



IJB Performance and Finance Committee

14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

This Report relates to  
Item 8 on the Agenda

# **Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy 2017 -2021 Progress Report**

*(Paper presented by Linda Owen)*

*For Noting*

|                                   |   |
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| <b>Approved for Submission by</b> | Vicky Freeman, Head of Strategic Planning   |
| <b>Author</b>                     | Linda Owen, Strategic Planning and Commissioning Manager,   |
| <b>List of Background Papers</b>  | None  |
| <b>Appendices</b>                 | Appendix 1 – Feeling Supported Survey<br>Appendix 2 - Six Monthly Carers Strategy Progress Report |

## SECTION 1: REPORT CONTENT

**Title/Subject:** Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy - Progress Report

**Meeting:** IJB Performance and Finance Committee

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Submitted By:** Linda Owen, Strategic Planning and Commissioning Manager

**Action:** For Noting

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy (2017 – 2021) was approved by the Integration Joint Board (IJB) on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The IJB has asked that a report detailing progress against the implementation of the strategy is submitted to the Performance and Finance committee every six months.
- 1.2 This is the second progress report covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (see Appendix 1).

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **The IJB Performance and Finance Committee is asked to note:**
  - **The progress report against the implementation of the Dumfries and Galloway Carer Strategy in the second six month period.**

### 3. Background

- 3.1 There are approx 15,000 Carers in Dumfries and Galloway (Census 2011). Unpaid Carers are the largest group of care providers in Scotland, providing more care than the NHS and Councils combined, avoiding costs of £10bn per annum (University of Leeds 2015).
- 3.2 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 came into force on 1 April 2018. The Carers Act is designed to support Carers' health and wellbeing and to help make caring more sustainable for individuals (Scottish Government 2017).
- 3.3 The Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy 2017 – 2021 was co-developed with Carers. Carers themselves identified the five key themes around which the strategy is predominantly structured. The strategy is closely linked to the requirements of the Carers Act. An action plan to implement the strategy was developed. This was

agreed by the IJB in November 2017 and included 20 measures to demonstrate progress.

#### 4. Main Body of the Report

4.1 There are five outcomes for the Carers Strategy.

1. Carers are able to access the services they need to continue in their caring role
2. Carers are able to access planned short breaks when they need them
3. Carers have maintained or improved the level of their health and wellbeing
4. Carers receive the information and advice they need when they need it
5. Carers feel supported in their caring role

Actions, activity and measures against all of these can be found in appendix 1.

4.2 The 20 measures in the plan have been grouped into the following categories:

| Key                                 | No of Measures (April to Sept 18) | No of Measures (Nov 17 to April 18) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Measures are increasing or complete | 14                                | 12                                  |
| Measure static                      | 5                                 | 4                                   |
| Measure decreasing                  | 1                                 | 0                                   |
| Measure in development              | 0                                 | 4                                   |
| Total                               | 20                                | 20                                  |

4.3 The Progress Report highlights where progress has been made compared to the previous six months.

4.4 The single measure that was red, relates to the percentage of Carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role. This is measured by a Scottish Government Health and Care Experience Survey (HACE) carried out every two years. In Dumfries and Galloway, the percentage of Carers who feel supported has decreased from 49% in 2016 to 40% in 2018. Whilst the HACE survey will not be undertaken again until 2020, other indicators such as the numbers of Carers feeling supported are showing an upward trend as is the increase in the number of Adult Carer Support Plans and Young Carer Statements. To further support this work, a local survey of Carers has been undertaken to help us better understand what 'supported' means to Carers. As a result of this work, a further action plan for improvement is being developed.

4.5 Key achievements include the preparation work required to implement the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. This includes:

- 4.5.1 The development of a Short Break Service Statement for Dumfries and Galloway (approved by the IJB on 29 November 2018).

- 4.5.2 The promotion of Adult Carer Support Plans and Young Carers Statements, including the implementation of the Carers Eligibility Criteria which has led to an increase in the number of ACSP's being completed; and
- 4.5.3 The development of methods of collecting data both for the measures to support this strategy as per appendix 1 and also data that the Scottish Government requires in relation to the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.

4.6 The next six months will focus on

- Implementing the improvement actions being identified as a result of the work on 'what being supported means to Carers'
- Reviewing processes and procedures for Adult Carer Support Plans and Young Carers Statements to ensure these are as effective and efficient as possible.
- Developing opportunities for Short Breaks.

## **5. Conclusions**

- 5.1 Good progress has been made on over half of the measures identified to support the Dumfries and Galloway Carers strategy.
- 5.2 There is a plan of work identified for the next six months aiming to ensure that good progress continues to be made.

## **SECTION 2: COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNANCE STANDARDS**

### **5. Resource Implications**

This is within current resource implications

### **6. Impact on Integration Joint Board Outcomes, Priorities and Policy**

- 6.1. This work impacts on all of the National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes, however is particularly focussed on National Health and Wellbeing Outcome 6, which states “People who provide unpaid care are supported to look after their own health and wellbeing, including reducing any negative impact of their caring role on their own wellbeing”.
- 6.2. The Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board Health and Social Care Strategic Plan contain three commitments which are specific to Carers. This work addresses these commitments.

### **7. Legal and Risk Implications**

- 7.1. There are no legal and risk implications

### **8. Consultation**

- 8.1. The content of this paper has been discussed with the Dumfries and Galloway Carers Programme Board.

### **9. Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment**

- 9.1. Not applicable.

### **10. Glossary**

ACSP – Adult Carer Support Plan  
YCS – Young Carers Statement