

# Carers Memorandum of Understanding

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017

---

Author:	Susanna Jones, Chief Executive - Swindon Carers Centre
Wards:	All
Locality Affected:	All
Parishes Affected:	All

---

## 1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 NHS England and its partners have developed a toolkit to help health and social care organisations work together in identifying, assessing and supporting the wellbeing of carers and their families.
- 1.2 This toolkit covers new duties on NHS organisations brought about by the Care Act 2014 and the Children and Families Act 2014, and includes numerous examples of positive practice that are already making a difference to Carers and their families.
- 1.3 The toolkit also includes a template Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) that local partners can use to help us work together in supporting Carers of all ages and their families.
- 1.4 This links to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities under the following headings:
  - Every child and young person has a healthy start to life.
  - Adults and older people in Swindon living healthier and more independent lives.
  - Improved health outcomes for disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.
  - Improved mental health, wellbeing and resilience for all.
  - Creation of sustainable environments in which communities can flourish.

## 2. Recommendations

The Board is recommended to:

- 2.1 Support the intentions of the Carers Memorandum of Understanding, and encourage partner organisations to sign up to the principles in it.

## 3. Detail

- 3.1 Swindon Borough Council (SBC) and Swindon Carers Centre (SCC) are setting up a quarterly meeting of Carers Leads in the following partner organisations: SCC, SBC, Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership, Great Western Hospital, Prospect Hospice, Swindon Healthwatch. In time, this group may expand to include Carers Leads at major employers and education provisions in the town. We will be sharing best practice on the integrated approach to identifying and supporting the health and wellbeing

# Carers Memorandum of Understanding

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017

---

of the 21,000 carers in Swindon, who currently save our economy £395 million per year. (Source, Carers UK, Nov 2015).

## 4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 None considered. This is about sharing resource, knowledge, expertise and best practice across key organisations to encourage an integrated approach to supporting unpaid carers.

## 5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

- 5.1 Swindon Carers Centre has reviewed its equality and diversity policy and annual statement, following a six-month inclusion action plan. Results of this action plan include increased engagement from socially isolated carers e.g. Young Adult Carers and growth from 4 to 9 BME groups accessing and engaging support for their caring roles. Swindon Carers Centre has also reviewed the Young Carer Award standards for schools, to ensure they are inclusive, non-discriminatory and ensure all school young carer leads delivering the award enable all young carers to be identified and supported.

### Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.2 At this time there are no risks considered. It should encourage shared dialogue and joined up working to meet the principles identified in the NHSE toolkit for carers.

### Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.3 There are no legal and human rights implications arising as a result of this report.

### All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.4 There are no other direct implications arising as a result of this report.

### Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 No Diversity Impact Assessment is required at this stage.

### Risk Management

- 5.6 Issues will be covered in the Terms of Reference in the new quarterly Carers Leads group.

## 6. Consultees

- 6.1 Swindon Borough Council, Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group, Great Western Hospital, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership, Prospect Hospice, and Swindon Healthwatch.

# **Carers Memorandum of Understanding**

**Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Date: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

---

6.2 The Section 151 Officer and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

## **7. Background Papers**

7.1 None.

## **8. Appendices**

8.1 Appendix 1 – NHS England Carers Toolkit.