

## 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: This could be mis-leading as the support plan details provision of some kind, where as assessment is the process of finding out what support may, or may not, be needed. If the assessment is presented and conducted appropriately using conversational assessment techniques such as 'talking points' approach then no carer should be feeling that their ability to care was being called into question. To change the name could be seen as more an issue of semantics when the cause of needing to consider changing the name may be an issue of practice.

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: This test has never been applied in this area and each carer that needs, and would benefit from, an assessment can have one. As there is no clear definition of what constitutes substantial and regular it currently leads to significant interpretation and varying levels of application across Scotland.

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: Access is already provided to the commissioned carer support services regardless of whether the cared for person is in receipt of, or eligible for, community care/children's services. As a preventative and early intervention support this is invaluable to ensure that the carers are well supported.

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: Here a carer can currently self-refer for an assessment but the local authority has to authorise that request. However, as an authority Moray recognises the value and importance of supporting carers, not least of which is about giving due recognition of their role. Agreeing to an assessment is part of that process and will continue to be so.

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

Yes

No

Comments: The wording is open to interpretation and perhaps is more about capacity to care rather than abilities/skills.

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: the assessment process is more meaningful and transparent if the

same rigour is placed upon this regarding timeframes and accountability as is placed upon assessment of the cared for person.

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

Comments: This varies from authority to authority, however a blanket, Scotland wide approach would also not be appropriate for each area either so this would not be a simple fix.

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: Prior to making such a decision it would need to be clarified what the benefits would be and how often the current system creates a difficulty.

### Information and Advice

Question 7: 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: This forms part of any commissioned activity for the support of carers.

Question 8: 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: Providing that appropriate accountability and transparency are in place.

### Support to Carers (other than information and advice)

Question 9: Should we introduce a duty to support carers and young carers, linked to an eligibility framework?

Yes

No

Comments: Provided that lower levels of support would be appropriately available to a wide enough range of recipients and that there is sufficient flexibility and autonomy to consider individual cases.

Question 10: Alternatively, should we retain the existing discretionary power to support carers and young carers?

Yes

No

Comments:

Question 11: Should we introduce a duty to provide short breaks?

Yes

No

Comments: But this should be meaningful and appropriate.

## Stages and Transitions

Question 12: 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: This would assist particularly with older people who find themselves in interdependent caring roles.

Question 13: 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 would assist with the transition process for the young carer.

## Carer Involvement

Question 14: 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 is good practice and should be happening routinely

Question 15: 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: All sectors should be working in partnership to this end

Question 16: 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: consideration should be given to what that could look like and what the parameters would be.

Question 17: 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: Every effort should be made to do this appropriately.

## Planning and Delivery

Question 18: 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:

Question 19: 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

Comments:

### Identification

Question 20: 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: This should be a requirement and further to that there should be the requirement to join these and share information to ensure appropriate identification and support.

Question 21: 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: And in addition the need to share the registers with local authority

Question 22: 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 23: 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: We have provided support to a carer who lived in our area when the person they care for lives in a different authority area. We have covered the cost of this.

Question 24: What are the views of respondents on which local authority should cover the costs of support to the carer in these circumstances?

Comments:

Question 25: Should the Scottish Government with COSLA produce guidance for local authorities?

Yes

No

Comments: It should be meaningful and of benefit