



Item No. 8

Meeting Date Wednesday 13th November 2024

**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 on carer engagement, and to advise of recommendations to increase opportunities for young carer engagement.

Background/Engagement:

The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 strengthens the commitment to the principle of carer involvement in the development and delivery of services. 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.

The Act also creates a duty to offer an assessment called a Young Carer Statement (YCS) in respect of an identified carer and to prepare one if that offer is accepted. (Young Carer Statements replaced young carer assessments when the Carer (Scotland) Act 2016 came into force)

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.

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	Not Applicable ☐
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Recommendations:	The IJB Public Engagement Committee is asked to: a) Note the contents of the paper; and b) Note the activity to increase young carer engagement.
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Relevance to Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan:
Partnership Priority 1: Prevention, early intervention and well-being

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.
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Personnel:	There are no direct personnel implications as a result of the content of this paper.
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Carers:	The Carer Strategy EQIA was co-produced in January 2024 with support from MECOPP. Minority Ethnic Carers of Older People (MECOPP) is a National Carer organisation funded by the Scottish Government to improve engagement and support offered to BAME communities.
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Provider Organisations:	None.
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Equalities:	Increasing young carer engagement also increases opportunities to consider the views of children with caring responsibilities in the design and delivery of HSCP services.
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Fairer Scotland Compliance:	None.
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Financial:	Funding of recommendations in this report can be achieved within current budget allocation.
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Legal:	The content of this paper supports Glasgow City HSCP to fulfil the requirements of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 and additional duties in the Public Bodies (Joint Working)(Scotland) Act 2014.
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Economic Impact:	None.
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Sustainability:	None
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Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:	None.
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Risk Implications:	None.
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Implications for Glasgow City Council:	Local authorities have responsibility for implementing the additional duties contained in the Carer (Scotland) Act 2016.
Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde:	NHSGGC has responsibility for implementing the additional duties contained in the Carer (Scotland) Act 2016.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Integration Joint Board (IJB) Public Engagement Committee on carer engagement, and to advise of recommendations to increase opportunities for young carer engagement.

2. Background

- 2.1 **Young Carers:** Children with caring responsibilities should be seen as children and young people and given the chance to develop and enjoy their childhood.
- 2.2 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 strengthens the commitment to the principle of carer involvement in the development and delivery of services. 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.
- 2.3 The Act also creates a duty to offer an assessment called a Young Carer Statement (YCS) in respect of an identified carer and to prepare one if that offer is accepted.
- 2.4 Glasgow City HSCP commissioned a network of [carer advice and information services](#). The IJB's key performance indicator (KPI) for young carers is the number of young carers accepting the offer of a Young Carer Statement. Despite the Carer Strategy (2022-25) commitment to increase support for children with caring responsibilities, the number of young carers accepting a Young Carer Statement have remained low (Appendix 1 - Carers identified versus accepting Young Carer Statement).

3. Increasing opportunities for young carer engagement

- 3.1 **Glasgow Carer Services** will continue to provide quantitative and qualitative data to confirm young carers are being supported to have their voices heard. Annual reports are prepared and shared with Locality Engagement Forums (LEFs) and the IJB Public Engagement Committee. They can also be found here [Your Support Your Way Glasgow - How are we doing?](#)
- 3.2 A key intention of the Carer Strategy and the Integrated Children's Services Plan is to reduce inappropriate caring responsibilities for children. If those policies are effective, less children will be young carers and there should be less people who are identified as a 'young carer' with which we would

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engage. The current young carer KPI should be amended to include young carers identified.

3.3 **Evidencing Young Carer Engagement:** [Online carer request for support forms](#) have been available since May 2020. Carer feedback forms are now in development that will support the public and professionals to comment on the Carer Strategy and support they have received as carers. The intention is to launch two online feedback forms on Carers Rights Day 2024, Thursday 21st November 2024. The online forms will increase opportunities for organisations and individuals to evidence young carer engagement.

3.4 **Equalities** There is currently no single protected characteristic for carers. Carers can experience multiple forms of discrimination due to caring responsibilities. i.e.

- Sex: Women are more likely to be disproportionately affected emotionally, financially and physically due to a higher proportion of female carers.
- Age: Children with caring responsibilities can be disadvantaged socially and educationally.
- Race/ Ethnicity: Black, Asian and ethnic minority carers are less likely to be aware of support services available and also less likely to seek help.

3.5 By considering carers in all equalities impact assessments as a marginalised group, Glasgow City HSCP will effectively expand opportunities to engage young carers across a broad range of HSCP and commissioned services.

3.6 **Carer Aware:** Glasgow City HSCP's Carer Strategy (2022-2025) contained a commitment to making Glasgow a "carer-friendly city". Many individuals and organisations are already delivering that commitment. For example, on 7th February 2024, Glasgow Virtual School hosted the first inclusion conference which recognised the impact of caregiving as a barrier to education. Further information on the Glasgow Virtual School can be found at the following link: [Glasgow Virtual School \(GVS\) - Glasgow City Council](#)

The carer strategy commitment will be developed into a carer aware social media campaign that will enable organisations, individuals and policymakers to evidence their engagement with young carers. (#CarerAwareGlasgow) The campaign will be managed by leads from Maximising Independence, Children and family Services and HSCP Carer services. The Carer Aware campaign will be included in the HSCP Carer Strategy workplan and co-ordinated by the Carer Strategy Delivery Group.

3.7 A Carer Aware section has been developed for inclusion in all HSCP assessments used by older people and adult services. That will increase the available routes for identifying and engaging with young carers (Appendix 2).

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- 3.8 **Targeting young carer engagement:** There are clear correlations between some health conditions and child protection. In Scotland during 2021-2022 there were a total of 6,374 child protection conferences. The most common concerns for children were parental Mental Health and parental substance abuse. Work is underway to develop carer support pathways with Addiction and Mental Health organisations where children with caring responsibilities are likely to be at greatest risk. For example, the HSCP's Chief Nurse (Adult Services) is developing an NHSGGC mental health carer pathway, and the Glasgow Drug and Alcohol Partnership have given a commitment to supporting delivery of the Carer Strategy. By raising awareness of young carers with strategic leads for Mental Health and Addiction services, there will be increased opportunities to identify, engage and protect young carers.

4. **Recommendations**

- 4.1 The IJB Public Engagement Committee is asked to:
- a) Note the contents of the paper; and
 - b) Note the activity for increasing young carer engagement.

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Appendix 1 Carers identified and those accepting the offer of a Young Carer Statement.

Carer Strategy 2022-2025 (Carefirst screening records)				Totals
Year	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025 (Q1 and Q2 only)	
Young Carers identified	329	400	155	884
Accepting a Young Carer Statement	174 (52%)	195 (48%)	67 (43%)	436 (49%)

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Appendix 2

Draft Support Needs Assessment (SNA) used by assessors in Older People and Adult Services piloted to include questions to provoke assessor to start conversations about informal supports and allow assessors to embed carer awareness in their practice. This is being piloted as part of Maximising Independence (MI) and Family Group Decision Making.

Maximising Independence Circle of Support

Your Circle of Support can include people who are not your family or relatives but who are important to you and help with your support. Your circle may involve extended family such as grandparents, aunts and uncles or family friends or neighbours, an advocate or sometimes existing paid or unpaid carers.			
Does anyone rely on you for care and support? Y/N			
If yes, how do you support them? (Free text)			
Who is in your Circle of Support? Please include their names, the part they play and the way they support you? (Free text)			
Do you have anyone who is: Adult Carer or a Child Carer? Y/N			
If yes, tell us about them, how do they support you? (Free text)			
Adult Carer Support Plan (ACSP)	Offered Y/N	Completed Y/N	Reviewed Y/N
Young Carer Statement (YCS)	Offered Y/N	Completed Y/N	Reviewed Y/N
If an ACSP or YCS has been declined, please explain why: (Free text)			