



Health, Social Care and Housing Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday 13 September 2016

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh



Health, Social Care and Housing Committee

| Convener: | Members: | Contacts |
|---|---|---|
| <p data-bbox="165 387 475 465">Convener Cllr Ricky Henderson</p>  <p data-bbox="165 896 405 974">Vice- Convener Cllr Cammy Day</p>  | <ul data-bbox="587 376 954 1115" style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Elaine Aitken• Cllr Chas Booth• Cllr Mike Bridgman• Cllr Steve Burgess• Cllr Karen Doran• Cllr Nick Gardner• Cllr Joan Griffiths• Cllr Dominic Heslop• Cllr Sandy Howat• Cllr David Key• Cllr Jason Rust• Cllr Alastair Shields• Cllr Norman Work• Cllr Andrew Burns (ex officio)• Cllr Frank Ross (ex officio) | <p data-bbox="1066 371 1350 495">Stephen Broughton Committee Officer Tel: 0131 529 4261</p> <p data-bbox="1066 546 1369 707">Blair Ritchie Assistant Committee Officer Tel: 0131 529 4085</p> |

COUNCIL RECOGNISED FOR SUPPORT TO UNPAID CARERS

The City of Edinburgh Council has been recognised for its commitment to supporting carers within its employment.

Carers' Champion, Councillor Norman Work, was joined by Council Chief Executive Andrew Kerr on Thursday for the presentation of a [Carer Positive](#) certificate by Sue McLintock, Carer Positive Awards Manager.

The award acknowledges the Council's '[Carer Positive-Engaged](#)' status, given to employers who have a working environment which values and supports carers – people who provide unpaid care for an ill, frail or disabled family member, friend or partner.

By implementing policies to enable special leave, flexible working and support to help individuals identify themselves as carers, amongst other measures, employers are more likely to retain experienced staff, reduce stress and sickness levels and improve productivity and morale.

Councillor Norman Work, Carers' Champion, said: "With an ageing population and people working later in life, it's inevitable that more employees will become carers in the future.

"It is unacceptable in this day in age that carers should feel isolated and unsupported within the workplace, so it's our responsibility to ensure this isn't the case at the City of Edinburgh Council.

"By working closely with staff to ensure needs are identified and met I am confident we can provide a comfortable and flexible atmosphere for unpaid carers, and I am delighted that we now have Carer Positive-Engaged status in recognition of this."

The Carer Positive scheme allows participants to progress from 'engaged' to 'established' then 'exemplary' Carer Positive status, based on the level of carer engagement and support given.

As part of its commitment to its Carer Positive status, the Council is liaising directly with employees who are unpaid carers through drop-in sessions to raise awareness of the policies and support mechanisms in place. In addition, individuals are being helped to identify themselves as carers where appropriate and a carer's register is being developed.

[Carer Positive](#) is a Scottish Government funded initiative led by [Carers Scotland](#). Find out more about [support for carers](#) at the City of Edinburgh Council.

Contact:

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Forthcoming activities:

The next meeting of the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee will be at 10.00 am on Tuesday 15 November 2016 in the Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers. Papers for this meeting will be available on line from 9 November 2016.