

## WESTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST

**Notes of the Carers Steering Group meeting held  
on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018 commencing at 11.00 am in  
Conference Room, Main Building, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital**

<b>Present:</b>	<p>Ms Catherine Carlin, Head of Service Physical Disability (A) (Chair)          Mrs Cathy Magowan, Carer Support Co-ordinator          Mr Roger Johnston, Social Worker, Adult Mental Health Service          Ms Dympna McNamee, Carer Representative          Mrs Mary Millar, Carer Representative          Mrs Mary Moore, Carer Representative          Mrs Rosaleen Harkin, Asst Director Learning Disability          Mr Alex Reilly, Carer Representative          Mrs Geraldine McLaughlin, Carers Development Worker (NS)          Mrs Glenda Frazer, Carer Representative</p>
<b>Apologies:</b>	<p>Ms Deirdre Walker, Asst Director Social Care          Mrs Susan McDermott, Head of Service (Supported Living &amp; Social Work) Adult Mental Health Service          Mrs Christine Ritchie, Carer Representative          Mrs Louise Gilheaney, Carers Development Worker (SS)          Mr Michael Downes, Carer Representative          Ms Sandra Love, Head of Service, Childrens Disability Services (A)          Mrs Paula Devine, Locality Services Manager, Waterside and Limavady          Ms Tara Boyle, Carer Representative          Mrs Kay Devine, Commissioning Support Manager, HSCB</p>
	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</b>
	Ms Carlin welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made and apologies noted.
<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</b>
	Minutes were signed off as an accurate reflection of the meeting.
<b>3.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>
	Referrals for Carers Assessment where cared for person is not known or not engaging with services – This issue will be revisited with Social Work Leads for clarification.
	D Walker

	<p>Older Persons Carers Forums – Primary Care and Older People have initiated work re setting up a carers forum within their Directorate. Terms of Reference are currently being drafted and the forum will be based initially in Cityside. Childrens Disability Carers Support Group had their first meeting in March with 17 parents attending. The next meeting will be in June. This group will initially be based in Omagh with the expectation to roll out in Derry in near future.</p> <p>Rural Carers Group - The Rural Carers Project aims to improve and maintain the health and wellbeing of socially isolated adult carers living in rural areas of the Western Trust region. The project advisory group identified Roslea area as the initial pilot site. To date three consultation events have been held to seek the views of local carers. It was advised that Anne Love, Volunteer Coordinator, WHSCT, is now part of this group. Mr Reilly continues to keep this forum updated.</p> <p>Carers Vouchers – The Carers Satisfaction Survey will be included with the Carers Newsletter in September. Feedback on carer services will be collated via a survey monkey. There are currently 4,534 carers on the carers database.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>SUPPORTING WORKING CARERS</b></p> <p>To mark Carers Rights Day 2017 events were held in Altnagelvin and SWAH targeting employees of the WHSCT who are informal carers. Human Resources within the Trust are keen to be involved and support the work of the Carers Support Team to establish a support network for staff. Mrs Bonita McQuaid, HR Manager, has been nominated to support the steering group in taking this work forward. Mrs Magowan outlined feedback from a training session held with BT staff.</p>	
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>ENGAGE – A RESOURCE FOR CARERS</b></p> <p>A new website to support involvement in Health and Social Care has been launched. ‘Engage’ has been designed to provide a wide range of information, guides and links to support Personal and Public Involvement (PPI). The Public Health Agency, working in partnership with Health and Social Care staff, service users and carers developed the resource. Engage will stimulate carers to get involved and provide them with the necessary information to start to understand Health and Social Care. It will enable people to increase their knowledge and find out about the different ways in which they may get involved at either the regional or local level. A series of case studies are available to show how the involvement of service users and carers has made a difference to Health and Social Care in a range of different project areas.</p> <p>A range of guides and resources specifically aimed at people who want to get involved have also been developed to help people develop their skills. This includes an e-learning programme to help people to understand Health and</p>	

	Social Care and the importance of ensuring their voice is heard.	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>CARERS STRATEGY</b></p> <p>A copy of the Carers Support Action plan devised by the Northern Health and Social Care Trust was shared with the forum for information. This feeds into the regional Carers Strategy. Advice from HSCB regional strategy implementation group is that H&amp;SCT should have an action plan rather than developing their own strategy. It was acknowledged that the Western Trust need a similar action plan to prioritise work over the next two years.</p>	DW/CM
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>CARERS CASH GRANTS</b></p> <p>Cash Grants are identified through Carers Assessment. An analysis of the spend of each POC within each sector was shared at the forum. The possibility of utilising some of the PCOPS Cash Grants that are not being spent in the Northern Sector and transferring to the Southern Sector and Opals / Hospital Social Work in the new financial year was discussed and agreed. The issue of the signing off of cash grants in mental health needs to be addressed.</p>	CM/GMcL
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>CARERS CONVERATION WHEEL</b></p> <p>The Carers Conversation Wheel has been developed by the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust. It has received good feedback especially within Mental Health. It is designed to promote a conversation between the carers and staff member within the usual consent guidelines. Ms Deirdre Walker is to raise again through the Social Work Leads meeting for approval to commence a pilot. Mrs Rosaleen Harkin is keen to take this forward in ALD services, Mrs Magowan to follow up with Mrs Carina Boyle Social Work Lead ALD.</p>	DW/CM
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>A.O.B.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Safety issues around parking at the Maple Group Health Centre were raised.</li> <li>• Policy for the management of patient choice related related delayed discharges – feedback from this consultation was requested.</li> <li>• Carers requested that expenses be paid directly into bank accounts and not by cheque.</li> <li>• Carers Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11<sup>th</sup> June 2018 Launch in Stormont / PM Silverbirches</li> <li>12<sup>th</sup> June 2018 AM Killyhelvin</li> <li>14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 AM Whitehorse Hotel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>RH</p> <p>DW</p> <p>CM</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acknowledgement was to the service offered to Service Users by Red Cross.</li></ul>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 11.00 am in Conference Room, Main Building, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital, Omagh.	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deirdre Walker  
Asst Director Adult Safeguarding

Date: \_\_\_\_\_