



Clinical and Care Governance Committee

25th October 2018

This Report relates to
Item 6 on the Agenda

Progress Update - Carers Eligibility Framework

(Paper presented by Linda Owen)

For Noting

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List of Background Papers	Carers Eligibility Framework – IJB 5 April 2018
Appendices	None

SECTION 1: REPORT CONTENT

Title/Subject: Progress Update - Carers Eligibility Framework
Meeting: Clinical and Care Governance Committee
Date: 25th October 2018
Submitted By: Linda Owen, Strategic Planning and Commissioning Manager
Action: For Noting

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 commenced on 1 April 2018. The act introduced Adult Carer Support Plans (ACSP) and Young Carers Statements (YCS), which are personal outcome plans designed to support Carers' needs.
- 1.2 The act placed duties on Local Authorities which were delegated to the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board (IJB) to support those Carers who are deemed, based on the completion of Carer Support Plans and Statements, to have eligible needs.
- 1.3 On the 5 April 2018, the Dumfries and Galloway IJB agreed the Carers Eligibility Framework. At this meeting, it was not known what impact the new eligibility framework would have.
- 1.4 The IJB requested that a six month update on progress on implementation of the Carers Eligibility Framework be provided to the Clinical and Care Governance Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **The Clinical and Care Governance Committee is asked to note:**
 - **Progress made in implementing the Carers Eligibility Framework**
 - **The impact of the Carers Eligibility Framework to date**

3. Background

- 3.1 A short life working group to steer the development of an eligibility framework for Dumfries and Galloway was established in May 2017. This group developed a draft eligibility framework using the indicators in the 'Outcome Star Model'. This model is

a validated tool for capturing outcomes and is the tool used within ACSPs and YCSs. The eligibility framework was approved by the IJB on 5 April 2018.

3.2 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 places a duty on local authorities (delegated to Integration Joint Boards) to develop local eligibility frameworks. This is defined as

‘The criteria by which the local authority must determine whether it is required to provide support to Carers to meet Carers’ identified needs’ (Scottish Government 2017).

4. Main Body of the Report

4.1 From 1 April 2018 to 21 September 2018, 78 new ACSPs were completed. This compares to 50 in the six months prior to the Carers (Scotland) Act commencing and 62 for the same period last year (April to September 2017). This increase is in line with activity in other Health and Social Care Partnerships across Scotland and is being managed by the Dumfries and Galloway Carers Centre who are commissioned to support Carers to complete ACSPs. The ACSPs are being completed by Carers from across Dumfries and Galloway as shown in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1 - Number of ACSPs completed

ACSPS Completed	Apr-Jun 18	July – Sept 18	Total
Nithsdale	15	17	32
A&E	5	7	12
Stewartry	17	7	24
Wigtownshire	5	5	10
Total	42	36	78

4.2 More women (n62) are completing ACSPs compared to men (n16). 11% of Carers who have completed an ACSP are undertaking a caring role for two people and are known as a dual Carer. Figure 2 below shows the relationships between the Carer and the cared for person

Figure 2 - Relationship of Carer to Cared for Person

Relationship of Carer to the Cared for Person	Apr-Jun 18	July – Sept 18	Total
Child Under 18	2	4	6
Child Over 18	6	6	12
Spouse / Partner	23	16	39
Grandparent	0	1	1
Parent	10	11	22
Grandchild	3	1	4
Sister	0	1	1
Niece	2	0	2
Dual caring role	4	5	9

- 4.3 The Carers Eligibility Framework uses the seven areas of the Carers Outcome Star to determine eligible needs. The seven areas are scored on a scale from one (critical need) to five (low need). The threshold for eligibility was set at critical; this equals one on the outcome star. Figure 3 below shows that most Carers are looking for emotional support and a break from their caring role.

Figure 3 - Outcome Star Scores 1

Outcome Star scores at Critical Level	Apr-Jun 18	July – Sept 18	Total
Caring Role Score	12	9	21
How You Feel	15	10	25
Health	1	0	1
Managing at Home	3	1	4
Time for You	13	10	23
Finance	3	2	5
Work	0	1	1

- 4.4 Of the 78 ACSPs that were completed following the introduction of the Carers Act, 46 Carers had eligible needs. There is no comparable data before the Act commenced. Not every eligible need will be met by statutory services; some will be met by Carers Organisations who provide emotional and practical support. Others might be provided by organisations such as Relationship Scotland or Dumfries and Galloway Council’s Financial Inclusion Team.
- 4.5 Referrals to other services are made by the Dumfries and Galloway Carers Centre who document the referral within the ACSP. There is also a ‘Time to Live’ short break fund that is available to Carers to design their own break. This has supported Carers to access gym memberships, guitar lessons and massage treatments for example, as well as a more traditional holiday type break.
- 4.6 Resources for the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 were provided to the Health and Social Care Partnership as part of a Scottish Government bundle. Financial forecasts predict a spend of approx £300k in financial year 2018/19 supporting Carers in Dumfries and Galloway. This figure covers the spend on short break services such as residential care and replacement care in a Carer’s home. This also provided additional resources to Carers Organisations including Relationship Scotland and some preventative spend on the short breaks fund. The financial forecast is in line with the budget projections from the Scottish Government for the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.
- 4.7 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 also reinforces the The Carers (Waiving of Charges for Support) (Scotland) Regulations 2014. This states that a local authority must waive any payment which it would otherwise be entitled to charge under section 87(1) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968. This applies when a Carer has an eligible support need. Going forward, Health and Social Care Partnerships across Scotland are awaiting Scottish Government guidance/examples of how the waiving of charges for Carers who have eligible needs will be applied. In Dumfries and Galloway, a process for waiving of charges is being developed to ensure consist application of this across the Partnership.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 There has been a small increase in demand for Carers support. This increase was expected and planned for as part of implementing the Carers (Scotland) Act.
- 5.2 The financial position is forecast to be in line with projections. There is further work to be undertaken regarding the waiving of charges once the national guidance/examples are available.

SECTION 2: COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNANCE STANDARDS

6. Resource Implications

- 6.1. Resources are outlined in the paper. The forecast spend is in line with the budget allocated.

7. Impact on Integration Joint Board Outcomes, Priorities and Policy

- 7.1. This is a requirement of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. This is in line with the 9 national health and wellbeing outcomes and also the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board Health and Social Care Strategic Plan 2016-2019.

8. Legal & Risk Implications

- 8.1. There is a risk that there could be increased costs to providing support to eligible Carers following the publication of further guidance/examples on waiving of charges. The risk is that as well as waiving charges, replacement care and the Carers Short Break may have to all be funded.

9. Consultation

- 9.1. A consultation with Carers and Carers Organisations was undertaken in developing the Carers Eligibility Criteria.
- 9.2. The content of this paper was agreed with the Head of Strategic Planning, Finance and Information Manager and the Dumfries and Galloway Carers Centre Manager.

10. Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment

- 10.1. An Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment was undertaken on the Carers Eligibility Framework prior to approval by the IJB on 5 April 2018.

11. Glossary

IJB Integration Joint Board