
To: Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board

On: 26 January 2018

Report by: Chief Officer

Heading: Preparation for Implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016

1. Summary

1.1 The Carers (Scotland) Act will largely come into force on April 1st 2018. The Act relates to both adult and young carers.

1.2 The previous report to the IJB on 24 November 2017 included an assessment of readiness against the key provisions required under the Act and an update the formal consultation process on the draft local Eligibility Criteria.

1.3 This report provides a further update on Renfrewshire's preparations for the commencement of the new Act, including:

- A summary of the consultation results and the proposed eligibility criteria for carers;
- The requirement for the Health Board and Renfrewshire Council to update their Integration Scheme to reflect the new Carers Act;
- Progress developing Adult Carer Support Plans and to ensure staff are appropriately equipped and trained to deliver on its requirements;
- Scottish Government funding to support preparations for the Act over the coming year and beyond; and
- An update on the management of the key risks identified by the Carers Act Strategic Steering Group.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the IJB:

- Note the content of the report;
- Agree the eligibility criteria for adult carers as set out in Appendix 2 and Appendix 3;
- Agree to ring fence Renfrewshire's local allocation of the Scottish Government's Carers Act funding (still to be finalised) solely to fulfil its new duties and provisions under the new Act;
- Note the Chief Finance Officer's assumption that Renfrewshire's provision under the Act will be met within this allocated funding; and

- Agree a further report is brought to the IJB in March 2018 to confirm all required provisions are in place for the Act's implementation on 1 April 2018, and that Renfrewshire's updated Integration Scheme has been approved by Renfrewshire Council and NHSGGC Board.

3. Implementation Plan

- 3.1 The Carers (Scotland) Act will largely come into force on April 1st 2018. The Act relates to both adult and young carers.
- 3.2 Subject to outstanding national guidance being made available as a priority, Renfrewshire HSCP and Renfrewshire Council are satisfied that all outstanding provisions will be in place in advance of the Act.
- 3.3 A high level implementation plan and timeline is included at Appendix 1.

4. Eligibility Criteria

- 4.1 The Local Authority and NHS Board must, in consultation with carers and their representatives, develop local eligibility criteria for access to carer services. The Act does not preclude development of separate criteria for adult and young carers. The eligibility criteria require to be published by 31 March 2018. Regulation from Scottish Ministers is expected as regards the process for reviewing eligibility criteria.
- 4.2 Eligibility criteria are to be set locally to enable Local Authorities and IJBs to provide support to carers in different caring situations across a whole range of life circumstances. Local eligibility criteria will help Local Authorities and IJBs to prioritise support and to target resources as effectively and efficiently as possible. This recognises that demand for support is increasing due to demographic changes, more complex needs and a greater intensity of caring. Demand can vary across different Local Authority areas. Preventative support to carers also has a role in helping manage future demand where it prevents needs from escalating.
- 4.3 There are three aspects to setting an eligibility framework:
 - The criteria that determine it;
 - The thresholds that must be passed to trigger it; and
 - The services that follow it.
- 4.4 The Scottish Government has issued detailed guidance to support local authorities and IJBs in setting local eligibility criteria. The guidance also summarises the different ways of supporting carers if the carer's needs do not meet the local eligibility criteria.
- 4.5 The Scottish Government guidance provides five stages of impact/risk and a range of indicators (domains) relevant to carers' lives. The stages are:

- caring has no impact – no risk
- caring has low impact – low risk
- caring has moderate impact – moderate risk
- caring has substantial impact – substantial risk
- caring has critical impact – critical risk

The indicators (domains) are:

- health and wellbeing
- relationships
- living environment
- employment and training
- finance
- life balance
- future planning

4.6 The Scottish Government has decided against setting national eligibility criteria; instead it proposes that all Local Authority areas use the same suite of indicators but have local discretion to establish the threshold for support. The Carers Act does not preclude the use of different eligibility criteria in relation to young carers.

4.7 There is no national threshold for support as this is for local decision-making. Renfrewshire HSCP will therefore need to choose the levels of impact/risk and need which are appropriate to trigger the duty to provide support.

4.8 Before setting eligibility criteria, Renfrewshire HSCP and Renfrewshire Council's Children's Services must consult persons and bodies representative of carers and it must take steps it considers appropriate to involve carers.

Consultation on Eligibility Criteria

4.9 In line with Scottish Government direction, Renfrewshire HSCP consulted with local adult carers and relevant stakeholders on draft eligibility criteria based on national guidance.

4.10 The consultation process within Renfrewshire involved the following:

- A meeting with established carer representative groups in Renfrewshire across different client groups;
- A session with the Strategic Planning Group (a summary of the session with the Strategic Planning Group can be found at Appendix 4).
- A survey that was made available for carers to complete as a paper document or online

4.11 Carers who responded to the survey were broadly supportive of the draft eligibility criteria:

- 56% of carers who responded to the consultation agreed that there should be an eligibility threshold; 33% did not agree; and 10% did not answer.
- 44% of carers agreed with the 5 categories of impact/risk; 22% did not agree; and 33% did not answer.
- 44% of carers agreed that the indicators were the most appropriate to use and 56% did not answer.
- 89% of carers agreed that Renfrewshire should take a preventative approach particularly where the assessment of impact is moderate, low or no and 11% did not answer.
- 33% of carers agreed that the eligibility criteria should be reviewed no later than three years after it is published; 11% did not agree; and 56% did not answer.

Draft Eligibility Criteria

- 4.12 The draft eligibility criteria for carer support is set out in Appendix 2 and Appendix 3.
- 4.13 Appendix 2 shows the level at which the *duty* for the Local Authority is triggered; it is proposed that the threshold should be at the substantial and critical level. Below this (as indicated by the red line) the Local Authority will have a *power* to support carers at the moderate, low and no impact level.
- 4.14 Where the Local Authority has a *power* to support carers, community supports such as Renfrewshire Carers Centre will play an important role in supporting carers, particularly in encouraging a preventative approach to supporting carers. Renfrewshire HSCP will also continue to take a preventative approach to supporting carers and the development of resources in the community will be key to achieving this.
- 4.15 Appendix 3 sets out the indicators that will be used to determine the level of support required. Similar to Appendix 2, an illustrative red line has been placed indicating where the Local Authority has a *duty* to support and where it has a *power* to support.
- 4.16 Where the locality authority has a *duty* to support carers, the Local Authority will provide that support; where the Local Authority has a *power* to support, the Local Authority commissions community supports and carer services which will be provided on a preventative basis. These services will be monitored and reviewed during 2018/19 to assess and improve their effectiveness.
- 4.17 The Local Authority and HSCP already works closely with the Renfrewshire Carers Centre and other partners to provide a range of services specific to carers across all impact levels, including:

- Advocacy
- Emergency Planning
- Volunteer Project – volunteers sit with the cared for person to allow the carer to get a break.
- Young Carers – one to one and group support
- Young Carers - raising awareness in schools
- Training – including courses on power of attorney, first aid and caring for someone with autism, dementia.
- Mental Health – one to one and group support.
- Support Groups – including Alzheimers / Dementia, Male Carers, Parkinsons.
- Supporting new carers.

4.18 Carers are also supported to access general health and well being support in their community such as ROAR and Active Communities.

4.19 Discussions are ongoing with the Carers Centre regarding the extent to which their current services will require to be adapted in light of the demands of the Carers Act. This is likely to place greater emphasis on the above mentioned preventative approach to ensure that carers below the critical/substantial threshold will continue to have access to services from the carers centre. Examples would include support groups, information services, advocacy, and group work where carers can continue to benefit from networking and support from their peers.

Young Carers Eligibility Criteria

4.20 Renfrewshire has developed separate Young Carers Eligibility Criteria which aligns with the Scottish Government's Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) and young person approach. The GIRFEC approach is embedded across Renfrewshire and its partner agencies.

4.21 The draft Young Carers Eligibility Criteria was presented to the Education and Children's Services Policy Board on the 18 January 2018.

4.22 Consultation with young carers and other stakeholders about the proposed Eligibility Criteria was undertaken in late 2017. The language was simplified to ensure that it was accessible to younger carers based on feedback from the consultation with young people. The Young Person's Eligibility Criteria can be found in Appendix 5. Young carers were overwhelmingly supportive of the GIRFEC approach as they are familiar with its language and emphasis upon holistic wellbeing.

5. Integration Scheme

5.1 On 17 November 2017, the Scottish Government wrote to all NHS Chief Executives, Local Authority Chief Executives and HSCP Chief Officers to advise that in order to implement the Carers Act, the Scottish Government must incorporate provisions stemming from the Carers Act into those regulations that support the Public Bodies (Joint

Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. Health Boards and Local Authorities, working with IJBs, also need to amend their Integration Schemes to take account of the new provisions.

5.2 The letter confirmed that the Scottish Government had laid two further statutory instruments with the Scottish Parliament to accommodate the remaining necessary changes, which came into force on 18 December 2017. The two instruments are:

- The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment (No 2) Regulations 2017, which identifies a number of functions that *must* be delegated. In line with requirements on integration, the requirement to delegate these functions only extends to adult social care. Delegation of these functions with respect to children's social care remains a matter for local discretion
- The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Health Board Functions) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2017, which identifies functions that may be delegated.

5.3 In order to accommodate these changes, Renfrewshire HSCP is working with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and Renfrewshire Council to amend Renfrewshire's Integration Scheme to include the Carers Act new duties to be delegated to IJBs. As per the process when Integration Schemes were originally written, Health Boards and Local Authorities have now informed the stakeholders identified within The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Consultees) (Scotland) of the proposed changes, and invited them to make comments in response.

5.4 The updated Integration Scheme will be submitted for approval to the NHSGGC Board on 20 February 2018, and to Renfrewshire Council's Leadership Board on 21 February 2018. Updated Integration Schemes must be submitted to the Scottish Government no later than 2 March 2018.

5.5 A copy of Renfrewshire's updated and approved Integration Scheme will be shared with the IJB.

5.6 Once the process for reviewing Integration Schemes is completed, the IJB must consider the implications of these new duties in the context of their overarching strategic commissioning plan. Any changes to the strategic commissioning plan will be incorporated incrementally as part of the local, ongoing, planning process.

6. Adult Carer Support Plans

6.1 The Carers Act requires that where a person is identified as an adult carer, that person must be offered an Adult Carer Support Plan (ACSP). This plan must detail:

- a) an adult carer's identified personal outcomes;
- b) an adult carer's identified needs; and
- c) the support to be provided by the responsible Local Authority (or HSCP) to the adult.

6.2 Work is currently ongoing within Renfrewshire HSCP, in partnership with Renfrewshire Carers Centre, to develop an ACSP which will incorporate the above requirements, and also facilitate the delivery of services to carers and include the options available under Self-directed Support.

6.3 A programme of staff training and awareness raising is currently in development to support the roll-out of the Carers Act and the ACSP in particular.

6.4 ACSPs will be offered to new carers from 1st April 2018. Existing carers will be offered an ACSP during 2018/19. The offer of the ACSP will coincide with the annual review of the cared-for person and will act as a trigger for the undertaking of the ACSP. It should be emphasised, however, that the carer has an entitlement to an independent review of their needs in their own right, separately from the cared-for person.

6.5 The introduction of the Carers Act will place additional pressures on existing services. The ACSP will require additional staff time to assess and complete, and there will be increased demands on the infrastructure to support the delivery of services either directly or via Self-directed Supports options such as Direct Payment.

7. Recognition of the Carer's Role in Transitions between Children and Adult Services

7.1. The transition between children and adult services is recognised as a particularly important and stressful issue for young people in transition and their carers. For this reason, a transition planning agreement is in place which clearly describes the steps to be taken towards transition to adult services. This is currently being updated to reflect new developments such as the Carers Act.

8. Scottish Government Funding

8.1. The Financial Memorandum to the Carers Bill sets out the Scottish Government's original estimated costs of implementing the Carers Act in Scotland. It is estimated that total costs will rise from £19.4m in year one (2018-19) to a recurring level of £88.521m by year 5 (2022-23).

8.2. Concerns about possible under-funding of the Carers Bill were expressed in submissions to the Scottish Parliament Finance Committee in 2015, by COSLA, Social Work Scotland, some individual local authorities and partnerships, and by leading Carers organisations.

- 8.3. In December 2017, the Draft Scottish 2018-19 Budget made a number of commitments in relation to Carers:
- “In 2018-19 an additional £66 million is included in the Local Government settlement allocations to support additional expenditure by local government on social care in recognition of a range of pressures they and integration authorities are facing, including support for the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016, maintaining our joint commitment to the Living Wage (including our agreement to now extend it to cover sleepovers following the further work we have undertaken) and an increase in the Free Personal and Nursing Care Payments.”
 - “The Scottish Government also recognises the contribution that unpaid carers make to our public services and communities. That is why we will support the implementation of the Carers (Scotland Act) 2016 from 1 April 2018, with investment of £19.4 million in Health and Social Care Partnerships. This will enable carers to continue caring if they so wish and to have a life outside caring.”
- 8.4. Whilst Renfrewshire's local allocation of the Scottish Government's £19.4m funding to support the Carers Act has still to be agreed, it is recommended that the IJB ring fence this funding solely to fulfil its new duties and provisions under the new Act. Given the other financial pressures the IJB must address, Members are asked to note the Chief Finance Officer's assumption that Renfrewshire's provision under the Act will be met within this allocated funding.
- 8.5. The National Finance Advisory Group has identified a number of financial risks which are outlined in Section 9.

2017/18 Funding

- 8.6. Renfrewshire has been allocated £69.6k funding for 2017/18 by the Scottish Government to support implementation preparations for the commencement of the Act. The Strategic Steering Group recently agreed this funding would be allocated equally between the Adult and Young Carers service areas.
- 8.7. Children's Services are using their one off funding allocation towards creating a dedicated Young Carer Resource Worker (YCRW) to work across Renfrewshire Children's Services as well as the Carers Centre.
- 8.8. At this stage, much of the national guidance relating to the Act is yet to be finalised, and therefore not all of the financial and capacity implications associated with Act are known. However, in the meantime Renfrewshire HSCP intends to use its share of the 2017/18 funding allocation to deliver training and awareness raising sessions to staff and other stakeholders, and to use this period to identify the additional resources that will be required to fully implement the Act during 2018/19.

9. Risks

9.1 There are a number of risks which may impact on the successful implementation of the Carers Act. These are detailed in the table below with supporting mitigation activities identified by the Strategic Steering Group.

Risk	Identified mitigation
<p>1 Delays in the issuing of regulations and in receiving final guidance could negatively impact on planning activity. In particular, there are a number of points which Renfrewshire require clarification i.e. where responsibility lies when a cared for person lives in Renfrewshire however the carer lives in another Local Authority area; more detail on waiving of charges in relation to short breaks</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has representation on national groups and has an early indication on direction of travel, in advance of regulations/ formal guidance being issued.</p>
<p>2 The development of local eligibility criteria could lead to inconsistency in support levels across Scotland, and even within the Greater Glasgow and Clyde area. There is also a risk that Carers who fall below the agreed eligibility threshold could be affected if a strategy is not in place to ensure appropriate prevention measures are in place.</p>	<p>This risk will highlighted through our representative on national groups.</p>
<p>3 The main financial risks, as identified by the national Financial Advisory Group, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability to build capacity prior to commencement date resulting in Renfrewshire HSCP and Council being unable to cope with potential demand in year 1. • Insufficient funding as outlined in the Financial Memorandum to the Carers Bill to cover full costs of implementation, in particular for the earlier financial years; • Unit cost of providing an Adult Carer Support Plan / Young Carer Statement or duty to 	<p>A new national Finance Group is being established to take forward outstanding issues relating to the financing of the Carers Act. This new group will focus on establishing, collecting and monitoring data, the identification and monitoring of key financial risks, and the formal process for addressing any significant financial gaps arising from the implementation of the Act.</p>

<p>support (including replacement care) is higher than estimated in the Financial Memorandum (which is at 2013-14 prices);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand, for assessments and/or support, is significantly higher than outlined in Financial Memorandum; • Insufficient funding to cover full cost of Waiving of Charges as estimated at £16m per annum (nationally). • Insufficient funding to cover replacement care. 	
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10. Next Steps

- 10.1 A further report will be brought to the IJB in March 2018 to confirm all required provisions are in place for the Act's implementation on 1 April 2018, and that Renfrewshire's updated Integration Scheme has been approved by Renfrewshire Council and NHS GGC Board.

Implications of the Report

- 1. Financial** – this report highlights a number of financial risks associated with the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act
- 2. HR & Organisational Development** – additional staff training planned to support staff through change.
- 3. Community Planning – Nil**
- 4. Legal** – The Health Board and Renfrewshire Council require to update their Integration Scheme to reflect the new Carers Act;
- 5. Property/Assets – Nil**
- 6. Information Technology** – managing information and making information available may require ICT input.
- 7. Equality & Human Rights** – Specific investment to reach hard to reach carers. Carers Strategy requirement of Carers (Scotland) Act will require full EQIA.
- 8. Health & Safety – Nil**
- 9. Procurement – Nil**
- 10. Risk** – as highlighted within the report
- 11. Privacy Impact – Nil**








List of Background Papers:

- Preparation for Implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act, Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board, 15th September 2017
- Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 – Implementation of Young Carers Requirements, Education and Children's Services Policy Board, 2 November 2017

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Carers Act Implementation Plan

Appendix 1

Date	Requirement	Status
Nov 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish draft Young Carers and Adult Carers eligibility criteria Consultation process underway Report on the implications of the Act for Renfrewshire Children's Services presented to the Education and Children's Policy Board 	
Dec 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closure date for consultation responses Complete analysis of consultation responses and meetings 	
Jan 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to IJB and Council on consultation responses and proposed final Adult and Young Carers eligibility criteria IJB and Council agree the first Adult Carers and Young Carers eligibility criteria, taking into account consultation responses. 	
Feb – Mar 2018	<p>Based on final national guidance, systems, paperwork, training and infrastructure to support implementation of the Act will be put in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrangements for Support Plans and Young Person Statements in place Short breaks statement prepared and published Deliver any required changes to information systems Operational Guidance Plan and deliver communications and training to staff Develop public information including FAQs Council agrees 2018-19 budget, including available IJB budget to support the implementation of the Act, and this will be agreed by NHS Board. Draft Young Carers Strategy presented to the IJB and Council for approval Draft Adult Carers Strategic Objectives presented to the IJB and Council for approval 	
20 Feb 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS GGC approve updated Integration Scheme to include the new duties put in place by the Carers Act for delegation to IJBs 	
01 Mar 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renfrewshire Council approve updated Integration Scheme to include the new duties put in place by the Carers Act for delegation to IJBs 	
01 Apr 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Young Carers Strategy and Draft Adult Carers Strategic Objectives finalised and published Commence Act in line with eligibility criteria 	

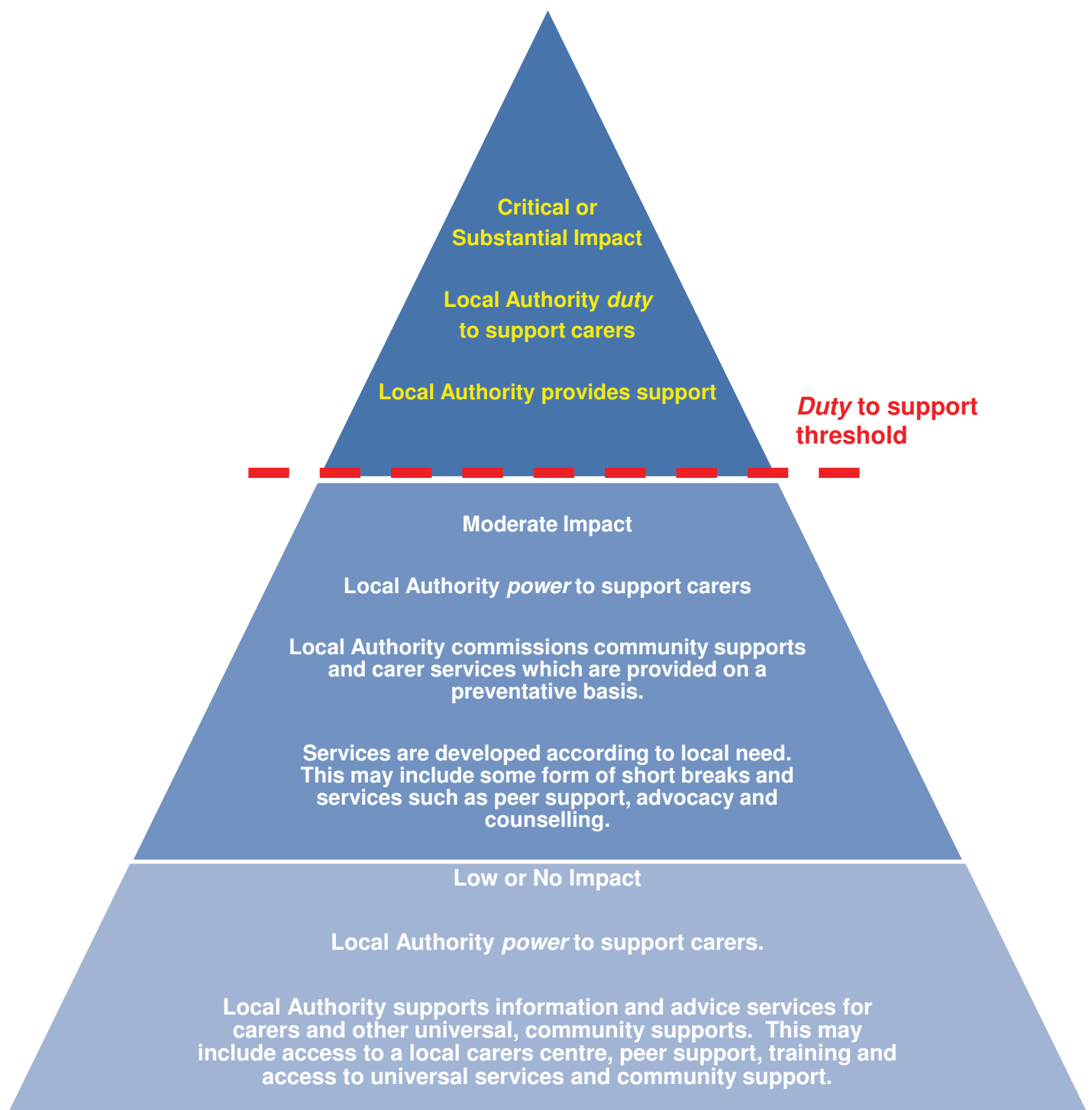


Table of Indicators

Appendix 3

DUTY TO SUPPORT THRESHOLD

	Caring has no impact NO RISK	Caring has low impact LOW RISK	Caring has moderate impact MODERATE RISK	Caring has substantial impact SUBSTANTIAL RISK	Caring has critical impact CRITICAL RISK
Health & Wellbeing	<p>Carer in good health.</p> <p>Carer has good emotional wellbeing.</p>	<p>Carer's health beginning to be affected.</p> <p>Caring role beginning to have an impact on emotional wellbeing.</p>	<p>Carer's health at risk without intervention.</p> <p>Some impact on carer's emotional wellbeing.</p>	<p>Carer has health need that requires attention.</p> <p>Significant impact on carer's emotional wellbeing.</p>	<p>Carer's health is breaking/has broken down.</p> <p>Carer's emotional wellbeing is breaking/has broken down.</p>
Relationships	<p>Carer has a good relationship with the person they care for and is able to maintain relationships with other key people in their life.</p>	<p>Carer has some concerns about their relationship with the person they care for and/or their ability to maintain relationships with other key people in their life.</p>	<p>Carer has identified issues with their relationship with the person they care for that need to be addressed and/or they find it difficult to maintain relationships with other key people in their life.</p>	<p>The carer's relationship with the person they care for is in danger of breaking down and/or they no longer are able to maintain relationships with other key people in their life.</p>	<p>The carer's relationship with the person they care for has broken down and their caring role is no longer sustainable and/or they have lost touch with other key people in their life.</p>
Living Environment	<p>Carer's living environment is suitable posing no risk to the physical health and safety of the carer and cared for person.</p>	<p>Carer's living environment is mostly suitable but could pose a risk to the health and safety of the carer and cared for person in the longer term.</p>	<p>Carer's living environment is unsuitable but poses no immediate risk.</p>	<p>Carer's living environment is unsuitable and poses an immediate risk to the health and safety of the carer and/or cared for person.</p>	<p>Carer's living environment is unsuitable and there are immediate and critical risks to the health and safety of the carer and/or cared for person.</p>

	Caring has no impact NO RISK	Caring has low impact LOW RISK	Caring has moderate impact MODERATE RISK	Caring has substantial impact SUBSTANTIAL RISK	Caring has critical impact CRITICAL RISK
Employment & Training	<p>Carer has no difficulty in managing caring and employment and/or education.</p> <p>Carer does not want to be in paid work or education.</p>	<p>Carer has some difficulty managing caring and employment and there is a risk to sustaining employment and/or education in the long term.</p> <p>Carer is not in paid work or education but would like to be in the long term.</p>	<p>Carer has difficulty managing caring and employment and there is a risk to sustaining employment and/or education in the medium term.</p> <p>Carer is not in paid work or education but would like to be in the medium term.</p>	<p>Carer has significantly difficulty managing caring and employment and there is a risk to sustaining employment and/or education in the short term.</p> <p>Carer is not in paid work or education but would like to be soon.</p>	<p>Carer has significant difficulty managing caring and employment and there is an imminent risk of giving up work or education.</p> <p>Carer is not in paid work or education but would like to be now.</p>
Finance	<p>Caring is not causing financial hardship e.g. carer can afford housing cost and utilities.</p>	<p>Caring is causing a risk of financial hardship e.g. some difficulty meeting housing costs and utilities.</p>	<p>Caring is causing some detrimental impact on finances e.g. difficulty meeting either housing costs OR utilities.</p>	<p>Caring is having a significant impact on finances e.g. difficulty meeting housing costs AND utilities.</p>	<p>Caring is causing severe financial hardship e.g. carer cannot afford household essential and utilities, not meeting housing payments.</p>
Life balance	<p>Carer has regular opportunities to achieve the balance they want in their life.</p> <p>They have a broad choice of breaks and activities which</p>	<p>Carer has some opportunities to achieve the balance they want in their life.</p> <p>They have access to a choice of breaks and activities which</p>	<p>Due to their caring role, the carer has limited opportunities to achieve the balance they want in their life.</p> <p>They have access to a few breaks and activities which promote physical, mental,</p>	<p>Due to their caring role, the carer has few and irregular opportunities to achieve the balance they want in their life.</p> <p>They have little access to breaks and activities which promote physical,</p>	<p>Due to their caring role, the carer has no opportunities to achieve the balance they want in their life.</p> <p>They have no access to breaks and activities which promote physical,</p>

	Caring has no impact NO RISK	Caring has low impact LOW RISK	Caring has moderate impact MODERATE RISK	Caring has substantial impact SUBSTANTIAL RISK	Caring has critical impact CRITICAL RISK
	promote physical, mental, emotional wellbeing.	promote physical, mental, emotional wellbeing.	emotional wellbeing.	mental, emotional wellbeing.	mental, emotional wellbeing.
Future Planning	Carer is confident about planning for the future and has no concerns about managing caring.	Carer is largely confident about planning for the future but has minor concerns about managing caring.	Carer is not confident about planning for the future and has some concerns about managing caring.	Carer is anxious about planning for the future and has significant concerns about managing caring.	Carer is very anxious about planning for the future and has severe concerns about managing caring.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TABLE TOP DISCUSSION
STRATEGIC PLANNING GROUP
25 OCTOBER 2017**

Q1. Do you agree that there needs to be an eligibility threshold?

Yes

Worries around the Carers' Centre being inundated with carers who do not meet the criteria and the general understanding of what is going to constitute the levels of risk/threshold.

Other concerns were around who will be carrying out the assessments; and with limited resources, targeting those most in need. Members felt there should be a mechanism in place to identify and monitor those who may be at moderate risk but who could then potentially move up to critical.

Q2. Do you agree that the five categories on impact/risk are the right ones to use?

Yes

Members felt indicators may not necessarily take into consideration the full range of impact, e.g. finance. There's nothing that reflects the 'intensity' of the caring role i.e. is it 24/7? Or are they caring for someone with dementia etc., or do they have a dual caring role? Questions also arose around a critical risk identified in just one area but not others, how would they be assessed? There were also concerns around possible disagreements between carers/Carers' Centre if they were assessing need.

Q3. Do you agree that the above indicators are the most appropriate ones to use?

Yes

Thoughts included: more reflection of what it might mean for each individual carer. Members felt that a statutory body 'Assessor' within the Carers' Centre was a good idea.

Q4. Do you agree that Renfrewshire's eligibility criteria should include a preventative approach, particularly where the assessment of impact is moderate, low or no impact?

Yes

Thoughts included: is there an identified trajectory – is the carer coping? Reviews should be frequent. Early intervention and sign-posting is important. There's a need to plan for emergencies. A need for additional dementia services to continue as this is added support for prevention.

Q5. Where and in what format should eligibility criteria be published?

Both online and in print in Easy Read format, e.g. leaflets. It was thought that people would only read the criteria when they needed to. Areas where they should be

available: Carers' Centre, GP practices, pharmacies, acute facilities, area groups such as the Elderly Forum.

Q6. Are you content that Renfrewshire undertakes to review its eligibility criteria no later than three years after it is published?

Some members felt a three year review period was too long because it was new legislation. The process should perhaps be reviewed more regularly to ensure people receive the right help at the right time.

Do you have any further comments you wish to make concerning Renfrewshire's Eligibility Criteria?

Staff training featured heavily here. It was felt that this was key to the success of the implementation process. Another suggestion was possible peer support workers and the adoption of a more holistic approach. Advocacy support was also raised.

Renfrewshire Young Carers Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for services, a young carer must:

1. Meet the definition of young carer as per the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.

... "carer" means an individual who provides or intends to provide care for another individual (the "cared-for person"). Part 1 (1)

... "young carer" means a carer who –is under 18 years old, or has attained the age of 18 years while a pupil at a school, and has since attaining that age remained a pupil at that or another school. Part 2 (a) & (b).

2. Live in Renfrewshire.
3. Have caring responsibilities which have, or are likely to have, an adverse impact upon their wellbeing, assessed in terms of SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.
4. Have caring responsibilities exceeding that which an 'average' child or young person of the same age and stage of development might reasonably be expected to undertake (for example, helping with shopping, basic housework tasks, preparing simple meals).