

<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>  <b>7.1</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING: 16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2014</b>  <b>REPORT AUTHOR &amp; CONTACT NUMBER: SIMON PATTISON 07500 918906</b>  <b>SUBJECT: LUTON'S CARERS STRATEGY – SIGN OFF</b>	

**WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL**

### **PURPOSE**

1. To sign off the joint Luton Carers Strategy entitled "Caring for Carers".

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. That HWBB agree the draft Luton strategy for carers as attached.

### **BACKGROUND**

3. There are over an estimated 18,000 unpaid carers in Luton. Carers can be found across the demographic profile, in all sections of the community and they have diverse needs. Many carers are "hidden" and are not in receipt of services. The strategy aims to reach provide services and support to a higher proportion of carers across the town, and provide them with appropriate support.

### **REPORT**

4. The existing carers strategy is a Luton Borough Council only document which was in need of updating. The agreed direction of travel for Luton has been to develop joint strategies between LBC and the NHS in partnership with the local community. The Luton Carers Partnership Board was formed in February 2012. As part of its workplan a small working group was formed to develop a Carers Strategy for Luton and the attached document is the outcome from this. The draft strategy has been framed around the four priorities within the 2010 National Carers Strategy:
  - Identifying and recognising the contribution of carers.
  - Enabling carers to fulfil their potential.
  - Personalised support for carers.
  - Supporting carers to be healthy.

5. The draft strategy is attached as Appendix 1. Pages 4 and 5 provide the Executive Summary. It is accompanied by an Action Plan (Appendix 2) which will be monitored by the Carers Partnership Board on a regular basis and updated to reflect changes in the national picture and local progress.
6. An important part of the strategy is voluntary sector support for carers. LBC, working with London Luton Airport Limited, have been through an exercise to identify voluntary sector partners to support carers in Luton. New voluntary sector partners are now in place and the new services will be formally launched on Friday 13th December 2013. These partners are:
  - The Confident Carer Service (generic information, advice and support service) to be provided by the Disability Resource Centre.
  - MIND – Mental Health Support/Support for Carers of adults with mental ill health.
  - YAWN – Support for Carers of Adults with a Learning Disability.
  - CYCD – Support for carers from south Asian communities (working in partnership with a range of small carers groups).
  - Lewsey Farm Learning Centre Trust – support for carers from an African-Caribbean background (working in partnership with a range of small carers groups).On an annual basis it is expected that around 3,600 carers will receive some sort of support from these voluntary sector partners.
7. At the same time Luton CCG have agreed to expand NHS support for carers and have agreed to fund a programme with Active Luton to enable carers to have a break and support carers to be healthy. This will support approximately 200 carers.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

8. Support for carers is a key element of the health and social care system. The strategy and accompanying action plan will enable partners across Luton to achieve this in a more coherent and effective fashion.

## **CONSULTATIONS**

9. The strategy has been through a number of iterations and has been widely consulted on during its development over the last year. These consultations have included:
  - Carers and carers groups through the Carers Partnership Board and voluntary sector organisations providing support to carers.
  - Older people and organisations supporting older people.
  - People with Learning Disabilities and organisations supporting people with Learning Disabilities.
  - People with dementia and their carers.
  - CCG carers leads.
  - Health partners, in particular SEPT through their carers lead.

- The Health and Social Care Review group of Scrutiny (meeting 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013).

## **APPENDICES**

10. The following appendices are attached to this report:

Appendix 1 – Draft Luton Carers Strategy – “Caring for Carers”  
Appendix 2 – Carers Strategy Action Plan

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

None.