



To: **Members of the Protecting the Most Vulnerable Policy Committee**

Professor Steven Broomhead
Chief Executive

Councillors:

CLlr M Hannon - Chair

CLlr M Creaghan - Deputy Chair

**CLlrs K Buckley, H Cooksey, R Knowles, S Krizanac,
K Morris, M Smith and G Welborn**

Town Hall
Sankey Street
Warrington
WA1 1UH

12 June 2017

Protecting The Most Vulnerable Policy Committee

Tuesday 20 June 2017 at 6.30pm

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Sankey Street, Warrington, WA1 1UH

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A G E N D A

Part 1

Items during the consideration of which the meeting is expected to be open to members of the public (including the press) subject to any statutory right of exclusion.

Item	Page Number
1. <u>Apologies for Absence</u>	
To record any apologies received.	
2. <u>Code of Conduct - Declarations of Interest Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012</u>	

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when the item is reached.

3. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2017 as a correct record. 3 – 12

4. Carers Strategy 2017-20

To consider a report of Julie Smith, Head of Adult Assessment and Care Management, providing an update on the content and production of a revised Carers Strategy due for publication in late June 2017. 13 - 20

5. Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards - Update

To consider a presentation by Margaret Macklin, Head of Service, Adult Safeguarding and Quality Assurance and/or Penny Davidson, Mental Capacity Act Co-ordinator, providing an update on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards following the report to the Committee of 15 December 2015.

6. Workshop to set the Committee's Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2017/18

To consider a report on potential topics for inclusion in the Work Programme 2017/18. (to follow)

7. Schedule of Meetings for 2017/18

To note the schedule of meetings for the remainder of 2017/18, as follows:-

- 19 September 2017
- 12 December 2017
- 20 February 2018
- 3 April 2018

Part 2

Items of a "confidential or other special nature" during which it is likely that the meeting will not be open to the public and press as there would be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972.

NIL

**PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE
POLICY COMMITTEE
4 April 2017**

Present: Councillor M Smith (Chairman)
Councillors: K Buckley, H Cooksey, M Creaghan, R Knowles,
S Krizanac and R Purnell

Also In Attendance: Councillor J Carter, Executive Member Children's Services

PTMV19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence received were received on behalf of Councillor G Welborn.

PTMV20 Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

PTMV21 Minutes

Decision,

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

PTMV22 Edge of Care - Update

The Committee considered a presentation by Fiona Waddington, Assistant Director, Children and Young People's Targeted Services, on the latest position regarding Families First – the Edge of Care Service. The presentation included information on the following:-

- Rationale for establishment of Families First;
- A description of Children on the Edge of Care;
- Risk factors;
- Aim of Families First;
- Families First Services;
- First Response Service and key statistics to date;
- Intensive Intervention Service;
- Outreach and Respite Service;
- Families First Support; and
- Feedback from families.

Ms Waddington indicated that there had been increasing demand for services over the past six years leading to increased cost. That demand included significant rises in the number of child protection plans issued and rising numbers of children in care. The Families First Service had been developed as a demand management strategy that focused on earlier intervention, both to prevent children coming into care and while they were in care.

Members made a number of comments and asked questions on the following issues and officers responded as indicated:-

- Councillor Krizanac indicated that he had recently attended a member development session about gypsy and traveller issues. He asked whether children within that community were subject to high mortality rates, or at increased risk of safeguarding issues not being identified because of their transient lifestyle. – *Response:* Officers responded that all partner agencies were responsible for safeguarding, which included health visitors and schools. If professionals believed that any children were at risk of harm or neglect they were under a duty to make a referral. That said, Ms Waddington was not aware of any traveller children in care in Warrington or on the child protection register.
- Councillor Krizanac had visited a voluntary centre in Wigan where he had witnessed a couple's case being handled. To what extent were voluntary organisations, such as Warrington Youth Club, providing support services or signposting? – *Response:* Warrington Youth Club did not work with families or very young children and were not able to carry out statutory social work. However, they might provide assistance in certain circumstances. The Borough Council's own Youth Service might also be involved in carrying out one to one work.
- Councillor Purnell enquired if unsocial hours was a barrier to recruitment to Families First – *Response:* The initiative had been supported by invest to save funding. The money had allowed a restructuring of social work teams and, in particular, had allowed a more effective use of social work assistants. They were now carrying out more targeted work, which was allowing social workers to make better use of their own time. Around 70 – 80 applications had been received for the social work assistant roles. Of the successful applicants, 5 were qualified social workers and some were highly qualified in other related specialisms. Although unsocial hours was a part of the job, there was a rota and, in fact, employees with school-age children often preferred non-traditional working hours. Social work assistants also had access to dedicated supervision and the system was believed to be working well. The Chairman commented that he had undertaken emissary visits to the Families First Service and had noticed an improvement in morale. That view was endorsed by a number of Members of the Committee.
- The Chairman enquired about the low usage to date of the 72 hour residential respite service. He asked if that was because other interventions were working so well that overnight stays were not required. – *Response:* That comment was true, but there had also been an element of misunderstanding within the social work team that use of the respite service was out of bounds. In fact, use of the Respite Centre was not the same as taking the children into care and should not, therefore, be viewed as an instrument of last resort. Members were pleased to note that Ross Close Outreach Respite Centre had recently had its first key inspection and had received a 'good' rating.

- The Chairman asked if the new service was delivering the anticipated savings – *Response*: Officers responded that the new service had prevented extra cost, rather than made savings. However, it was anticipated that savings might be delivered over time, as people aged and rotated out of agency placements.
- Councillor Carter indicated that three years ago, upon her appointment to the role of Executive Member Children’s Services, she had been impressed by a presentation from a representative of Blackburn with Darwen Council about a similar Edge of Care project and had informed Ms Waddington. It transpired that Ms Waddington used to manage that very service and had brought that experience with her to Warrington. – *Response*: It was acknowledged that the Service provided practical, common sense solutions to parents who needed help, particularly those parents who had not been in a position to learn good parenting skills from their own families.
- The Chairman observed that no one deliberately set out to be a bad parent, but that some did require help. Councillor Krizanac commented that those people in society who wished to use children as a means to an end, rather than caring for them properly, should never be allowed to raise a family. *Response*: Officers responded that, although in an ideal world children should not find themselves in that situation, it did not of itself meet the threshold for removal into care. However, other interventions could help to support those children and families.

Decision,

To note the presentation on Families First – the Edge of Care Service.

PTMV23 Adoption Annual Report 2015/16

The Committee considered a report from Steve Reddy, Executive Director, Families and Wellbeing, on matters arising from the Homelessness and Chaotic Lifestyles report, which had been presented to the Committee in December 2016. Dr Muna Abdel Aziz, Director of Public Health, David Cowley, Head of Service, Housing Standards and Options, and Cathy Fitzgerald, Head of Service, Substance Misuse and Commissioning Development, were present to highlight key elements of the report.

The report included detailed information on the following topics:-

- The financial implications for supported housing to the Council, which were currently being explored;
- The opportunities for the Council as a builder;
- The range of daytime services for homeless and vulnerable people in Warrington and examples of good practice in other areas, which could be applied to Warrington.

In respect of funding for supported housing, Mr Cowley highlighted the range of people affected and the Government’s proposal that all tenants in supported and

sheltered housing would be subject to social rents capped at the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates. The reasons for the changes were to support the roll out of Universal Credit, which would only meet core housing costs up to the LHA rate, and to allow the Government to focus on outcomes, oversight and cost control. From April 2019 additional costs for supported housing would be funded through a new model of devolved funding to local authorities. However, it was a concern that under the new financial system, whereas previously housing benefit was paid by DWP regardless of budget constraints, local authorities would need to work within a specific budget.

In connection with opportunities for the Council to build new homes, it was reported that nationally there was a shortage of new homes. The Council had carried out some limited building projects in recent years and Housing Associations had also provided some new build. It was envisaged that, with the ageing population and increasing demand for care, the need for supported housing and care were expected to continue to increase, but that it would not be financially viable for Housing Associations to build for that group. A report would be taken to the Executive Board in May 2017 to consider the feasibility of the Council once again building homes.

Members asked a number of questions and officers responded as follows:-

- The case of an individual resident was mentioned, who was prone to falling but could not secure a tenancy with a Housing Association in a house with the relevant adaptations. His own house would cost in the region of £15k-£20k to adapt which was not feasible. How could partners work together to meet the needs of such people quickly and cheaply? – *Response:* There was a housing needs policy in operation which prioritised people. However, sometimes their needs were unique, which meant that any suitable properties were already occupied. Housing Options tried to help in every case, but the underlying issue was that there were not enough homes available. The demographics of Warrington, as a former new town, meant that its population was ageing together. There was, therefore, a need to build for older people. It was usually more cost effective for people to sell their homes and move into a more suitable property, rather than to adapt their existing properties. It was possible that a scheme which met housing need could generate some income for the Council.
- Could the proposed town centre development include the right mix of homes to cater for the housing need identified? – *Response:* The Council could ensure that developers built in a certain way. The Council could itself develop purpose built schemes and could plan for the future. Purpose built accommodation was needed, since adaptations to existing properties were too expensive. Private landlords were reluctant to work with the Council where tenants were on benefits due to problems with obtaining insurance.
- Would Warrington have access to additional Government money based on need? – *Response:* The budget would be assessed, but it was unlikely that Warrington would receive a higher share of the resources, given that the Government's aim was to control the overall budget.

- Rents in Warrington were high, even in the terraced housing market. Could the Council work more closely with private landlords to obtain better value for money? Concern was expressed that private landlords would lose even more tenants when the LHA rate was introduced. Tenants would be at increased risk of homelessness. – *Response:* A Landlords Forum had been established, but private landlords were effectively small businesses and could potentially earn even more than what was currently being charged. Also some private landlords were leaving the market.
- How might the Council find any shortfall in funding under a ‘top up’ scheme for supported housing? – *Response:* The Council would work with partners to solve the issues and would need to develop a business case. Further work on the matter might be undertaken by the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee or relevant Policy/Scrutiny Committee.
- The development opposite Sainsbury, Off Church Street, was part private, part social landlord, and might be a good template for any new build. – *Response:* The ‘Hive’ development had been produced by Your Housing Group, but a deposit was required and rents were still around £650 per month. As well as a deposit often landlords requested an administrative fee and rent in advance, which increased the barriers to tenancy. A better balance was needed to providing supported housing, which might include greater energy efficiency. Penketh Court was a good example of such a scheme and had enabled local people to stay within their existing community.

Cathy Fitzgerald reported on the daytime service for homeless and vulnerable people. A mapping exercise of current services on offer or commissioned had been carried out recently. The principal facilities provided were as follows, although there were numerous other targeted/specialised services or universal drop-in services available:-

- James Lee House – various support;
- Your Housing Group – Verve Place and Vulnerable tenants Support Service (VTSS);
- Warrington Women’s Aid – Refuge;
- YMCA – various support;
- Change Grow Live (CGL) – Recovery Hub;
- Together Working for Wellbeing – Allen Street Day Centre, mental health support;
- Housing and Health Pathway – based at the Council’s Housing Plus Service

Services that were considered to be successful had a clear outcome based framework. Ideally services should really impact on changing people’s lives, rather than “putting a sticking plaster” on the presenting situation.

Members asked some further questions and officers responded as follows:-

- Councillor Krizanac indicated that the budget to the YMCA had been cut with the services transferred to Housing Plus, but that Housing Plus only provided

support from 9am – 5pm. That service appeared to deliver signposting rather than physical help and might be seen to be letting own the most vulnerable. – In particular, the Police often took homeless people to the YMCA because they knew it was open out of hours. – *Response:* The Chairman responded that the budget changes had been discussed in more detail at the meeting in December 2016, at which point the Committee had raised some concerns, but had been reassured by the responses given and had a high level of confidence in the new commissioned serviced. Officers explained that the funding previously provided to the YMCA was part of the Public Health offer, but other services were already providing appropriate interventions. Housing Plus was keen to develop an offer which referred clients to other health services. Some out of hours services were also provided. Overall more people were accessing the commissioned services, rather than the narrow group accessing the YMCA, thereby improving outcomes. The Chairman reminded Members that James Lee House had a broader range of support facilities.

- To what extent were partners in Warrington adopting a co-ordinated approach? Although the partners met regularly, was there evidence that this in fact amounted to a co-ordinated approach? Was there a role for a Councillor Working Group to support that work. – *Response:* The partners included those services and organisations previously reported to the Committee in relation to the Rough Sleepers Panel and Hard to House Panel. That approach had worked well. It was envisaged that a review session would be held later in the year with all partners to discuss effectiveness, following which a report could be provided to the Committee in September/October 2017, if required. Dr Abdel Aziz clarified that the two Panels were largely case focused. It might be that the Committee was enquiring about the overall outcomes being sought by co-operation. The answer was not unlike that given in relation to the previous item about savings in childcare made by early intervention. A key outcome for the homelessness service was that the Council was not dealing with large numbers of evictions because it was proactive in preventing them. The Wellbeing Hub at the Gateway was a similar example of prevention and the impact would be to reduce demand on universal services. Partnership working was particularly important when working with individuals in receipt of targeted services, which were outcome based.
- Were the examples of good practice for homeless services from elsewhere cited in the report being adopted within Warrington? – *Response:* Lessons were already being learned from others and all of the initiatives mentioned were being provided locally to some extent. The service was keen to intervene quickly to address any issues.
- Was there any evidence to suggest that rough sleepers were appearing in Warrington on a seasonal basis, perhaps after using the prison system in winter months, or using Warrington as a transit station en route between Liverpool and Manchester? – *Response:* Officers responded that there was no evidence to support the theory that Warrington was targeted in a systematic way by rough sleepers. Homeless people presented from as far

away as Glasgow or London. There were a number of individuals who were known to the service who moved around. Some of those people to whom services were offered refused to engage with the Council. There was a Severe Weather Emergency Protocol in place during cold weather and effectively there was no reason for anyone to have to sleep rough. Some changes were on the horizon in 2018, in the light of the Homeless Prevention Bill. That would increase the number of people for whom the authority had a statutory duty. The Council had around £1M invested in homeless services and the new legislation would present an opportunity to review the whole picture while still encouraging the commissioning of high quality services.

Decision,

- (1) To note the report on matters arising from the Homelessness and Chaotic Lifestyles report presented in December 2016.
- (2) To request the Director of Public Health to continue to monitor good practice in relation to day services for homeless and vulnerable people and to encourage all partners to meet any gaps identified.

PTMV24 Work Programme 2016/17

The Committee considered a report providing an update on the delivery of its Work Programme for 2016/17 and monitoring the actions and recommendations arising from the Committee and any Working Groups.

Members were reminded that the Committee, at its meeting on 21 June 2016, had approved a number of themes for its draft Work Programme 2016/17, including some topics being rolled forward from the Work Programme 2015/16. Subsequently, further work had been undertaken to refine the detailed content of the draft Work Programme and a final programme had been agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 15 September 2016.

The Work Programme was a living document and was updated periodically in response to changing priorities and other factors. The following amendments had been proposed to the published Work Programme 2016/17 since the last meeting:-

- Workforce Strategy for Children's Social Care – Report deferred from 4 April 2017 to allow time for the new strategy to bed in;
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards – Update now scheduled for 20 June 2017, following recent publication of the Law Commission's report.

The Work Programme for 2016/17 had now substantially been completed, with a small number of outstanding items identified for possibly rolling forward into 2017/18.

The report also contained an update on the monitoring of actions, recommendations and referrals for the Committee. One referral had been made via a Motion at the Council meeting on 20 March 2017, as follows:-

“This Council:-

- Wishes to improve the air quality in Warrington, and notes that reducing emissions from idling vehicles around schools can significantly reduce pollution at these sites.
- Notes that incidences of asthma in children are increasing.
- Fully supports the aims of the current national campaign “SolCanBreathe” (BBC TV) to reduce emissions from idling vehicles ,including diesel powered school buses around the school gate .
- Asks that in the first instance air quality measurements be taken around Warrington’s schools at school closing times.
- Requests that this motion be referred to the Protecting the Most Vulnerable Policy Committee so that it may consider ways that the Council, in order to reduce emissions and improve the health of children, can effect change in drivers behaviour by encouraging them to turn their engines off when stationary. This could include working with PCSOs and liaison with Headteachers, Governing Bodies and Bus Contractors.”

Members commented that statistical information might be required before any work was carried out on the above topic, together with information about how other authorities might have tackled the issues. The solutions might be reliant on modifying the behaviour of parents waiting in cars near to schools, or staggering release times, or on better design for new schools.

The Committee had not established any Working Groups for 2016/17. However, following the Committee’s recommendation at its meeting on 15 September 2016, the Executive Board had established a Task Group to consider the Social Care Market for Older People. The Task Group comprised Councillors M Smith (Chair), P Wright, H Cooksey, M Creaghan, R Knowles, S Krizanac and K Buckley. The first meeting of the Task Group had taken place on Wednesday 14 December 2016 at the Town Hall. The Task Group had noted its terms of reference and received an introduction to the main issues and themes of the subject. The group had then scoped its work to include the following detailed areas:-

- Data and overview;
- Domiciliary care (including expert witness);
- Residential care (including expert witness); and
- Identification of solutions.

A second meeting had been held on 22 February 2017, which provided more data to support the review.

The Task Group’s Work Programme was scheduled to run until May 2017 and the next meeting was anticipated to take place on a date to be arranged in April 2017.

Decision,

- (1) To note the updated Work Programme 2016/17, as presented;

- (2) To note the Schedule of Future Meetings;
- (3) To note the Schedule of Progress on Actions and Recommendations, Referrals from Other Bodies and Final Recommendations from Working Groups; and
- (4) To note the progress report on the work of the Executive Board Task Group on the Social Care Market for Older People.
- (5) To consider the referral from Council regarding air quality near schools at the next meeting for possible inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme 2017/18.

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WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE POLICY COMMITTEE – 20 June 2017

Report of the: Julie Smith, Head of Adult Assessment and Care Management, Central/East/Central Duty Teams

Report Author: As above

Contact Details: **Email Address:** jsmith@warrington.gov.uk **Telephone:** (01925) 444163

Ward Members: All Wards

TITLE OF REPORT: CARERS STRATEGY 2017-20

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Protecting the Most Vulnerable Policy Committee with an update on the content and production of a revised Carers Strategy due for publication in late June 2017.

2. CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT

- 2.1 Not applicable.

3. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Warrington's Carers Strategy 2012-2015 is being refreshed and will be launched in late June 2017. The draft strategy is currently being edited by the Communications Team. Since the last publication there have been changes to legislation with the introduction of the Care Act 2014 and The Children and Families Act 2014. The Care Act 2014 legislation introduced in April 2015 was designed to improve the support to carers and put them on the same footing as the people they care for.
- 3.2 Carers UK's latest calculation of the value of unpaid care in the UK shows that the contribution of UK's carers is growing and is now worth £132 billion¹ which is the equivalent of spending on the NHS. There are approx. 6.5million people in the UK who are now carers and this number continues to rise. It is forecast that by 2037, there will be 9 million carers in the UK.

¹ Carers UK, the University of Sheffield and the University of Leeds (2015) Valuing Carers 2015 – the rising value of carers' support, S. Yeandle, L. Buckner

3.3 Every year over 2.1 million adults become carers and almost as many people find that their caring responsibilities come to an end². This 'turnover' means that caring will touch the lives of most of the population, as we all need or provide care, or support family members caring for loved ones at some point in our lives.

4. NATIONAL CONTEXT

4.1 A new national carers strategy will be launching in 2017 and will play an important role in facilitating opportunity, health and wellbeing for all carers. Consultation closed for this in July 2016, however there has been a delay in the publishing of the findings.

4.2 In the absence of national drivers to inform the revised strategy we have gathered data from other national consultations as well as our own local findings. Carers UK has run their annual State of Care survey which aims to gather the views of carers and share their views and experiences. In 2016, 6149 people shared their views making it the largest survey of this type carried out to date³. The key findings were:

- 78% of carers buy or receive some form of practical support with their caring role (e.g. equipment, technology, carer breaks or help from family/friends).
- 1 in 5 carers (20%) provide 50 hours or more of care each week but receive no practical support in their caring role.
- 1 in 9 people in the workforce are juggling care with paid work.
- Of full or part time employees responding to the survey, 70% have used their annual leave to care. 54% of respondents said more support from home care workers coming to the home of the person they care for would help them to remain in work. 45% said support with household chores and 34% said support with managing or co-ordinating care would also help them to remain in work.
- 31% of respondents received an assessment in the last year.
- Only 35% were told how to get all the info and advice about their caring role they felt they needed.
- 1 in 3 carers (29%) who reported having an assessment in the past year had to wait six months or longer for it.
- 6 in 10 UK carers who had cared for someone who had been discharged from hospital in the previous year did not feel they had a choice about providing care to the person following their discharge from hospital.
- In the UK 26% of carers reported that they have been, or are currently, in debt as a result of their caring role.
- In the next year, 54% of carers in the UK expect their quality of life to get worse, with only 6% thinking it will get better.

² Analysis conducted for Carers UK by Michael Hirst (2014) Transitions into and out of unpaid care

³ <https://www.carersuk.org/news-and-campaigns/state-of-caring-survey-2016>

4.3 The State of Care report grouped its findings into the following themes:

- **Practical Support** (e.g. type of support, availability of support and paying for support)
- **Carer Assessments** (e.g. experience of assessments, timeliness and outcomes)
- **NHS – Experience of Hospital Discharge** (e.g. patient carers voice, consequences if carer is not heard)
- **Carers Finances** (e.g. benefit/allowance changes)
- **Caring and Work** (e.g. support available to working carers).

5. LOCAL CONSULTATION

5.1 The Warrington's Carers Strategy consultation took place in spring 2016, where 243 local carers completed a questionnaire. The key findings were:

- In Warrington, 63% of carers who responded provided 50+ hours a week.
- For those that provided care for 35 hours or more a week, 55% received Carers Allowance.
- 43% cared for a parent/spouse, 22% cared for a parent and 26% cared for their child.
- 80% of respondents lived with the cared for and 38% had been a carer for between 4-10 years.
- Direct Payments are provided to 23% of cared for, with 20% receiving homecare.
- 74% of carers responding said that their cared for person does not employ a Personal Assistant.
- Of those that did employ a Personal Assistant comments about the service included *“Good support”, “Excellent service”, “Problems finding a reliable PA”, “Demanding job managing a PA, HR issues are daunting and disciplinary issues can be stressful”, “More flexible than agency staff”, “Process far too complex”, “Too much paperwork”* and *“Use a good agency to obtain PA’s”*.
- 58% of carers felt they were able to get a break from their caring role.
- Emergency Cards, Leisure Card and WIRED Support were the most used services with WDP being a main source of support to a lot of respondents.
- The majority of respondents said the GP is their main source of support and the main service to listen to them.
- 63% of respondents said that their GP knew they were a carer.
- 30% of carers had missed GP/Hospital appointments due to caring responsibilities however 52% of respondents said that GP appointments were flexible.
- The main reasons selected for contacting organisations was for information and advice, benefit and financial guidance, counselling and support groups.
- 65% of respondents said they would access support from carer support workers if it was available in the evenings/weekends.

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- 37% of carers felt they “always” or “often” feel isolated. Many carers said that support groups and opportunities to meet other carers would help isolation.
- 5.2 In addition to the above, Warrington Borough Council are also required to carry out a biannual survey which is set by Central Government and completed by all authorities in England. This survey was sent to 900 Warrington carers who have had an assessment or service in the year and 421 carers responded. Provisional findings have been shared and show consistent outcomes to previous surveys where we have ranked in the top quartile for key performance measures. A full analysis against our comparators will be available in spring 2017.

6. NEW CARERS STRATEGY

- 6.1 As well as considering the findings in both national and local consultations, we have looked at the achievements that have been made by the organisations that form the Carers Partnership Board, since the previous strategy was produced.
- 6.2 A brief summary of these have been provided below under the 4 priority areas of the previous strategy:
- 6.2.1 Supporting those with caring responsibilities to identify themselves as carers at an early stage, recognising the value of their contribution and involving them from the outset both in designing local care provision and in planning individual care packages.
- Warrington Hospital created own carers charter which ensured staff recognised the importance of involving carers in plans for hospital admissions and discharges. As a result Carers Champions were identified on wards within the hospital. WIRED have developed the role of the Hospital Discharge worker who has a base at the hospital and supports carers to enable them to have their say in the planning of a safe and effective discharge for the person they care for, including the support plan for the cared for person but also any services the carer may need to support and benefit.
 - WIRED attended events in schools to promote the identification of young carers and the support they can access.
 - Warrington Parent and Carers (WarrPAC) held ‘Ask Away’ sessions which have been designed to cover a different area for each session including health, short breaks and an opportunity to meet with professionals.
 - Many events in the borough are used as an opportunity to highlight the role carers play e.g. DAD, WECCA event, Carers Rights Day, Carers Conference held to coincide with national carers week in June,
- 6.2.2 Enabling those with caring responsibilities to fulfil their educational and employment potential.

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- Evening support sessions were held by WIRED to support carers who are working during the day.
- Jobcentre Plus now provides all carers with a work coach if they currently claim Income Support, Employment and Support Allowance or Jobseekers Allowance.
- Carers wishing to combine paid work with their caring responsibilities, or those wishing to prepare for work when their caring responsibilities end, may be offered access to a package of work preparation supporting including access to caseload interviews by Jobcentre Plus work coaches as part of the Job Centre Plus Offer
- Cheshire and Warrington Carers Trust ran a pilot project focusing on Carers aged 16-25 who were NEET. Within the first 18 month we identified 89 Young Adult Carers and enabled 36 of them to get back into employment, education or training

6.2.3 Personalised support both for carers and those they support, enabling them to have a family and community life.

- CCG commissioning Carers Trust for 4All who support carers and people with palliative diagnosis, respite breaks, providing emotional and practical support, ensure carers who are supporting people with palliative diagnosis are able to remain independent, protect their own health and wellbeing and do not spiral into crisis or breakdown.
- 182 grants have been provided via the Marjorie Griffiths fund which has provided much needed support to carers and families in Warrington.
- The Alzheimer's Society developed a new service called 'Side by Side' which is a service that focuses on the individual needs and personalities of people with dementia. A volunteer enables the person they support to take part in their favourite activities and even try new ones; which enables carers to have time to themselves or have peace of mind knowing that their loved one is engaging in meaningful activity whilst they are at work.

6.2.4 Supporting carers to remain mentally and physically well.

- WDP developed a range of groups to support people with long term conditions to manage own health care issues.
- WIRED have developed an extended drop in service called Peer Support groups where carers can get support as well as support each other.
- Alzheimer's society have developed dementia café offer supporting carers of people with dementia
- WBC have a range of offers including social prescribing be it to individuals/groups like Creative Remedies, Positive Thoughts which are delivered through Wellbeing Mentors and outreach workers, use the Make

Time mental wellbeing campaign to encourage people to recognise their own mental health issues and how to maximise their own mental health wellbeing.

7. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

7.1 The emerging themes for the new Carers Strategy to reflect include:

- Social isolation and recognising the impact.
- Carers who have their own health needs.
- Identification and support of young carers
- Supporting family carers of children
- Balancing finances and employment
- Primary care and hospital discharge practices.

7.2 The new and revised Carers Strategy will be developed using the findings from the key national surveys as well as our own specific consultations with Warrington carers and will be the starting point for which an action plan will be developed. This action plan will set out how progress will be made to develop services and support carers in line with local priorities. The Carers Partnership Board will oversee the delivery of these priorities and will be accountable to Warrington carers for this.

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 N/A

9. RISK ASSESSMENT

9.1 N/A

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY / EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

10.1 The EIA for this strategy is being finalised and will be circulated on completion.

11. CONSULTATION

11.1 See Sections 4 and 5.

12. RECOMMENDATION

12.1 That the Protecting the Most Vulnerable Policy Committee:

12.1.1 Note the progress to date of developing a new and revised Carers Strategy.

12.1.2 Endorse and promote the revised Carers Strategy.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

Contacts for Background Papers:

Name	E-mail	Telephone
N/A	N/A	N/A

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