

ADASS CARERS E-BULLETIN No.2 INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

1. DOCUMENTS FOR CIRCULATION

The following documents form part of this E-bulletin:

- Surrey Carers Health Survey Report 2011 [contact information below]
- Future Care, Growing the Care Market: turning a demographic challenge into an economic opportunity.
- Carers Working Party – questions for discussion with carers [Contact information: See below]

2. INFORMATION SHARING/UPDATES

Carers Week 18 – 24 June 2012. The theme for carers' week 2012 is "*In sickness and in health*". It calls for better financial and practical support, regular health checks and more carers' breaks for the diverse range of people who have caring responsibilities. Nine charities are jointly organising Carers Week. For more information go to www.carersweek.org/

Age UK – Falls Awareness Week 18 – 22 June – Running at the same time as carers' week, information on this has been circulated through the ADASS Directors Communications Bulletin and is likely to be of interest to many carers. For more information on the webinar that is planned or to download a copy of the Falls Awareness Week action pack, visit: www.ageuk.org.uk/fallsweek.

Surrey Carers Health Survey Report 2011, published by NHS Surrey this report is being distributed in full with this bulletin. For further information contact **Debbie Hastings, Partnership Manager, Surrey PCT** at: debbie.hastings@surreycc.gov.uk

Lloyd Chapman conferences.include@childrenssociety.org.uk wants to remind colleagues about the free capacity building sessions and online support outlined in the last Carers E-Bulletin. The programme includes an on line resource bank sharing innovative practice and providing tools to support and develop whole family models.)

John Bangs, Surrey CC, contact: john.bangs@surreycc.gov.uk wants to share information with the CPN about an e-learning package Surrey County Council have commissioned Cylix to produce. Called "**Young Carer Aware**" it is to be launched on 21 June. It will be a companion for the successful "**Carer Aware**" package developed for Dudley MB Council and now used in over 40 local authorities. For details of "**Carer Aware**" and for advance details of "**Young Carer Aware**" see: <http://www.cylix.co.uk/products/index.html>

Diane Buddery, Skills for Care, contact: diane.buddery@skillsforcare.org.uk has confirmed Skills for Care are launching guidance for employers in social care entitled '**Carers in Your Workforce Matter**'. Developed in partnership with Employers for Carers in aims to give practical and specific advice to social care employers on how to attract, retain and develop carers in their workforces. This will be launched during **Carers Week 2012**. This will be followed by a number of similar guides for different sectors in late 2012.

Frances Perry, for the Humberside Regional Carers Leads Group contact: frances.perry@york.gov.uk says that in March they discussed the local arrangements for Personal Budgets for carers. There was a clear view that money spent on DPs and PBs do make carers feel valued; helps to keep them going and can be seen as 'preventative'. Whilst some authorities have received PCT breaks funding, others have not. Carers in one area had lobbied their PCT and MPs resulting in the PCT awarding some carers breaks funding. A joint meeting of regional Carers Leads from LAs and PCTs also discussed collaboration and progress towards publishing joint assessments of local needs as required by the NHS **Operating Framework**.

Debbie Hyde: Contact: Deborah.hyde@bournemouth.gov.uk says that Carers Leads in the South West are looking at creating a standard framework for reporting back on how the carers' breaks money has been spent in each Local Authority.

Emma Smale, Carers Trust: Contact: esmale@carers.org has given updates on the following:

The Princess Royal Trust for Carers and Crossroads Care Become Carers Trust have merged to form the **Carers Trust**, which aims to put carers centre stage and ensure their contribution is fully recognised and valued. For more information please see the [Carers Trust website](#).

New practice examples are available on Carers Trust [Carers Hub](#) website:

- A one-to-one enabling and support service - The Torbay Enabling Service (Crossroads Care South West)
- A former young carer delivering awareness training to partner organisations - Young Carers' Champion (Blackpool Carers' Centre)
- Award scheme for schools and colleges - Young Carers Standards Award (Swindon Young Carers with Zurich Community Trust)

Laxmi Jamdagni, Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea & Westminster: advises that in reviewing its Carers Strategy, the **Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea** Scrutiny Subcommittee devised a consultation framework to gain feedback from carers. For a copy, please see Section 1.

Hammersmith & Fulham has circulated, with its carers' newsletter, a simple form for carers to complete and hand in to their local GP practice. The aim is to facilitate the registration of carers on their medical records. Simultaneously, all the local practices have been sent a 'prescription pad' with brief information about, and contact details of, the local Carer Support Service, which they can have to hand on their desks for referrals. For more information and a copy contact : Laxmi.jamdagni@rbkc.gov.uk

Jane Weller, NW Carers Leads Network has provided an update on their recent review. They've agreed that the network will meet every three months (previously 2 months). Meetings would start with a short business element followed by a workshop style session with speakers. The intention is to have a different theme for each meeting. Colleagues from health, etc. will be asked to join in. The aim is to have an end product from each meeting.

Dementia and carers will be the focus in September with a view to feeding into the ADASS Carer Policy Network meeting of the same theme in November. For more information on the other themes contact: jane.weller@liverpool.gov.uk

Hannah Rignell, Hertfordshire County Council has outlined local work on Carer Friendly Community and Carer Friendly Hospital Projects.

Hertfordshire CC is in the process of setting up two pilot projects focussed on measuring the financial and non-financial benefits of a carer friendly local health and social care system. Extra investment to set up these projects was secured based on a strong business case. This argued that helping carers continue to care is a cost-effective investment in avoiding carer breakdown, delays, residential and hospital admissions, as well as reducing length of stay in hospital.

The projects will involve;

- Co-design of the projects with carers, to include oversight by a carer steering group
- Key local organisations committing to support carers, underpinned by a monitoring and accreditation system which sets out what organisations need to do to be carer friendly - creating carer friendly local organisations from carer friendly libraries to carer friendly GP practices and carer friendly businesses
- A Development Co-ordinator for the carer friendly community, to act as a point of contact for professionals in the area, to co-ordinate referrals between agencies and to ensure all key local organisations are working together to support carers
- Measuring the financial benefits for social care of improved support for carers by comparing the number of residential care admissions in the carer friendly community against control groups elsewhere in the county
- Measuring the financial benefits for the health service of improved support for carers in a hospital setting, including impact on length of hospital stay

If you would like to find out more about the pilots or the business case, please contact Hannah Rignell hannah.rignell@hertscc.gov.uk See also: Section 4.

3. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

Diane Buddery, Skills for Care, contact: diane.buddery@skillsforcare.org.uk , advises that Skills for Care in partnership with the Carers Trust are at the design stage of research on: *How organisations can better serve customers who are unpaid carers.*

The purpose is to understand what useful changes sectors / organisations could make to their practice and staff knowledge that would lead to better services for carers. Anyone who has any knowledge or prior work in this area are asked to contact Diane.

Frances Perry, Regional Lead, Contact: frances.perry@york.gov.uk would welcome information on the following:

- *Are LAs charging for sitting services?*
- *How do carers access sitting services?*

Debbie Hyde on behalf of the South West Carers leads would like to hear about:

- *Examples of good practice relating to hospital discharge*
- *Costs and value of having a carers worker in a hospital discharge team*

Contact: Deborah.hyde@bournemouth.gov.uk

Laxmi Jamdagni, Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea & Westminster, would welcome information on:

- *Successful strategies for engaging effectively with GPs.*

Contact: as above

A Carers Leads Networking Event

Carers Rights In a Changing World and Carer Friendly Communities

Tuesday 16th October 2012
The Royal Statistical Society, 12 Errol Street, London EC1Y 8LX
10.30am to 3.30pm

Speakers include:

Professor Luke Clements
Emily Holzhausen, Carers UK
Tim Anfilogoff, Hertfordshire County Council

Several local authorities will also present details of innovation

This free carers' leads networking event has been organised in association with Carers UK. This is an opportunity to update your understanding of carers' rights and how these are likely to be strengthened. The event will include the launch of the 5th Edition of "*Carers and their Rights the law relating to carers*" by Luke Clements. There will also be a chance to look ahead to new social care legislation and innovative practice to support it. Participants will also be able to:

- Hear about anticipated new social care legislation
- Make sure you are up to date with Carers Existing Rights
- Learn about new work looking at carer friendly communities
- And evidencing value for money
- Share information about local innovations, Carers and Social Capital and much, much more

Refreshments and lunch are provided. To book a free place, simply reply to Training@actionforcarers.org.uk (01883 6262 64). Please indicate if you have any special dietary requirements.

4. CARERS AND DEMENTIA - POLICY NETWORK MEETING AND WORKSHOP 19 NOVEMBER 2012

The November meeting will be at Carers UK with the usual start and finish times. The agenda will be circulated nearer the time. The provisional arrangements are as follows:

- Department of Health Update and Challenge – Elaine Edgar
- Outcome Based Accountability/SROI/evidencing value - Tim Anfilogoff, Hertfordshire CC.
- SCOC challenges in the year ahead [TBC]
- Workshop – Carers and Dementia [**Caring Conversations** topic]

This meeting is also likely to consider arrangements for the network in 2013 and the arrangements for resourcing them.

Preparation of the **Caring Conversations** paper on **Carers and Dementia** will start very shortly. If you have any policy or practice documents on this please send them in as soon as possible.

If your regional network plans to discuss this issue then it would be very helpful to have feedback by the end of September as we have to allow for clearance and printing time within the **Caring Conversations** process. Direct quotes by carers of people with dementia would be very welcome. We have some already but more would be helpful. Please send all material to: michaelhake@warwickshire.gov.uk .

5. SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER ADASS CARERS E-BULLETIN

The current intention is to send the next Carers E-bulletin out at the end of September or the start of October. Requests for content will go out in late August/ very early September to allow time for regional leads to canvass material. Do feel free, however, to send in material between now and then.

Please don't forget that the Carers E-Bulletin is one part of the process of information and knowledge exchange we have agreed is important. Please do take up offers to discuss information sharing items and to respond to requests for information if you are able to help at all. In this way we can support one another, perhaps save some time and add value to the information sharing process as a whole.

Feedback on this bulletin would be welcome as part of this process. The content of all Carers E-bulletins can be made freely available.

The primary purpose of Carers E-Bulletins is information and knowledge exchange and the promotion of dialogue. The inclusion of information, documents and events within the bulletin does not of itself mean that they have been endorsed formally by ADASS.

Contact*: ADASS Carers E-Bulletin arrangements:

michaelhake@warwickshire.gov.uk or adasscarers@warwickshire.gov.uk

*Usually available on Fridays.