetings, open days and carer events and forums
- participated in the Joint Carers Strategy 2014-2017 consultation and subsequent development meetings
- become a member of the Joint Strategic Planning Group for Carers
- been involved actively in overseeing the development and promotion of the new VolunteerNet service as a member of the VolunteerNet Advisory Group
- attended a recent 'Lessons Learnt' event, contributing to the evaluation of the Council's Carer Support Payment Scheme
- presented the Diana Award to a young carer at a recent celebratory event
- hosted a carer recognition event in June 2013 and is currently involved in organising an event for Carers' Week in June 2014
- signed up to the Care Fair Share campaign through involvement with members of the Scottish Youth Parliament.

Coalition pledges	P39 - Establish a Care Champion to represent Carers
Council outcomes	CO12 – Edinburgh's Carers are supported
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2 – Edinburgh's Citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health
Appendices	Final remit of the Carers' Champion (Version 3.0)

Carers' Champion Update

Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee:
1. notes the various approaches taken by the Carers' Champion and the progress made to date in this role; and
 2. refers a copy of this report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.

Background

- 2.1 The provision of support to unpaid carers is a key local and national priority. There are estimated to be over 492,000 unpaid carers in Scotland¹. This is 1 in 10 of the Scottish population who are involved in providing care and support to a family member, friend or neighbour to enable that person to continue to live in their own community. In Edinburgh, based on the 2011 Census, it is estimated there are 37,859 carers. Since 2001, there has been an increase in the number of hours of unpaid care many carers provide, with around 21% of Edinburgh's carers providing 50 or more hours of unpaid care each week.
- 2.2 As demographic and social trends in Scotland project rising demand for caring for another person, more recognition and value are placed on the growing contribution and number of unpaid carers. They provide essential quality and skilled care and should be seen as equal partners in the provision of care.
- 2.3 Within the Capital Coalition pledges was the appointment of a Carers' Champion for Edinburgh.

1. 2011 Census Results – Release 2A September 2013 Health Data

Main report

- 3.1 The role of the Carers' Champion is relatively new to the City of Edinburgh Council and offers the opportunity to act as an ambassador for both adult and young carers in the city, raise awareness of carers' issues and listen to the voices of carers through direct engagement.
- 3.2 Having involvement at both a strategic and operational level, the Carers' Champion has represented carers and offered leadership, guidance and influence in the development of carer policy.
- 3.3 The agreed Carers' Champion remit (see Appendix 1) includes the following:
- to promote carers' rights
 - to engage with carers organisations and groups representing both adult and young carers to gain an understanding of the key issues facing carers
 - to report to Council and senior officers on these views, making recommendations as appropriate
 - to work in partnership with the Convenor of Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee, the Convener of Education, Children and Families Committee, and the Convener of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee on media issues relating to carers and to raise the profile of the role of all carers, including young carers
 - to ensure national and local policy objectives and strategic priorities for carer support are embedded across all departments in the Council and NHS Lothian
 - to support the development and implementation of Edinburgh's new joint Carers' Strategy through liaison with relevant strategic planning groups
 - to contribute actively within the integration of Health and Social Care so that strategic planning and commissioning for carer support services are strengthened
 - to establish carer surgeries across the city to hear the views of carers.
- 3.4 In addition, the Carers' Champion will provide leadership, representation and influence on future carer policy in the city.

Measures of success

- 4.1 An agreed remit of the Carers' Champion role is in place and shared with stakeholders on the Council's website.
- 4.2 Carers value the role of the Carers' Champion and this will be evidenced from positive feedback.
- 4.3 The number and range of organisations and individual carers who have engagement with the Carers' Champion.
- 4.4 A carers' event held during Carers' week in June 2014.

Financial impact

- 5.1 There are no direct financial impacts arising from this report.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 There are no direct risk, policy, compliance or governance impacts arising from this report.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 There are no negative equality and rights impacts arising from this report. In the role of the new Carers' Champion, Councillor Work will assist the Council in its general duty under the Equality Act 2010.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 There is no requirement for consultation and engagement from this report.

Background reading / external references

(1) Towards 2012, Joint Carers' Strategic Action Plan for Edinburgh (2007-2012)
https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/4020/towards_2012_an_action_plan_for_carers_2007-2012

(2) Caring Together, National Carers' Strategy for Scotland (2010-2015)
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/07/23153304/0>

(3) "Getting it Right for Young Carers", The Young Carers Strategy for Scotland (2010 – 2015) <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/319441/0102105.pdf>

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Links

Coalition pledges	P39 - Establish a Care Champion to represent Carers
Council outcomes	CO12 – Edinburgh's Carers are supported
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Appendix 1: Final Remit of the Carers' Champion (v3.0)

The Carers' Champion will be in ideal position to raise awareness of carers' issues across the city and listen to the voice of carers about what they feel would provide better outcomes to their lives and the person that they care for.

It is therefore proposed that the Carers' Champion remit will include the following:

- To promote carers' rights;

- To engage with carers organisations and groups representing both adult and young carers to gain an understanding of the key issues facing carers;

- To report back to Council and senior officers on these views, making recommendations as appropriate;

- To work in partnership with the Convenor of Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee, the Convenor of Education, Children and Families Committee, and the Convenor of Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee on media issues relating to carers and to raise the profile of the role of all carers (including young carers);

- To contribute to any special projects in support of the joint Carers' Strategy;

- To sit on the Strategic Planning Group for Carers meetings;

- Attend Edinburgh Carer Network meetings;

- To ensure national and local policy objectives and strategic priorities for carer support are embedded across all departments in the Council and NHS Lothian;

- To support the development and implementation of Edinburgh's new joint Carers' Strategy through liaison with relevant strategic planning groups;

- To actively contribute within the integration of Health and Social Care so that strategic planning and commissioning for carer support services is strengthened;

- To ensure a process of 'carer-proofing' and 'carer impact assessment' in policy development across all Council departments, in partnership with the Convenor of Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee, the Convenor of Education, Children and Families Committee and the Convenor of Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee;

- Through working in partnership with the Council's and NHS Lothian communication services, ensure that the profile of adult and young carers in the city is raised and carer services and support feature regularly in the Council, NHS Lothian and independent media;

- To establish carer surgeries across the city to hear the views of carers.