



Item No. 7

Meeting Date Wednesday 21st May 2025

**Glasgow City
Integration Joint Board
Public Engagement Committee**

Report By: Stephen Fitzpatrick. Assistant Chief Officer, Older People's Services & South Operations

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Engagement with Young Carers

Purpose of Report: To provide an update to the IJB Public Engagement Committee of efforts to increase young carer engagement following the report presented on [13th November 2024](#).

Background/Engagement: Local Authorities and Health Boards must take such steps, as they consider appropriate, to involve carers and carer representatives in the planning and evaluation of services that support carers.

Governance Route: The matters contained within this paper have been previously considered by the following group(s) as part of its development.

HSCP Senior Management Team
Council Corporate Management Team
Health Board Corporate Management Team
Council Committee
Update requested by IJB
Other
NHSGGC Corporate Carers Group
Not Applicable

Recommendations: The IJB Public Engagement Committee is asked to:

a) Note the contents of this report; and
b) Note the activity to increase young carer engagement.

Relevance to Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan:
Partnership Priority 1: Prevention, early intervention and well-being.

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Implications for Health and Social Care Partnership:

Reference to National Health & Wellbeing Outcome:	6: People who provide unpaid care are supported to look after their own health and wellbeing, including to reduce any negative impact of their caring role on their own health and well-being.
Personnel:	There are no direct personnel implications resulting from the content of this paper.
Carers:	Increasing engagement with young carers will create more opportunities for the voices of young carers to influence planning and evaluation of services.
Provider Organisations:	None.
Equalities:	Young carers should be supported and protected from inappropriate caring responsibilities ensuring their right to a childhood.
Fairer Scotland Compliance:	None.
Financial:	None.
Legal:	The content of this paper supports Glasgow City HSCP to fulfil the requirements of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016
Economic Impact:	None.
Sustainability:	None.
Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:	None.
Risk Implications:	None.
Implications for Glasgow City Council:	Local authorities have responsibility for implementing the Carer (Scotland) Act 2016.
Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde:	NHSGGC has responsibility for implementing the Carer (Scotland) Act 2016. (Specific duty to involve Young Carers at hospital discharge)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an update to the IJB Public Engagement Committee of efforts to increase young carer engagement following the report presented on [13th November 2024](#).

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2. Background

2.1 Glasgow City HSCP 2022-2025 Carer Strategy is a joint carer strategy inclusive of adult and young carers.

2.2 Glasgow City HSCP strategic priorities relevant to young carers are:

- Prevention, Early Intervention and Wellbeing
- Children and Young People being supported to achieve their full potential through excellent and inclusive education, employment and life opportunities.

3. Commissioned Services for Young Carers

3.1. Glasgow City HSCP has commissioned three local carer services to deliver preventative support. The contract specifies support for young carers to have their voices heard. Each provider must provide evidence of support to a minimum of 150 Young Carers per annum.

- Glasgow Association for Mental Health deliver support to carers in the North East locality
- Dixon Community provide support to carers in the South locality
- Quarriers provide support to carers in the North West locality.

3.2 Providers use a range of individual and groupwork approaches to engage with young carers. Each provider produces year end reports that includes engagement with young carers. The Public Engagement Committee may wish to consider inviting representatives from commissioned carer services to arrange a future input on young carer engagement.

3.3 Engaging with young carers can pose particular challenges. Children may be resistant to being identified or associating with the term 'young carer'. Meaningful engagement with young carers requires understanding of their caring responsibilities. However, this cannot happen without first identifying young carers. Responsibility for identifying and engaging with young carers extends beyond the role of commissioned carer services.

4. Updates

4.1 Education Services commissioned carer services all deliver outreach work in schools to raise awareness of young carers and their rights to support.

4.2 Education Services primary and secondary school pupil forums - young carers attending school have engagement opportunities through Pupil Forums.

4.3 Glasgow Locality Joint Support teams - guidance is being updated to be inclusive of young carers.

4.4 Young Carer Charter - Pastoral Care Teachers are developing in house resources to raise awareness of the rights of young carers and support available to young carers.

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- 4.5 Glasgow City HSCP Locality Engagement Forums - work is being progressed to increase opportunities for young carers engagement via Locality Engagement Forums.
- 4.6 Equalities - Glasgow City HSCP Equality Outcomes 2024 to 2028 acknowledges that the principles of equality, diversity and human rights are underpinning rights for all carers. Glasgow City HSCP has committed to embedding awareness of the rights of carers in policy and practice. The equalities commitment cannot be underestimated in progress towards Glasgow City HSCP identification of young carers.
<https://glasgowcity.hscp.scot/publication/glasgow-city-hscp-equality-outcomes-2024-2028>
- 5. Opportunities to identify young carers in practice**
- 5.1 Circles of Support - Glasgow City HSCP is implementing circles of support within older people and adult services practice. This strengths-based approach recognises the contribution of unpaid carers further increasing opportunities to identify and engage young carers.
<https://glasgowcity.hscp.scot/news/circles-support-helps-building-family-support-children-and-young-people-glasgow>
- 5.2 Glasgow City Council contracts for all commissioned services now reference carers in service specifications, increasing opportunities to identify and engage with young carers.
- 5.3 Glasgow City HSCP is currently reviewing HSCP directly provided carer services. The review is likely to result in a significant redesign of HSCP Carer services.
- 5.4 Updating the Carer Aware campaign and online resources is delayed pending the outcome of the HSCP carer service review. A Carer Aware video is in production which is inclusive of young carers and will be available for Carers Week in June 2025.
- 5.5 An updated adult and older people Support Needs Assessment (SNA) has been developed and will be launched soon (provisional date 21/05/2025). The SNA and care management processes are now inclusive of young carers. This represents progress to embed awareness of young carers in practice. This is likely to have a small impact on opportunities to identify and engage with young carers.
- 5.6 Senior Management from Children's Services are supporting the review of HSCP carer services. This will embed young carer awareness in the integrated children services plan and is likely to create more opportunities to identify and engage with young carers.
- 5.7 Work to develop an NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) mental health carer pathway is ongoing. The NHSGGC Mental Health Carers Pathway will increase opportunities to engage those young carers identified by NHSGGC mental health services.

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6. Progress

- 6.1 Glasgow City HSCP has overall made significant progress to embed awareness of young carers in policy and practice. However, given the strategic intention is to reduce inappropriate caring roles for young carers, this work could actually result in a reduction in opportunities for young carer engagement.
- 6.2 The review of HSCP Carer Services could have a short term impact on opportunities to identify and engage with young carers. However, commissioned carer services have demonstrated considerable success in engaging with young carers. In the longer term, the review of HSCP carer services should result in increased opportunities for young carer identification and engagement.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1. The IJB Public Engagement Committee is asked to:
- a) Note the contents of this report; and
 - b) Note the activity to identify and engage young carers.

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