



Committee and Date

Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

30 January 2023

Item
All Age Carer Strategy Review 2022-2027

Public

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Report heading

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1. Synopsis

The main purpose of our All-Age Carer Strategy is to provide a clear framework to the commissioning and provision of services that will support unpaid and family carers of all ages to:

- Identify as a carer,
- Maintain their own health and wellbeing,
- Plan for their future
- Participate in family and community life.

The strategy seeks to address local issues and strengthen integration of health, social and voluntary services to enable the priorities to be achieved to improve the lives of carers. Additionally, it sets out a plan on how we will maintain our progress and enhance those areas where we need to improve.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The all-age carer strategy will support the achievement of outcomes in the Shropshire Plan, specifically relating to the priorities within healthy people:

This report will provide an overview of the All-Age Carer Strategy (AACS) Review 2022-2027 and will detail the priorities Carers have told us are most important to them to support them in their caring role.

This is an all-age carer strategy ensuring all carers are recognised, whatever their age, caring role or where they live in Shropshire.

The document will detail how we intend to work in partnership with our local strategic partners, carers and communities, ensuring everyone understands their role in making a difference to Shropshire carers' health and wellbeing, in making Shropshire a carer friendly place to live.

2.2 Shropshire Council recognise the significant role that unpaid and family carers play in supporting the Health and Social Care system in Shropshire and are committed to working to:

- Develop services that support carers and ensure they receive appropriate levels of support that is easy to access from whichever part of the sector carers first have contact with.
- Involve carers in service design when developing services intended to improve their health and wellbeing.
- Empower carers to create their own goals and aspirations and have a life outside of caring.

2.3 Our AACS review will support this by:

- a) Providing an action plan to supplement the strategy demonstrating how we will deliver the priorities and what measures are in place to monitor success.
- b) This is a live document and will be hosted on Shropshire Choices.
- c) The strategy and action plan will be monitored by the Shropshire Carers Partnership Board, to ensure it is coordinated and complements the wider agenda for supporting carers in Shropshire.
- d) The AACS and action plan will feed into local service plans and the Market Position Statement -currently being drafted.
- e) The action plan will utilise council initiatives to support carers, such as the robust support to Shropshire residents around the cost of living.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The committee is asked to note the report and inform any additions to the current Draft All Ages Carers Strategy 2022-27 in appendix 1.

Report

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

4.1 The council has a duty under the Care Act 2014 to support adult carers and put them on equal footing as people who are vulnerable and need a care act assessment.

4.2 The Care Act 2014 also puts a duty on the council to conduct transition assessments for young carers and parent carers when the child turns 18 years old and where there is a likely need for care and support.

4.3 The strategy has been co-produced with carers, former carers and key organisations representing carers; these include: PACC; Shropshire Health Watch, Crossroads Together young carer support; Alzheimer Society carer peer groups and AIMS Network for Carers

5. Financial Implications

5.1 No additional budget pressures have been identified with the development of the All Age Carers Strategy. Further resources may be required once the Action plan is developed, however any actions will need to be delivered within existing resources.

6. Climate Change Appraisal

6.1 The Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to achieving 'net-zero' carbon impact by 2030. As procured goods and services make up a significant proportion of the Council's total carbon footprint, it is vital that providers understand the carbon impact of the services they provide and commit to working with the Council to help us achieve 'net-zero'. This strategy will not have a negative impact on climate change.

7. Background

7.1 In the Census 2011 - 33,360 residents in Shropshire identified as a carer. The figures for Census 2021 are due to be released on 19/1/2023 and we expect these figures to have increased.

7.2 Plans to meet the demand

- Digital Support for carers contract –to identify carers previously unknown to services. 60% of carers Mobilise are in contact with are new to all services
- By working with local strategic partners, carers, and the community to ensure everyone understands their role in making a difference to Shropshire carers' health and wellbeing, in making Shropshire a carer friendly place to live.

7.3 Table of carers accessing information and support 2022

Carer appointments at LTL hubs 2022	530
Carer assessments completed Apr 22 – Dec 22	452
Carers on Carer Register	981
Mobilise data Dec 21- Dec22	

Discover – unique visits to Mobilise site	Engage – unique hits on information e.g. guides, checklists	Support – unique no: attending virtual cuppas; coaching etc
13020	1719	679

7.4 The all-age carer strategy will support the achievement of outcomes in the Shropshire Plan, specifically relating to the priorities within healthy people:

Tackling inequalities – by developing an all-age carer strategy to:

- Ensure all carers are recognised, whatever their age, caring role or wherever they live in Shropshire acknowledge all carers should be treated equally however recognising that everyone's caring role is unique, and each carer may have differing needs.

Early interventions – by increasing awareness and identification of carers of all ages within the whole Health and Social Care sector, including self-identification, so that information, advice and support can be given at an earlier stage to:

- improve carers experience of caring – the right information at the right time help to prevent crisis allow carers to achieve their full potential and lead their best lives.

Partnerships – by working with local strategic partners, carers, and the community to:

- ensure carers receive appropriate levels of support that is easy to access from whichever part of the sector carers first have contact with ensure everyone understands their role in making a difference to Shropshire carers' health and wellbeing, in making Shropshire a carer friendly place to live.

Self-responsibility – by empowering carers to:

- create personal goals and aspirations
- provide support to progress them have the confidence to take responsibility, own their plan and help them to do things for themselves.

7.5 In June 2022, Carers UK reported the numbers of unpaid carers remains higher than before the Coronavirus pandemic with 1 in 5 UK adults now providing support to a relative, close friend or neighbour and almost everyone will know family members, friends and colleagues who are carers. Carers come from a range of backgrounds and age groups.

7.6 This is an all-age strategy which covers all carer groups, and while all carers should be treated equally, it recognises that everyone's caring role is unique, and each carer may have differing needs

7.7 Following findings from the Carers Review in 2019 and engagement with partners and carers, the aim for this Shropshire All-Age Carers Strategy is: -

To identify, support and enable carers of all ages in Shropshire to remain healthy, fulfil their own potential and balance their caring responsibilities with a life outside of caring.

7.8 Carers have told us what is most important to them to support them in their caring role. Their views have been used to decide upon the outcomes that will be most important for us to achieve in the next five years.

7.9 This has led to seven key priority areas which are as follows:

Priority 1.	Early identification and support for carers of all ages.
Priority 2.	Building carer friendly communities in Shropshire where carers are recognised, listened to and respected.
Priority 3.	A life of their own outside of their caring role – supporting carers to balance their caring responsibilities with their own aspirations and needs.
Priority 4.	Carers have good physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing
Priority 5.	Access to timely, up to date information and advice in a variety of formats that is easy to read and understand and readily available.
Priority 6.	Co-ordinated services within the whole Health and Social Care Sector
Priority 7.	Transitions during the carer role. Ensuring carers, of any age, are supported through the stages of their caring role

7.10 The implementation of this strategy will be supported and advised by the Shropshire Carers Partnership Board (SCPB), which includes representatives from carers, statutory services, the voluntary and community sector, and health. Regular progress reports will be made to the Shropshire Health and Well-Being Board.

7.11 The table below sets out which all age carer strategy priorities are aligned to the 4 priorities of the Shropshire Plan 2022-25 and will support the achievement of outcomes in the 4 'Healthy' priority areas, contributing to our vision of 'Shropshire living the best life'.

Shropshire Plan 2022-2025 Priorities	Aligned to the following All-age carer strategy priorities
<p>Healthy People Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle inequalities • Early intervention • Partnerships • Self-responsibility 	<p>Early identification and support for carers of all ages. Building carer friendly communities in Shropshire where carers are recognised, listened to and respected. A life of their own outside of their caring role – supporting carers to balance their caring responsibilities with their own aspirations and needs. Carers have good physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. Access to timely, up to date information and advice in a variety of formats that is easy to read and understand and readily available. Co-ordinated services within the whole Health and Social Care Sector. Transitions during the carer role. Ensuring carers, of any age, are supported through the stages of their caring role.</p>
<p>Healthy Economy Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills and employment • Safe, strong, and vibrant destination • Connectivity and infrastructure • Housing 	<p>A life of their own outside of their caring role – supporting carers to balance their caring responsibilities with their own aspirations and needs. Access to timely, up to date information and advice in a variety of formats that is easy to read and understand and readily available. Co-ordinated services within the whole Health and Social Care Sector Transitions during the carer role. Ensuring carers, of any age, are supported through the stages of their caring role.</p>
<p>Healthy Environment Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change strategy and actions • Safe communities • Natural environment 	<p>Carers have good physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. Access to timely, up to date information and advice in a variety of formats that is easy to read and understand and readily available.</p>

<p>Healthy Organisation Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best workforce • Absorb, Adapt, Anticipate • Communicate well • Align our resources • Strong councillors 	<p>Early identification and support for carers of all ages. Building carer friendly communities in Shropshire where carers are recognised, listened to and respected. A life of their own outside of their caring role – supporting carers to balance their caring responsibilities with their own aspirations and needs. Access to timely, up to date information and advice in a variety of formats that is easy to read and understand and readily available. Co-ordinated services within the whole Health and Social Care Sector.</p>
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8. Additional Information

8.1 Adult carer support in Shropshire has traditionally been outsourced to an external provider however the service was brought in-house from 01/2/2021.

- The (Adult) Carer Support team is made up of 3.4 FTE carer support practitioners (CSP); a team coordinator, Information officer and Shropshire Carer Manager.
- The service offers carers:
- 1:1 support – working with carers to explore the options available to them as a Carer, and support for carers to follow their choices
- Information and advice, and signposting to specialist services e.g. welfare benefits, advocacy
- Support line – operating Mon – Fri 9-00am till 5-00pm
- Check in and chats – minimum 6 monthly to maintain carer wellbeing and prevent crisis
- Assistance with planning ahead
- Peer support groups
- Events and activities
- Carer Register – to share information quickly, Emergency/ID card issued and emergency/contingency plan
- Carer Feedback – co-produced with a carer. An opportunity for carers to help shape services by giving their feedback on their experiences throughout all of Health and Social care, both what went well and what may need improving.

8.2 The timeline for the completion of the strategy is below:

- 30 January 2023 – Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting
- January 2023 –finalise draft and send for consultation
- February 2023 –finalise draft based on consultation responses
- February 2023 – develop action plan
- March/April 2023 – Cabinet
- April 2023 – new AACS implemented

9. Conclusions

9.1 A clear All Age Carers Strategy is an important document which will inform the future plan to support Shropshire's carers health and wellbeing.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

All Age Carer Strategy for Shropshire 2017-2022 – attached as appendix 2

Appendices [Please list the titles of Appendices]

Appendix 1: Draft All Age Carer Strategy 2022-2027

Appendix 2: All Age Carers Strategy for Shropshire 2017 – 2022
