

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO CABINET COMMITTEE EQUALITIES

5 OCTOBER 2009

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR WELLBEING

CARERS STRATEGY UPDATE

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the progress of the development of the Carers Strategy in Bridgend.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.

- 2.1 This links directly to the corporate priority, Caring for our Future. The adult social care remodelling programme includes a specific activity which will improve support and services for Carers.

3. Background

- 3.1 The development of a Carers' Strategy in Bridgend is the continuation of a process of working to ensure that Carers are valued as equal partners in the provision of care and are supported to undertake their caring role.
- 3.2 The Strategy builds upon the priorities identified by the Welsh Assembly Government Carers' Strategy for Wales (2007) and aims to recognise the needs of local Carers in Bridgend.
- 3.3 As part of remodelling care management, a work stream is looking at increasing the number and take up of carer's assessments and ensuring data in relation to this activity is captured.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 A draft Strategy was initially drawn up during 2007 by Bridgend Carers' Forum with the involvement of Carers and representatives from the NHSe, Local Authority and Voluntary Sector.
- 4.2 In March 2009, a consultation event was held to revisit the Strategy and priorities for action. Approximately 70 Carers attended and provided some useful feedback.
- 4.3 The feedback was subsequently discussed at a meeting of the Carers' Forum where it was agreed to have fewer priorities and SMART objectives.

- 4.4 The Forum agreed that a Task and Finish group (comprising of representatives from Statutory and Voluntary Sectors) undertake this work.
- 4.5 The Task and Finish group met on 27th July and the 18th September 2009 and it is intended that the final draft will be completed by 31st October, 2009 when wider consultation will begin.
- 4.6 The Carer's Strategy will be formally launched in January 2010.
- 4.7 Training for assessment care management staff is currently being planned and will be facilitated by the Carers' Forum and Carers themselves.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

- 5.1 There is no effect on the policy framework and procedure rules

6. Legal Implications.

- 6.1 There are no legal implications associated with the report.

7. Financial Implications.

- 7.1 Any costs related to the work and actions identified in this report to develop the Carer's Strategy are being met from within existing resources.

8. Recommendation.

The Committee is recommended to note progress made in developing the Carer's Strategy.

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5 October 2009

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Background documents

None.