

Carers Partnership Board Notes

14th January 2025

1) Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Present:
 - Independent Members from Cambridgeshire x 3
 - Independent Member from Peterborough x 1
 - VCSE sector representative x 3
 - Peterborough City Council Commissioning x 1
 - Peterborough City Council Service delivery x 0
 - Cambridgeshire County Council service delivery x 2
 - Cambridgeshire County Council Commissioning x 0
 - Speakers x 1
- Apologies were received

2) Healthwatch Strategy

Jess led a stakeholder session. The questions asked by Jess were:

- What do you understand about the role?
- How can Healthwatch make a difference for you and help address your needs?
- What are the priorities for Healthwatch, and how would you like to get involved?
- How can we ensure your voice is heard and that Healthwatch remains accessible and inclusive to you all?
- What can you contribute to support Healthwatch, and how would you like us to provide feedback to you?

People gave their thoughts and these were noted by Jess. Jess has met with all the Partnership Boards and Health and Care Forum's. Jess has also met with Healthwatch's Staff, Directors, volunteers, Youthwatch project, and other stakeholders.

The draft strategy will be written in February and approved by the Healthwatch Board of Directors in March. The strategy will run from 1st April 2025 for 5 years. It will be a live document, which means that it will be flexible and adapt if circumstances require it.

Action: The strategy will be shared once it has been approved.

3) Minutes of the previous meeting and Action Log

- The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2024 were approved.
- The Action Log was reviewed.

4) Feedback from Independent Members

Concerns were raised about the migration from older benefits to Universal Credit. This is a national programme from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP). People talked about how challenging it was to have to provide all information again, as their information is not simply transferred from one department to another.

All the information has to be uploaded online, and applications for Universal Credit do not appear to be able to be saved whilst information is brought together.

Action: Graham to raise with the local contact for the DWP.

Concern was raised about a course of support offered by RCE. Person is waiting for an assessment where he believes he will be diagnosed with autism. He was contacted by RCE and invited to take part in a support webinar. It met recently and went straight to a slide presentation on resilience. This course was a course for people waiting for a diagnosis, it was not designed for autistic people.

The person explained that research has shown that autistic people have a great deal of resilience as they utilise a wide range of strategies to cope with their interactions with people and other experiences each day.

He felt that this was treatment before diagnosis.

5) Updates from other meetings and Adult Social Care Forum

The outcome of the bus consultation will soon be known as proposals are being put before the relevant committee's of the Combined Authority.

The Adult Social Care Forum received an update from Gavin Moulton on Community Transport across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The Forum also had an update on the work that has taken place around its priorities.

6) Updates from the all-age Carers Service

Centre 33:

Referral pathway from Centre 33 to Caring Together and Making Space being reviewed.

No waiting list in Cambridgeshire although Peterborough has approximately 6 months waiting list.

- Christmas activity - meals, arts and crafts and pantomime.
- Targeting primary schools in Cambridge City.
- School nurse etc can now code young people as carers on System One.
- Working with Community Teams

Caring Together:

- Reported being really busy.
- Carers Spa Day was very popular
- Afternoon Tea was also very popular
- Online Law Advice continues to be popular.
- Launching new in person and online groups.
- Carers Tick - looking for volunteers for the panel of 94 organisations were awarded

Alzheimer's Society

- Online carers groups
- “Moving on” for carers whose loved one is about to move on to residential care.

7) Update from Social Care Commissioners and Operational Leads

PCC Update

Bridget is now live. Some modules to be added.

Working for Change event was very good.

Commissioned Impact Workshops looking at what and how we commission services.

CCC Update

CQC notification – Webinar for PB members.

Bridget Workshop on 29/1/2025 to cancel. December 12th also cancelled.

Palliative Care launched (GL attending)

8) Any Other Business

Kalvinder (CCC) – “No wrong door” to be a future agenda item.

Siobhan (CCC) – Prep For Adulthood Festival – 11th July.

Date of next meeting

Date: Tuesday 11th March

Time: 11am to 1pm

Venue: Meadows Community Centre, 299 Arbury Road, Cambridge and Zoom