

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 5 March 2019

Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 - Update

Item number	7.1
Executive/routine	
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:

- 1.1.1 note the progress of work done to date regarding the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.
- 1.1.2 approve the locality and school cluster approach to supporting young carers at school.
- 1.1.3 support the approach of supporting young carers in transition from school to higher education.

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Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 - Update

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report outlines the new duties for local authorities regarding young carers in the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. It reviews the current services available to support young carers within their school environment and developments in information for young carers, teachers and other pupils. Solutions for support gaps identified in a recent consultation with carers are outlined, including improved transition between education and higher education.
- 2.2 The allocation of resources and implementation of the Edinburgh Joint Carers Strategy within the Scottish Government is also outlined.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 was implemented on 1st April 2018 placing new duties on local authorities, these are:
- placing a **duty** on local authorities to prepare an adult carer support plan (ACSP) or young carer statement (YCS) for anyone identified as a carer, or for any carer who requests one
 - giving local authorities a **duty to provide support** to carers that meet local eligibility criteria
 - requiring local authorities and NHS boards to involve carers in carers' services
 - giving local authorities a **duty** to prepare a carers strategy for their area
 - requiring local authorities to establish and maintain advice and information services for carers.

All workstreams report to the Strategic Carers Partnership which meets monthly. The Partnership is currently temporarily chaired by the Strategic Planning and Commissioning Officer (Carers), other members include the two unpaid carer members of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board, third sector organisations working with young and adult carers and officers from NHS Lothian, the City of Edinburgh Council and the Health and Social Care Partnership. All workstreams

outlined within this progress report are brought to this meeting for discussion and agreement.

- The lead officer continues to work across both Communities and Families and the Health and Social Care Partnership in order to maintain a joined-up approach.
- The Scottish Government guidance on the implementation of the Carers Act is now published alongside the financial settlement for Edinburgh for 5 years (Table 1.)

4. Main report

- 4.1 The lead officer is responsible for implementing the act across both directorates - The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) and Communities and Families (CF). New pathways and ways of working are being developed and implemented to ensure a joined-up approach that will improve the lives and outcomes for carers and best value for the service areas.
- 4.2 There has been a financial commitment through commissioned services and grants programmes for carer services by the City of Edinburgh Council for a number of years and an established relationship with key partners in the third sector.
- 4.3 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 was implemented on 1st April 2018 and alongside the new duties a financial settlement was agreed for local authorities from the Scottish Government. Edinburgh's portion of that settlement for the next five years can be found in Table.1.
- 4.4 A market shaping exercise is underway to ensure the implementation settlement from the Scottish Government is used effectively, reaching as many adult and young carers as possible. A consultation with young carers, adult carers and partner organisations was completed in 2018 with 70 young carers attending several events. The information from the consultations will influence future service developments and ways of working.
- 4.5 The information from the reviews and consultation will allow us to develop specifications that meet current and emerging needs for the new duties within the act. From this work an agreed approach with colleagues from procurement will allow us to develop service plans and specifications that better reflect carers' needs within procurement legal requirements.
- 4.6 Alongside this work, the Edinburgh Joint Carer Strategy and Implementation Plan is being written and young and adult carers' views are integral in this process. The priorities identified by young carers include early identification and intervention as being key to improving their outcomes and health and wellbeing. They also identified that the key information and support networks are within their school environment.
- 4.7 Identifying carers, young and older, can be very difficult as people often do not recognise that they are carers. Therefore, to identify and support carers, professionals and carers need information to help with this. Young carers recognise

the key professionals for them are teachers throughout their school career. Work is currently underway to develop information for teachers and pupils regarding the roles and responsibilities involved in a caring role. This work is being led by the Young Carers Forum and complements their recent information short film 'We Care, Do You'? (<https://vimeo.com/275768321>)

- 4.8 Two market shaping events are planned with third sector partners in February and March 2019 to gather feedback. This information will support any re-design of services required to improve the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. Current services for young carers in Edinburgh cover three localities and need to develop to improve equity of access for all young carers within each locality.
- 4.9 Therefore, improving the information available to young carers, teachers and pupils will help with the identification of hidden young carers so they can be offered support as soon as possible. The vision is that planning and information sharing will help young carers throughout their school career and joint young carers' statements with the schools will help carers feel supported out with the school environment – reducing their stress, where that is an issue and helping them to fulfil their potential.
- 4.10 Transitions are another area of priority both within school and further education environments. Most young people find transitions stressful, and for young carers there are additional stresses as they worry about the impact of any changes on the person they care for. Identifying young carers early and supporting them during this stressful time can improve the transition and hopefully outcomes for the young person. The lead officer, guidance staff and link staff within Napier University and Edinburgh College are working together to develop a joint strategy to support young carers with this transition. Some of the areas being looked at are recognising that young carers have often achieved lower grades in school due to the impact of their caring. The workstream is looking at what considerations can be made to help young carers secure and retain a place in higher education if they wish one. Young carers who are currently in higher education are helping develop this work via the Young Carers' Forum.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The lead officer will continue to engage with young carers and relevant professionals to develop the information they want for teaching staff and their peers.
- 5.2 A communication plan will be developed to inform of all the developments for young carers.
- 5.3 A procurement plan for commissioning services to meet the locality and school cluster approach will be produced. This work will be joined up with adult carer services re-development so there will be no gaps.
- 5.4 Co-production events are planned for 7 February and 1 March 2019
- 5.5 This work will be reflected within the Edinburgh Joint Carers Strategy revision and the implementation plan.

- 5.6 Discussions between the IJB and City of Edinburgh Council will take place to agree the proportion of the budget for adult services that will be transferred to children's services to meet the support needs of parents caring for children with disabilities.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership currently spends £615,006 on commissioned services, £418k on Carer Information Strategy (CIS) services and £224k on grants. Communities and Families is budgeted to spend £50K on commissioned services and £16K on grants. The funding shown in Table 1 is in addition to these figures and any underspend from 2018/19 will be carried forward to be spent in 2019/20. *(Please note the CIS monies have now transferred to the IJB and are reflected in Table 1. Under CIS, this budget was previously managed by NHS Lothian)*
- 6.2 A review is currently underway of all commissioned services as part of a market shaping programme and a consultation to understand what carers' priorities are for the Scottish Government settlement (see Table 1.). A Carers' Service Steering Group meets monthly and this work is reported to the Strategic Carers' Partnership Meeting. All monies from the Scottish Government can be carried forward if we are unable to spend them within the financial year – this allows a joined-up approach to be developed with the third sector based on the outcomes of the pilots and consultation. The information gathered during the market shaping events will help inform the approach, however, the strategic approach needs to be in place to ensure the financial settlement is used for maximum impact. Any procurement approach will have to be flexible enough to take account of the increasing resources available to meet the demands of identifying more young carers earlier.

Edinburgh Allocation	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Provision of ACSPs	£153,000.00	£482,368.00	£702,160.00	£1,362,374.00	£1,582,165.00
Provision of YCSs	£18,000.00	£36,073.00	£67,112.00	£97,312.00	£128,352.00
Information and Advice	£277,000.00	£255,026.00	£255,026.00	£255,026.00	£255,026.00
Duty to Support adult Carers	£312,000.00	£833,447.00	£1,432,757.00	£3,044,200.00	£4,296,678.00
Duty to Support young Carers	£61,000.00	£122,898.00	£245,798.00	£368,697.00	£544,698.00
Additional Short Breaks Support	£198,000.00	£197,980.00	£197,980.00	£197,980.00	£197,980.00
CIS	£420,000.00	£419,702.00	£419,702.00	£419,786.00	£419,869.00
Local Carer Strategies	£27,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£13,424.00	£0.00
Carry Forward	£163,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL	£1,629,000.00	£2,347,494.00	£3,976,494.00	£5,758,799.00	£7,424,768.00

Table 1. Five Year Scottish Government Settlement Implementation of Carers Act: Edinburgh's Percentage.

- 6.3 The figures identified above for young carers will be kept under review as the project develops to ensure they meet the legislative requirements. Any shortfall will be highlighted to the IJB for discussion and for the implications to be considered within the overall level of funding made available for implementation of the Act.

- 6.4 The definition of adult carers encompasses adults who care for children and adults who care for adults. An agreement will need to be reached between the IJB and the City of Edinburgh Council to ensure that a proportion of the budget for information and advice, adult carers support plans and additional short breaks is assigned to the Children's Services to support parents.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Unpaid carers are involved at all levels of governance in respect of the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 including the two unpaid carer members of the Integration Joint Board. Carers' organisations working with both adult and young carers also sit on the Strategic Carers' Partnership that oversees the work of the four workstreams. There has been consultation with both adult and young carers throughout the development of the eligibility criteria, the adult carers' support plan and young carer's statement and their input has influenced and changed the drafts to date. This engagement will be ongoing throughout the development and implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.
- 7.2 We are currently working with the Young Carers' Forum to identify older young carers who can attend the Strategic Carers' Partnership group to help with ongoing developments.
- 7.3 Carers have been widely consulted regarding the review of the Edinburgh Joint Carers Strategy 2014-2017, during the reviews of services and identifying priorities for the Scottish Government settlement. These consultations have used online surveys, paper surveys with follow-up face to face meetings and discussions to clarify understanding with both unpaid carers and professionals.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Health/Support-Social-Care/Unpaid-Carers/Implementation/Carers-scotland-act-2016>

9. Appendices

None.