



CABINET

Subject Heading:

To approve the implementation of the Carer's Strategy 2023-2026. A strategy for those of all ages who provide informal and unpaid care in Havering.

Cabinet Member:

Councillor Gillian Ford, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care Services.

SLT Lead:

Barbara Nicholls, Director of Adult Services.

Report Author and contact details:

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Policy context:

The Adult Social Care and Support Planning Policy states that Havering's vision is:

"Supporting excellent outcomes for the people of Havering by helping communities to help themselves and targeting resources and interventions to encourage independence".

Financial summary:

There are no financial implications of this change.

Is this a Key Decision?

Significant effect on two or more Wards.

When should this matter be reviewed?

29th August 2023.

Reviewing OSC:

People.



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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

People - Things that matter for residents **X**

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - A well run Council that delivers for People and Place



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SUMMARY

To approve the implementation of the Carer's Strategy 2023-2026. A strategy for those of all ages who provide informal and unpaid care in Havering.

The Carer's Strategy focusses on unpaid Carers (those who provide unpaid and informal care to their friends or family) who provide invaluable support for loved ones and friends on a daily basis. The recent Covid Pandemic further highlighted the significant role that they play in supporting people to remain well at home. They coordinate care and appointments, provide personal care, and improve the wellbeing of those they look after. It is important that health, care and the community and voluntary sector support unpaid carers to continue to provide the invaluable tasks that they carry out every day. They often however don't recognise that they are performing this crucial function as a 'carer'. 2021 Census data suggests up to one in ten people in Havering provide informal and unpaid care on a regular basis.

In the context of the developing Havering Place based Partnership, which brings together health, care and the community and voluntary sector in Havering with a focus on integrating services and support for local people in a way that is meaningful to them, partners in Havering have jointly undertaken a refresh of the strategy for informal and unpaid carers, to ensure that we deliver improved experiences and outcomes in the Borough.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To approve the Carer's Strategy 2023-2026 attached at Appendix A.

REPORT DETAIL

The Carer's strategy 2023-26 refresh and builds on the previous strategy (2017-2019) and reflects learning since the Pandemic that a greater focus on support for informal/unpaid Carers is needed. This strategy also takes into account that ways of living and working have changed dramatically since 2019. Following engagement with local carers, it seeks to address shifts in needs of carers, whilst expanding scope of the strategy to range across all ages. This has been an opportunity for carers to design their strategic vision with the Council and wider partners, and directly contribute to the action plan which will be owned and delivered by partners across Havering.

The Strategy for those provide informal and unpaid care in Havering, 2023 -2026 has been developed by Havering Council in partnership with the new system operating across health and wider partners –the North East London Integrated Care System (ICS), and Havering Place based Partnership. The ICS aims to enable greater cohesion and

collaboration across partnerships, and this strategy is an example of how this can work – with issues affecting Carers drawing heavily upon health, as well as social care, and the wider determinants of health.

As a joint Strategy across the Havering Place based Partnership, the Council and partners were eager to imbed collaboration at every stage; a key aspect of this strategy has been the underpinning key principle of co-design and co-production. Carer engagement for this strategy started with an initial introduction presentation to the Havering Carers Hub, which over the following months expanded into a recurring working group of key leads over the partnership. Our engagement plan started with the introduction of the Strategy context to the Havering Carers Hub which sparked conversations about what the priorities should look like.

REASONS AND OPTIONS

Reasons for the decision:

These are set out in the main report.

Other options considered:

Option 1 – Do nothing, continue with the previous strategy dated 2017-2019.

This option has been rejected because the strategy dated 2017-2019 is out of date and requires updating to ensure that it is fit for purpose.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no Financial implications or risks.

Legal implications and risks:

The Local Authority has a duty to provide care and support to those individuals assessed as needing this pursuant to assessments under Part 1 Care Act 2014. This includes under s 10 a duty to assess carers who may have needs for care and support and under s 20 a duty or power in general terms to provide any assessed eligible care and support needs for carers. There is also a duty to arrange for direct payments to eligible service users under ss31-33 Care Act. The proposals in this Report are in line with these duties and therefore there appear to be no legal implications in approving these recommendations.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no Human Resources implications or risks.

Equalities implications and risks:

Havering has a diverse community made up of many different groups and individuals. The council values diversity and believes it essential to understand and include the different contributions, perspectives and experience that people from different backgrounds bring. The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

Cabinet, 09.08.2023

- I. the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- II. the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- III. Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'protected characteristics' are: age, gender, race and disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The council demonstrates its commitment to the Equality Act in its decision-making processes, the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and employment practices concerning its workforce. In addition, the council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing of all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

It is important to the council to ensure that direct payments for social inclusion are relevant to our community's needs.

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Health and Wellbeing implications and Risks

The council demonstrates its commitment to the Equality Act in its decision-making processes, the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and employment practices concerning its workforce. In addition, the council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing of all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants. Access to and quality of education or other training opportunities.

The strategy sets how the system partners will work together to support those who provide informal and unpaid care in Havering. The carers' work is invaluable, and the health and care system must support and ensure their health and well-being. The strategy includes, among many other actions, easy access to training help and support, assurance to listen to and value carers, and maximising their income so that the negative impact on the wider determinants of health of the carers is mitigated.

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Environmental and Climate Change Implications and Risks:

There are no Environmental / Climate Change implications or risks.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix A – Carer's Strategy 2023-2026