

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday, 21 May 2013

Carers' Champion: Progress Report - referral from Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee

Item number	8.5
Report number	
Wards	City wide

Links

Coalition pledges	P39
Council outcomes	CO12
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2

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Terms of Referral

Carers' Champion: Progress Report

Terms of referral

The Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee on 23 April 2013 considered a report outlining the progress made by the new Carers' Champion, Councillor Work, since coming into the role in November 2012.

The Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee agreed:

- 1) To note the various approaches taken by the Carers' Champion and the progress made to date in this role.
- 2) To refer a copy of the report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.
- 3) To agree that regular update reports be submitted to the Committee.

For decision/action

The Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee has referred the attached report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.

Background reading / external references

Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee 23 April 2013

Links

Coalition pledges	P39. Establish a Care Champion to represent carers.
Council outcomes	CO12. Edinburgh's carers and supported.
Single Outcome Agreement	S02. Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health
Appendices	<u>Report by the Director of Health and Social Care</u>

Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee

10am, Tuesday, 23 April 2013

Carers' Champion - Progress Report

Item number

Report number

Wards All

Links

Coalition pledges	P39
Council outcomes	CO12
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2

Peter Gabbitas

Director of Health and Social Care

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Executive summary

Carers' Champion progress report

Summary

The purpose of this report is to outline the progress made by the new Carers' Champion, Councillor Work, since coming into this role in November 2012. The development of a Carers' Champion was a pledge made by the Council in August 2012 as part of the 53 Capital Coalition pledges. Since coming into the new role of Carers' Champion, Councillor Work has:

- attended three carers' events across the city in November for carers to participate in the consultation of the Review of Towards 2012;
- visited the carer organisation, Edinburgh Young Carers' Project and sourced a DVD, 'Brave' for a young carers' group;
- held a meeting with The Action Group's Advice Team and explored the potential of a future event with the Carers' Champion and all third sector agencies who work alongside carers;
- met individual carers about issues they wished to raise;
- held meetings in December 2012 and January 2013 with carers organisations and projects to discuss the new draft role and remit and seek their views;
- met with the Chief Executive of ECAS and Edinburgh Partnership Equalities Lead officer to discuss the role of the Carers' Champion;
- attended regular meetings at Queensferry Church Community Care, a meeting with Lifecare and an event at Care for Carers;
- attended a Dementia event in November 2012;
- agreed to attend a meeting on 10 April 2013 with carer's organisations and projects to plan for a Carer Recognition Event to be held during Carers' Week in June 2013.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee:

1. notes the various approaches taken by the Carers' Champion and the progress made to date in this role.
2. refers a copy of this report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.

Measures of success

- An agreed remit of the Carers' Champion role will be put in place and shared with stakeholders on the Council's website.
- Carers will value the role of the Carers' Champion and this will be evidenced through positive feedback.
- A Carer Recognition Event will be held during Carers' Week in June 2013.
- The number of organisations and individual carers who are able to meet with the Carers' Champion.

Financial impact

There are no direct financial impacts arising from this report

Equalities impact

There are no negative equality and rights impacts arising from this report. The role of the new Carers' Champion, Councillor Work will assist the Council in its general duty under the Equality Act 2010.

Sustainability impact

There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

Consultation and engagement

There is no requirement for consultation and engagement from this report.

Background reading / external references

There are various key documents including the following:

- (1) Towards 2012, Joint Carers' Strategic Action Plan for Edinburgh (2007-2012)
https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/4020/towards_2012_an_action_plan_for_carers_2007-2012
- (2) Caring Together, National Carers' Strategy for Scotland (2010-2015)
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/07/23153304/0>
- (3) "Getting it Right for Young Carers", The Young Carers Strategy for Scotland (2010 – 2015) <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/319441/0102105.pdf>

Carers' Champion progress report

1. Background

- 1.1 The provision of support to unpaid carers is a key local and national priority. There are estimated to be over 650,000 unpaid carers in Scotland¹. This is 1 in 8 of the Scottish population who are involved in providing care and support to a family member, friend or neighbour to enable that person to continue to live in their own community. In Edinburgh, based on the 2001 Census, it is estimated there are 38,876 carers of whom around 6,400 are older carers and 775 young carers. The 2011 Census is due to be published later this year and will provide new updated information on unpaid carers in Edinburgh.
- 1.2 As demographic and social trends in Scotland project increasingly greater future demand for caring for another person, more recognition and value is placed on the growing contribution and number of unpaid carers. They provide essential quality and skilled care and should be seen as equal partners in the provision of care.
- 1.3 Within the Capital Coalition pledges, a key pledge was the appointment of a Carers' Champion for Edinburgh.
- 1.4 A carer is generally defined as a person of any age who provides unpaid help and support to a relative, friend or neighbour who cannot manage to live independently without the carers help due to frailty, illness, disability or addiction.

2. Main report

- 2.1 The role of the Carers' Champion is new to the City of Edinburgh Council. It is envisaged that this role will be an ambassador for carers in the city, both for young carers and adult carers.
- 2.2 The Carers' Champion will be in ideal position to raise awareness of carers' issues across the city and listen to the voice of carers about what they feel would provide better outcomes to their lives and the person that they care for.

¹ Scottish Household Survey 2007/08

2.3 The agreed Carers' Champion remit (see Appendix 1) includes the following:

- To promote carers' rights;
- To engage with carers organisations and groups representing both adult and young carers to gain an understanding of the key issues facing carers;
- To report back to Council and senior officers on these views, making recommendations as appropriate;
- To work in partnership with the Convenor of Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee, the Convener of Education, Children and Families Committee, and the Convener of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee on media issues relating to carers and to raise the profile of the role of all carers (including young carers);
- To ensure national and local policy objectives and strategic priorities for carer support are embedded across all departments in the Council and NHS Lothian;
- To support the development and implementation of Edinburgh's new joint Carers' Strategy through liaison with relevant strategic planning groups;
- To actively contribute within the integration of Health and Social Care so that strategic planning and commissioning for carer support services is strengthened;
- To establish carer surgeries across the city to hear the views of carers.

2.4 In addition, the Carers' Champion will be able to provide leadership, representation and influence on future carer policy in the city.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that the Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee:

1. notes the various approaches taken by the Carers Champion and the progress made to date in this role.
2. refers a copy of this report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.

Peter Gabbitas

Director of Health and Social Care

Links

Coalition pledges	P39 - Establish a Care Champion to represent carers
Council outcomes	CO12- Edinburgh's carers are supported
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2 - Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health
Appendices	Final Remit of the Carers' Champion (v3.0)

Appendix 1: Final Remit of the Carers' Champion (v3.0)

The Carers' Champion will be in ideal position to raise awareness of carers' issues across the city and listen to the voice of carers about what they feel would provide better outcomes to their lives and the person that they care for.

It is therefore proposed that the Carers' Champion remit will include the following:

- To promote carers' rights;
- To engage with carers organisations and groups representing both adult and young carers to gain an understanding of the key issues facing carers;
- To report back to Council and senior officers on these views, making recommendations as appropriate;
- To work in partnership with the Convenor of Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee, the Convener of Education, Children and Families Committee, and the Convener of Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee on media issues relating to carers and to raise the profile of the role of all carers (including young carers);
- To contribute to any special projects in support of the joint Carers' Strategy;
- To sit on the Strategic Planning Group for Carers meetings;
- Attend Edinburgh Carer Network meetings;
- To ensure national and local policy objectives and strategic priorities for carer support are embedded across all departments in the Council and NHS Lothian;
- To support the development and implementation of Edinburgh's new joint Carers' Strategy through liaison with relevant strategic planning groups;
- To actively contribute within the integration of Health and Social Care so that strategic planning and commissioning for carer support services is strengthened;
- To ensure a process of 'carer-proofing' and 'carer impact assessment' in policy development across all Council departments, in partnership with the Convenor of Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee, the Convener of Education, Children and Families Committee and the Convener of Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee;
- Through working in partnership with the Council's and NHS Lothian communication services, ensure that the profile of adult and young carers in the city is raised and carer services and support feature regularly in the Council, NHS Lothian and independent media;
- To establish carer surgeries across the city to hear the views of carers.