



Integration Joint Board
Performance and Finance Committee

12th July 2018

This Report relates to
Item 7 on the Agenda

Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy 2017 -2021 Progress Update

(Paper presented by Linda Owen)

For Discussion and Noting

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List of Background Papers	Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy 2017 - 2021
Appendices	Appendix 1 – Carers Strategy Action Plan

SECTION 1: REPORT CONTENT

Title/Subject:	Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy 2017 – 2021 Progress Update
Meeting:	Integration Joint Board Performance and Finance Committee
Date:	12 th July 2018
Submitted By:	Linda Owen, Strategic Planning & Commissioning Manager
Action:	Discussion and Noting

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy (2017 – 2021) was approved by the Integration Joint Board (IJB) on the 30 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 first progress report and covers the period December 2017 to May 2018.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **The Performance and Finance Committee is asked to:**
 - **Note the progress against the implementation of the strategy in the first six months**

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 (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 26 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 26 measures in the plan have been grouped into the following categories:

Key	No of Measures
Measures are increasing or complete	13
Measure static	4
Measure decreasing	1
Measure in development	8
Total	26

4.3 Eight measures require further work to develop robust and routine collection methods to provide accurate information on a regular basis.

4.4 The single measure that is 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 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. The rate for Dumfries and Galloway is still higher than the Scottish average (37%) but this is not statistically significant. Of the nearly 5,000 people who answered the survey in Dumfries and Galloway, 15.1% (746 people) identified as Carers. This is the same as the proportion who answered for Scotland (15.0%). The last Census in 2011 identified that approximately 10% of the population identified as Carers. More people recognising their Caring role is positive.

4.5 To support these measures a range of activity has been undertaken across Dumfries and Galloway (please see Appendix 1).

4.6 Key achievements following the introduction of the strategy include the preparation work required to implement the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. This includes:

4.6.1 The consultation and development of a Carers Eligibility Criteria. This was approved by the IJB on 5 April 2018;

4.6.2 The continued promotion of Adult Carer Support Plans and Young Carers Statements; and

4.6.3 The testing of different ways of working in community hospitals using the triangle of care methodology to involve Carers

4.7 The next six months will focus on

- Understanding what being supported means to Carers
- Preparing the Short Break Service Statement, a document to inform Carers and Cared for people of the short breaks available throughout Scotland. This is to be produced by 31 December 2018.
- Developing methods of collecting data for the measures under development 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.

4.8 It is anticipated that the next progress report will contain some information on the impact and cost of the duty to support Carers.

5. Conclusions

5.1 This is the first progress update on the implementation of the Dumfries and Galloway Carers Strategy 2017 – 2021.

5.2 Good progress has been made on over half of the measures identified to support the strategy and work is planned over the next six months which aims to continue this progress.

5.3 The fall in percentage of Carers who feel supported will be addressed by firstly understanding what makes Carers feel supported. From this work, improvement actions will be undertaken.

SECTION 2: COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNANCE STANDARDS

5. Resource Implications

5.1 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 & Risk Implications

7.1. None

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