

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

The Carer's Assessment: Carer's Support Plan

Question 1: Should we change the name of the carer's assessment to the Carer's Support Plan?

Yes

No

Comments: The term Carer's Support Plan is person centred and supports a personal outcome approach for carers. The term is also less likely to be confused with the Single Shared Assessment.

Question 2: Should we remove the substantial and regular test so that all carers will be eligible for the Carer's Support Plan?

Yes

No

Comments: All Carers should be eligible for carers for the Carer's Support Plan. Clarification would be required regarding who has responsibility for this.

Question 3: Should we remove that part of the existing carer assessment process whereby the cared-for person is a person for whom the local authority must or may provide community care services/children's services?

Yes

No

Comments: This is relevant considering a vast amount of the caring population are not engaged with services and essentially these are quite vulnerable.

Question 4: Should we introduce two routes through to the Carer's Support Plan – at the carer's request and by the local authority making an offer?

Yes

No

Comments:

Question 5: Should we remove from statute the wording about the carer's ability to provide care?

Yes

No

Comments: Carers should feel they are not being 'assessed', focusing on individual outcomes for the carer.

Question 6: Should we introduce a duty for local authorities to inform the carer of the length of time it is likely to take to receive the Carer's Support Plan and if it exceeds this time, to be advised of the reasons?

Yes

No

Comments: Often carers are a 'crisis' when they are offered an assessment. It is important the Carer's Support Plan is offered at an early and timely point of their caring journey. This supports the preventative model for carer support.

Question 7: How significant an issue is portability of assessment for service users and carers?

Comments: Current literature suggests this is a national issue. We are supportive of any improvements currently being considered by the Scottish Government and COSLA.

Question 8: Should the Scottish Government and COSLA with relevant interests work together to take forward improvements to the portability of assessment?

Yes

No

Comments:

Information and Advice

Question 9: Should we introduce a duty for local authorities to establish and maintain a service for providing people with information and advice relating to the Carer's Support Plan and support for carers and young carers?

Yes

No

Comments: Professionals working in both Health and Social should signpost carers and young carers routinely to appropriate support services.

Question 10: Should we repeal section 12 of the Community Care and Health (Scotland) Act 2002 about the submission of Carer information Strategies to Scottish Ministers, subject to reassurances, which are subject in turn to Spending Review decisions, about the continuation of funding to Health Boards for support to carers and young carers?

Yes

No

Comments: CIS funding has allowed boards to implement the national strategy in creative and innovative ways. The partnership approach of many projects also supports the health and social integration agenda. Further wider strategic planning is required to support the implementation of the forthcoming carer legislation.

Support to Carers (other than information and advice)

Question 11: Should we introduce a duty to support carers and young carers, linked to an eligibility framework?

Yes

No

Comments: This would support the recent legislation around Self - directed support. This could also complement the uptake of Carers assessment (Carers Support Plan).

Question 12: Alternatively, should we retain the existing discretionary power to support carers and young carers?

Yes

No

Comments: This would not be person centred and not supportive of an outcomes focus for both the cared for and carer.

Question 13: Should we introduce a duty to provide short breaks?

Yes

No

Comments: Evidence suggests that short breaks support an improved health and wellbeing for the carers. Short breaks need to be flexible and personalised to carers' needs and those they care for.

Stages and Transitions

Question 14: Should we issue statutory guidance on the Carer's Support Plan which will include guidance for those undertaking the Carer's Support Plan on managing stages of caring? This would apply to adult carers only. (For young carers, practice guidance will be developed to support management of a Child's Plan through the stages of caring).

Yes

No

Comments: All Carers should have a regular review of the Carer's Support Plan. Who would take ownership of this? Needs further consideration responsibilities for both health and social care and involvement from carer support organisations.

Question 15: Should new carers' legislation provide for young carers to have a Carer's Support Plan if they seem likely to become an adult carer? Any agreed support recorded in the Carer's Support Plan would be put in place after the young carer becomes a (young) adult carer.

Yes

No

Comments: This is a must to improve outcomes for young carers making the transition for children services to adult services in health, education and social care..

Carer Involvement

Question 16: Should there be carer involvement in the planning, shaping and delivery of services for the people they care for and support for carers in areas outwith the scope of integration?

Yes

No

Comments: This links to the National Person Centred Health and Care Programme and the core principles for working with carers and young carers EPiC (Equal Partners in Care).

Question 17: Should we make provision for the involvement of carers' organisations in the planning, shaping and delivery of services and support falling outwith the scope of integration?

Yes

No

Comments:

Question 18: Should we establish a principle about carer and young carer involvement in care planning for service users (subject to consent) and support for themselves in areas not covered in existing legislation?

Yes

No

Comments:

Question 19: What are your views on making provision for young carer involvement in the planning, shaping and delivery of services for cared-for people and support for young carers?

Comments: Young carers should be involved in the planning, shaping and delivery of services. Again this links to the National Person Centred Health and Care Programme and the core principles for working with carers and young carers EPiC (Equal Partners in Care). NHS Grampian's Public Involvement Team have recently established a Youth Forum, this will provide opportunities for young carers to engage with the planning, shaping and delivery of health services local to them.

Planning and Delivery

Question 20: Should we introduce statutory provision to the effect that a local authority and each relevant Health Board must collaborate and involve relevant organisations and carers in the development of local carers strategies which must be kept under review and updated every three years?

Yes

No

Comments: NHS Grampian's Carer Information Strategy Group meet monthly

basis. Group consists of members from Grampians three local authorities, commissioned carer and young carer services and health representatives. This model has worked well in the previous 5 years during the implementation of our local carer strategies.

Question 21: Should we introduce statutory provision to the effect that local authorities with Health Boards must take steps to ensure, in so far as is reasonably practicable, that a sufficient range of services is available for meeting the needs for support to carers and young carers in the area?

Yes

No

Undecided:

Comments: Do we not need a wider piece of research to look at the specific needs of carers nationally in the first instance. Carer support needs to be individual and personal to each and every carer and young carer.

Identification

Question 22: Should there be no legislative provision for GPs or local authorities to maintain a Carers Register in order to support the identification of carers?

Yes

No

Comments: Is there evidence that more carers are identified by having a registrar? Parties should be clear about how they would use this information such as following preventative health measures for carers such as annual health checks and flu jabs

Question 23: Should the Scottish Government ensure that good practice is widely spread amongst Health Boards about the proactive use of Registers of Carers within GP practices?

Yes

No

Comments: Sharing good practice benefits everyone.

Question 24: Should the Scottish Government ask Health Boards to monitor compliance with the core contractual elements of the GP contract?

Yes

No

Comments:

Carer and Cared-for Person(s) in Different Local Authority Areas

Question 25: What are the views of respondents on the lead local authority for undertaking the Carer's Support Plan and agreeing support to the carer where the carer lives in a different local authority area to the cared-for person(s)?

Comments: Ideally both local authorities should work together to achieve the best outcome for the carer and cared for.

Question 26: What are the views of respondents on which local authority should cover the costs of support to the carer in these circumstances?

Comments: N/A

Question 27: Should the Scottish Government with COSLA produce guidance for local authorities?

Yes

No

Comments: helpful to avoid any confusion.