



Title of meeting: Cabinet

Subject: Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel - Adult Social Care Response report for the review of the provision of break/respice for carers, particularly those who care for someone with Dementia.

Date of meeting: 27th June 2023

Report by: Andy Biddle, Director of Adult Care

Report Authors: Clare Rachwal, Deputy Head of Service, Carers, Neurodivergence and Coproduction, Ben Muller, Assistant Team Manager, Portsmouth Carers Service

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose

To set out the recommendations arising from the Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel review of the provision of breaks/respice for carers, particularly those who care for someone with Dementia.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Panel is thanked for its work in undertaking the review.
- 2.2 That the Cabinet notes and supports the recommendations of the review together with the officer responses to the recommendations.

3. Background

To On 25 July 2022 the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel ("the panel") met to discuss ideas and topics for a review in the 2022-2023 municipal year.

The panel learnt that Adult Social Care had identified gaps in respice provision for carers caring for people living with dementia who exhibit behaviours that can be challenging. Therefore, the panel decided that the review's title should be "The provision of breaks/respice for informal carers, particularly those who care for someone with dementia." The topic was formally approved by the Scrutiny Management Panel at its meeting in September 2022.



The review applied to carers who are over 18 and care for people over 18. Care for children, and children who are carers themselves, are covered by the Education & Young People Scrutiny Panel.

The panel reviewed evidence including:

- Evidence from Adult Social Care in September 2022, with representatives from the Residents' Consortium present.
- On 24 November 2022 the Chair of the panel and Democratic Services officers attended the 'Carers Count' event at the John Pounds Centre to talk to informal carers about their experiences.
- On 5 January 2023 Democratic Services officers attended one of the regular meetings of a group run by Solent Mind in Cosham for carers for people with dementia
- On 20 February 2023 panel members and Democratic Services attended one of the regular meetings of the Brunel Carers' Group who are carers for people with dementia.
- The Scrutiny Panel Full Report can be viewed as Appendix 1.

4. Responses to recommendations

- 4.1 Recommendation 1. To request the Leader and the Chief Executive to thank Andy Biddle, Clare Rachwal, Ben Muller, the Carers' Centre, Solent Mind, the Brunel group and all other Adult Social Care officers involved in the review.

Recommended Response: Agreed.

- 4.2 Recommendation 2. To acknowledge the care carried out by informal carers and the contribution they make.

Recommended Response: Agreed (on behalf of all the officers involved in the review)

- 4.3 Recommendation 3. For the council to support informal carers by identifying them, acknowledging them and offering practical support. For example, a support group for staff who are carers and flexible working to help them with their caring commitments.

Recommended Response: Agreed.

Council officers have collaborated with PCC Employee Wellbeing services to promote lunch and learn information sessions for carers and develop a PCC Intranet information page 'Caring for Someone' to provide information on self-identification, support for carers and information for managers supporting carers in the workplace. In response to carer feedback regarding self-identification, a poster and leaflet campaign has been carried out targeting GP surgeries, community hubs and libraries.

- 4.4 Recommendation 4. For the council to acknowledge carers as individuals and "experts by experience" and treat them as equal partners in all its policies and strategies.

Recommended Response: Agreed.

Portsmouth Carers Service is providing an online learning session during Carers Week 2023 for Portsmouth City Council and Integrated Care Partnership colleagues to encourage the inclusion of carers in service development and to highlight statutory responsibilities to consider the needs of carers.

- 4.5 Recommendation 5. For all the council's strategies and policies to acknowledge the importance and requirements of informal carers and show how it will support them. For example, the Integrated Impact Assessment should take informal caring into account

Recommended Response: Agreed.

The IIA considers a significant number of issues in the assessment. Informal caring could be incorporated into the PCC Equality, Diversity & Inclusion strategy and within PCC to be considered as on par with other protected characteristics such as age and gender. Internally, PCC could also add a category to the internal HR system, so staff can record their status, we can then identify numbers and levels of support to offer, get greater granularity of data to enable further strategies to deploy by way of support.

- 4.6 Recommendation 6. For the council to work with other large organisations to support informal carers in the city, perhaps through the Health & Wellbeing Board as it represents major employers. For example, to encourage partner organisations to treat carers as "experts by experience" and offer practical support, whether the carers are employees, customers or service users.

Recommended Response: Agreed.

Portsmouth Carers Service is working with HIOW Joint Carers Network to promote carer support and continues to work with Solent NHS, Southern NHS, Portsmouth Hospital University Trust, Portsmouth University and the DWP to encourage identification and support of carers in the workplace and health settings

- 4.7 Recommendation 7. For the council to work with health organisations, perhaps through the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board and the Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel, to support informal carers by making their processes more accommodating to carers.

Recommended Response: Agreed.

Portsmouth Carers Service is working alongside HIOW carers organisations, ICB and health trusts to develop a 'Carers Passport' which will standardise the support offering for carers when accessing health services and/or providing care support the cared for person in a health setting.



4.8 Recommendation 8. For Adult Social Care to investigate different types of respite, such as Shared Lives or fostering type arrangement or someone spending a couple of days in someone's home, as traditional types are not always suitable for people with dementia, and to enable advance booking of respite.

Recommended Response: Agreed.

A review of the respite offering is currently underway. Portsmouth Carers Service has recently altered the overnight respite provision for carers by moving from Cosham Court Nursing Home to Harry Sotnick House. This provides a more accessible service, particularly for carers of some people living with Dementia. The respite provision is currently oversubscribed. Occupancy rate for the respite bed is currently in excess of 80%.

5. Integrated impact assessment

5.1 No specific changes arise from this report. However, an IIA would be produced for each specific scheme or policy change which would arise from this work

6. Legal implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7. Director of Finance's comments

Any financial impacts arising from the recommendations will be managed within the Portfolio approved cash limit.

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Signed by:

Appendices:

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location



The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: