

**ADASS Policy Network - Carers**  
**Monday 20 May 2013, 11.00 – 3.00pm**  
**Carers UK, 20 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4LX**

**Notes of the Meeting**

**Present:**     **Grainne Siggins [Newham – London] [Chair]**  
                  **Luke Addams [RB Greenwich]**  
                  Jenny Frank [The Children's Society]  
                  Michael Hake [Support]  
                  Hilary Doherty [Derbyshire]  
                  Lorna Small [Suffolk – Eastern]  
                  James Drummond, [Torbay]  
                  Frances Perry [York - Lead Yorks & Humber]  
                  Bernadette Simpson – CSL  
                  Jane Weller [Liverpool – NW lead]  
                  Elaine Edgar – Department of Health  
                  Philippa Russell – Chair, Standing Commission on Carers  
                  John Bangs [Surrey CC – South East]  
                  Emma Smale [Carers Trust]  
                  Chloe Wright [ Carers UK]

**ACTION**

**1.     Welcome & Introductions membership changes**

Grainne Siggins agreed to chair the meeting. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. Changes in membership were noted. Final confirmation was awaited from ADASS on whether Joe Blott [now at Wirral in a new role] would be able to continue as Chair.

Kim Drake, [Bournemouth] is the new ADCS Co-Chair  
Tim Anfilogoff, [Herts CC] [Eastern] replaced by Hannah Rignell  
Luke Addams [RB Greenwich] has joined the network.

**2.     Apologies**

Kaye Martin [Stoke on Trent]  
Debbie Hyde [Bournemouth and Poole]  
Caroline Taylor, [Torbay]  
Clair Raw, Derbyshire [E-Mids]  
Anna McCreadie, Suffolk [E]  
Evelyn Wheeler, Suffolk [E]  
Avril Wilson, Reading [SE]  
Emily Holzhausen [Carers UK]  
Moir Fraser [Carers Trust]  
Sarah Douglas [Durham]  
Diane Buddery [Skills for Care]

**3     **Minutes of the last meeting – 19 November 2012****

The minutes had been circulated and were received and confirmed.

**MH/ALL**

#### 4. Matters arising not down for discussion today

Notes of the recent Skills for Care workshop have been circulated. Feedback to Skills for Care would be welcome.

ALL

CQUINs – this has been circulated. Another Q & A document will be circulated in the next bulletin or update. [Note: now circulated].

JD

Carers and Employment, Elaine Edgar confirmed information would still be welcome – please send direct.

ALL

The report on the Task and Finish group on Carers and Employment is expected to be available before long and was agreed as an agenda item for November 2013. An invitation to Employers for Carers [Madaleine Starr] to join the meeting is to be made.

CW/  
MH

#### 5 Young Carers and Legislative Change

Michael Hake outlined the latest position. A draft joint statement had been prepared and circulated prior to the meeting. Formal sign off and submission was imminent. This was a joint statement between a number of organisations. Membership of the NYCC would be given. The joint statement was signed off and use of the ADASS logo agreed.

MH/ES

An Explanatory note to Care Bill [Cm 8627] has been published. The key section on young carers is reproduced at the end of this paper. The response to the Joint Committee confirms that adult social care legislation is not the place to address issues relating to children [See: end of notes]. Discussions are continuing with DfE.

It was noted Clause 60 has changed [some others also have different numbers]. Transition issues were in the right direction and will provide a framework for regulations and guidance. It was noted, finally, that young carers on reaching the age of 18 still appeared to have to request an assessment. Further information would be circulated as it became available and as the Bill proceeds. [See also: next section]

ALL

#### 6. Department of Health Update and Challenge

Elaine Edgar provided a comprehensive update on the following:

##### **Care Bill:**

This is a key focus for work. The department is currently waiting to hear the order in which the Bill, introduced to the House of Lords, will be taken in Committee. This should be announced shortly. The Bill is likely to go to the Commons in the Autumn.

##### **Young Carers:**

DH and DFE are fully aware of the issues and weekly meetings are taking place between the two departments. This is a complicated issue. There are a number of issues to be worked through and the aim is to try to make things work together. It needs to be kept in mind that there may be tactical issues around the Bill that will come into consideration. There will be a meeting between Ministers [NL & ET] in due course. The issues, of course, are not just about the legislative framework. As recognised, there will also be regulations and guidance to consider in due course.

##### **Updated Carers Strategy:**

It is hoped this cross government update of the strategy would be published in the Autumn. The Bill has to come first. The action plan would be updated and would aim to capture what is happening up to 2015.

ALL

## **NHS England:**

Now that people are in post, dialogue on carers' issues has commenced with them. Further information will be available in future updates.

The Chair thanked Elaine for the update.. In discussion it was confirmed that work, for example, on progression of the updated MoU need not be delayed. The importance attaching to a cohesive legal framework to inform this [see item 6] was recognised.

Jenny Frank confirmed the Children's Society has been working closely with DfE. She stressed that there is an opportunity to get legal frameworks right and that such a chance might not arise again quickly. Encouragingly, in response to a recent survey, some 70 authorities indicated they have a MoU in place. The real work comes in making it work – making it real operationally. This takes time and commitment and involves health..

John Bangs emphasised that young carers often went unrecognised and unsupported. The need for change was not just one for government but also for action locally: we are all involved. There are organisational issues and much is not about resources. It is about how we do things. A paper on this was being prepared and was expected to be available in the late Summer. This would be circulated in the E-Bulletin. [See also item 9].

**JB/MH**

## **7 Hertfordshire – Outcomes and Action Update [HR]**

Hannah Rignell gave a presentation on recent work in Hertfordshire. The presentation, headline information and toolkit have been circulated in a separate note following the meeting. The purpose of the Outcomes Toolkit is:

**ALL**

- To promote the way CWB[ Community Well Being] measures outcomes
- To help other teams use CWB outcomes methodology to measure the social impact of their contracts – and therefore to develop our understanding of the outcomes we are delivering across the system
- To improve the consistency of the measurement of outcomes within CWB

The toolkit is designed to help commissioning teams to monitor the results of the services they commission. It is about the impact of the services we commission NOT just the volume. Work so far has helped inform understandings about new carers being identified, length of time carers and can be linked to the local carers strategy. Challenges continued around;

- Under measuring impact of outcomes for carers
- Measuring wider benefits and how best to quantify these.
- Understanding assumptions sometimes made by care managers.
- “Carer friendliness” and supportive communities

Next steps included:

- All providers to measure a carers' outcome
- Analysis of outcomes data for 2012-13
- Extension of outcomes model to other services
- Finesse Outcomes Toolkit
- Promote adoption by other parts of the council (e.g. Public Health)
- Continued use of this information to make the case for investment in discretionary/preventive services

It was agreed that there should be a further update and discussion at the November meeting of the network. The Chair thanked Hannah for her work.

**ALL  
HR/MH**

## 8. Making it Real [MIR] – TLAP, Carers and Personalisation [BS]

Bernadette Simpson confirmed the document had been launch as planned along with two other documents linked to Making it Real/TLAP. A more detailed discussion was scheduled for the afternoon.

## 9. Making it Real for Young Carers – Update on progress [JB/BS]

Following on from MIR John Bangs outlined further work on Young Cars in Surrey. This involved a facilitator and has enabled a range of views to be brought together. A paper will be published in September 2013. It will be launched at a conference in London [Details have been circulated to all CPN members through the E- Bulletin]. Graphics have been helpful in highlighting key messages.

ALL

The potential value in discussing further at the forthcoming Young Carers Festival was noted along with submission to the TLAP Board in July [if ready].

JB/JF  
BS

The value of this material in developing local conversations was noted.

ALL

## 10. Carers E-Bulletins and Future Arrangements

The first main e-bulletin was prepared and issued in April as planned. It was well supported. In addition several supplementary bulletins have been issued. A further full bulletin is planned for the Autumn with continued use of supplementary bulletins in the meantime. Caring Matters [Carers Trust] would be included for circulation in both full and update bulletins to ensure topicality.

MH

The Bulletins may be circulated freely by all who receive them. This will be highlighted in future bulletins. Keeping distribution networks up to date could be a challenge. The bulletins would continue to go to Regional Leads for further distribution. It was noted that combination of roles within commissioning, for example, sometimes made this complicated. The Bulletin could also be sent to partner leads – especially the NHS

ALL

Copies of documents would continue to be supplied if not too large. In general URLs would also be included to offer an alternative and reduce file size.

## 11. Other Issues

Jenny Frank gave a brief update on Hidden from view. There were some consistent themes. Evidence of financial difficulty within families was apparent. Encouragingly, there were indications of higher self-disclosure amongst BAME young carers. The paper would be circulated and URL given. [Note: this has been done]

MH

Elaine Edgar agreed to confirm the timeframe for publication of the results of the National Carers Survey. [Note: now circulated]

EE/MH

There was brief discussion of a statement on additional funding. It was generating local interest was felt it would be helpful to confirm amounts and time periods. Elaine Edgar will seek an update.

EE

## 12. Future network meetings:

Details of the next CPN and Workshop were confirmed as follows:

ALL

**Date:** 18 November 2013. Times: 10.30 for 11.00 Start. Close 15.00. **Venue:** Carers UK, 20 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4L. [Map] **Afternoon session:** workshop format – stroke and carers.

13. **Workshop Session – Making it real for Carers**

Copies of *Making it Real for Carers* launched at the start of the month had been circulated together with a copy of a template for looking at what's working and what needs improvement. The session looked at the background to Making it Real [See also November 2012 CPN minutes]. *Making it Real* is a way of considering how adult social care is working in ways that help carers get services and support that are personalised and work well for them and their family.

The workshop session was led and facilitated by Bernadette Simpson. A separate note has been prepared and has been circulated. There were six key themes;

- Information and advice - having the information I need, when I need it
- Active and supportive communities - keeping friends, family and place
- Flexible and integrated support - my support, my own way
- Workforce - my support staff
- Risk enablement - feeling in control and safe
- Personal Budgets and self-funding - my money

Members broke into two groups and considered two themes each, whilst recognising all the themes were linked. Practical ideas about how to ensure the points raised by carers in the guidance help to improve provision included:

- Looking at opportunities to refer to and incorporate the points raised in this document in service specifications
- Ensuring that carers leads are aware of the document
- Making the connections with the Care and Support Bill and to the resources available for carer support.
- Encouraging councils and organizations sign up to *Making it Real* and use *Making it Real for Carers* to consider carers' needs and include actions to improve support to carers in their action plan.

The meeting closed at 3pm. Some members went to Skipton House to view entries from young carers for the school nursing service competition.

**NOTE: Apologies/Changes**

If you are not able to attend please send apologies to Michael Hake. If there is a new regional or other lead who has or will replace you before the next Policy Network Meeting please let him know: [michaelhake@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:michaelhake@warwickshire.gov.uk)

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**SUPPORTING INFORMATION [NOT PART OF NOTES OF MEETING]**

**Extract Cm 8627 – May 2013 – Young Carers Issues**

*“What we heard, and changes to the Bill*

118 We heard from respondents to the consultation and from the Joint Committee that these provisions should not be limited only to young people who are receiving services under the Children Act 1989. We agree, and have made changes to these clauses to address this in two respects. Firstly, to incorporate the other legislation (in addition to the Children Act 1989) under which young people may be receiving services, and secondly, to enable assessment of young people who are not already in receipt of services.

Consistent with the recommendations of the Joint Committee, explanatory notes make the links between this Bill and the Children and Families Bill, and guidance will support this, providing clarity about the interactions between children's and adults legislation. In particular, guidance will address the proposed Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan, clarification about joint assessments (including the EHC plans and the other types of assessment this could include) and the support available to carers and young carers, regardless of the legislation under which the provision is made.

119. We also heard concerns from many respondents and the Joint Committee that an unintended consequence of strengthening rights for adult carers was that young carers would be left with lesser entitlements. Many were concerned that young carers should not fall between the cracks or face a higher threshold for receiving support. They argued that the most straightforward solution would be to bring updated legislation for young carers into the Care Bill, in line with the Law Commission's stated preference<sup>17</sup>.

120. The Joint Committee further recommended that local authorities should have the power to make provision for children aged 16 and 17, including young carers, where an assessment under the Bill identifies need.

121. We have considered both these points but do not believe it would be appropriate for children to receive adult care and support before the age of 18. The adult care and support system is designed with adults in mind, and includes factors such as charging that do not apply to children's services. It is right to maintain a clear distinction between what can reasonably be expected for adults and what we would expect for children, and we wish to ensure children are supported as children. As such, we do not think it would be in a child's best interests for adult support to be provided before the point of transition. However, it is of course crucial that adult and children's services work well together so that young people do not carry out inappropriate caring roles, are not disadvantaged in their education, and do not lose their childhood because of caring.

122. We want to encourage professionals to take a 'whole family' approach in practice, meaning that an individual is not looked at in isolation. In line with the Joint Committee's recommendation, clause 12 provides a power to make regulations that require the local authority to have regard to the needs of the family of the person to whom an assessment relates. This would include identifying the presence of a carer, including a young carer. The Bill also allows for the assessment of the adult to be linked to any other assessment. This will allow practitioners to consider the effect of an individual's support needs on the rest of the family, and provide appropriate services that address the needs of the whole family

Page 74 - Joint Committee Recommendation:

[Note: there are also other recommendations on related matters]

82. We share the concern of a number of our witnesses that an unintended consequence of the draft Bill applying only to adults will be to leave young carers with lesser rights than adults.

Government Response:

We do not believe that the adult statute is the right place to make provision for children. The boundary between children's and adult legislation ensures an appropriate distinction between what is expected of adults and what is expected of children. It is important that both adult and children services work together well so that young people are not carrying out inappropriate caring roles, or disadvantaged in their education and in effect lose their childhood because of caring. We want to encourage professionals to take a 'whole family' approach in practice, meaning that an individual is not looked at in isolation. The Bill contains a power to make regulations that require the local authority to have regard to the need of the family of the person to whom an assessment relates. These regulations are the appropriate place to set the

expectation that local authorities take a whole family approach and consider the impact on the family/household as a whole. For example, when assessing an individual, the impact of the care need on the family should also be considered. This would include identifying the presence of a carer, including a young carer. The Bill also allows for the assessment of the adult to be linked to any other assessment, which will allow practitioners to consider the effect of their support needs on the rest of the family and provide appropriate services that address the needs of the whole family. The Department of Health works closely with the Department for Education, carers organisations and young carers themselves to consider how young carers can best be supported through legislation and other means.