

**SUBJECT: Monmouthshire Carers Strategy 2016-19**  
**DIRECTORATE: Social Services**  
**MEETING: Cabinet**  
**DATE: 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016**  
**DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: Social Services**

**1. PURPOSE:**

To gain the approval of Cabinet, for the publication of the Monmouthshire Carers Strategy 2016-2019.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- i. That Cabinet approves the publication of the strategy.
- ii. That Cabinet approves the strategy as a monitoring and evaluation tool for service provision and future planning of services for carers and service providers.

**3. KEY ISSUES:**

**What is the Monmouthshire Carers Strategy?**

This Strategy aims to provide and improve preventative and support services, offered to carers in Monmouthshire to allow them to continue in their role as a carer; to discontinue that role if that is in their best interests; and to be supported when their role as a carer comes to an end. This will be achieved by improving and providing the services that support carers in line with their needs.

**Outcomes for Carers**

The Strategy focuses on achieving improved outcomes for carers, no matter which service they will receive, it also embraces the full range of support available, from the provision of information to intensive respite care.

**Outcomes for Service Provision**

The strategy will be used as a monitoring tool for current and future service provision. The strategy has clearly defined 8 themes, identified and agreed by carers, which offer carer focussed outcomes. This document will be used in partnership with carers, service providers (both statutory and third sector) and commissioners as a basis for Service Level Agreements, commissioning services, future ways of providing information and support for carers, and as an evaluation and service design tool. The Carers Strategy Group will use the Carers Strategy document as a self- evaluation tool.

**4. REASONS:**

- The Strategy will focus on achieving improved outcomes for carers, no matter from where and which service they will receive it.

- It clearly defines 8 key themes, as agreed by carers, with outcomes that the Monmouthshire carers partnership can collaboratively use as a template for delivering preventative and support services for carers.
- It embraces the full range of support available, from the provision of information to intensive respite care.
- It will act as a monitoring template for the provision, delivery and shaping of carers services
- It will be used to identify and record more accurate numbers of carers within Monmouthshire

## **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

- The financial costs of printing the Strategy is circa £1.5k. Provision has been made to ensure this can be met from carers' budget.
- Future reprinting costs will be inbuilt into future financial years' budgets
- The production of the strategy will allow for a proactive based monitoring, consultation and engagement process with carers and service providers. It will be used as tool, where appropriate, in service redesign and reconfiguration. This will ultimately reduce the resources of time that officers and service providers currently spend when seeking agreement on implementation of new/reconfiguration of services.
- Any future redesigning and implementation of new services as a result of the Strategy will be met through existing funding streams.
- If as a result of the implementation to the strategy changes to services the carers budget and contracts have inbuilt flexibility to allow

## **6. FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION SUMMARY: (ATTACHED)**

Monmouthshire has an aging yet low teenage population, and with more planned housing developments the overall population will rise. In 2011 the Census identified 11,491 carers in Monmouthshire. Monmouthshire's carers register currently has 900 carers (Jan 2016). Over 10 years this figure has risen by 350% ie 200 carers in 2006 to 900 carers. With an aging population demographic in Monmouthshire the number of and age of carers will continue to grow, presenting their own complex health needs whilst supporting those with complex health needs too. Current average age of carers is 77 years. Carers are seen as a solution to the increasing pressure being placed upon health and social care, and therefore preventative, responsive and flexible services need to be maintained, protected and nurtured to allow carers to continue or not as the case may be in their caring role.

## **7. CONSULTEES:**

The Monmouthshire Carers Strategy 2016-19 has been produced through consultation with:

- Carers through our various networks ie carers groups, newsletters, carers week and carers assessments
- Consultation and Engagement Event on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016

- Attendees included adult carers, health and social care professionals, third sector and elected members.
- Carers Wales
- Providers of services for Carers, both internal and external stakeholders
- Monmouthshire Carers Strategy Group
- All carers registered on the carers register ie 900 carers.

Monmouthshire carers' have identified their needs that will maintain their own sense of health and wellbeing and the support they require to adequately meet the needs of those they care for. This strategy will help shape service provision for Monmouthshire carers.

**8. BACKGROUND PAPERS: (attached)**

The Monmouthshire Carers Strategy 2016-19.

**9. AUTHOR:**

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