

# NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

## SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING CABINET BOARD

### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES - A. JARRETT

#### MATTER FOR DECISION

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

#### CONSULTATION OUTCOME OF THE NEATH PORT TALBOT DRAFT YOUNG CARERS STRATEGY (2017-2020)

#### 1. Purpose of Report

To inform members of the outcome of the recent public consultation of the Draft Young Carers Strategy 2017-2020 (“the Strategy”) (found Appendix 1 of this Report) and for members to consider approval of the Strategy in light of the above.

#### 2. Executive Summary

The Strategy has been developed in line with the Carers Strategy (Wales) Measure 2010, the NPT Joint Carers Commissioning Strategy 2015-18 and the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWB). The Strategy sets out the commitment, vision and principles of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (“the Council”) in enabling the commissioning of an appropriate needs led services for Young Carers and their families.

#### 3. Background

On 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board approved the Draft Young Carers Strategy 2016-2019 for public consultation. The Draft Strategy was subsequently consulted on for 90 days from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 to 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

The purpose of the NPT Young Carers Strategy is to improve the lives of young carers and their families in Neath Port Talbot. The Council aims to identify and reduce the numbers of children and young people who are undertaking inappropriate caring roles and the numbers of families who rely on the care of a young person for their unmet care needs because this impacts negatively on a young person's emotional and physical well-being. The Council seek to ensure that every young carer in NPT has the resources and support necessary to achieve their full potential and lead a life away from their caring role.

It is intended that this document be used by key partners to drive service planning and commissioning. It describes the services required to support Young Carers and Young Adult Carers within Neath Port Talbot to carry on caring for as long as they are willing and able to do so, in addition to having a life of their own. In addition, it recognises the different needs and outcomes for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers and looks at how through commissioning and service development the Council can build on the achievement of the previous Carers Strategies and the work undertaken as a result of the Carers Measure.

This Strategy is a working document that will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it remains fit for purpose and focused on the changing needs of Young Carers and Young Adult Carers living in the Neath Port Talbot County Borough.

Neath Port Talbot Children and Young People Services will be responsible for the monitoring of the Neath Port Talbot Young Carers Strategy and Action Plan. The Strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis and an update report will be provided to the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Cabinet Board.

#### **4. The Consultation process**

A consultation and engagement process took place, in the format annexed at Appendix 2 of this Report which outlines the engagement activity and groups attended. As an overview, 2 workshops were conducted with 15 Young Carers from the Commissioned Service and this was well received.

The engagement plan adopted a systematic approach to informing key stakeholders of the consultation and the means of providing feedback.

The plan also outlined the activities which were undertaken in an attempt to reach stakeholders who may have protected characteristics as outlined in the Equalities Act 2010. The Draft Strategy Consultation exercise involved young carers, was widely promoted to a wide range of Young Carers' Services and the cared- for person and Third Sector Partners, including our internal directorates with a vested interest to ensure that services can be developed and delivered in a holistic approach going forward. The Council wants to maximise our current pool of resources and plan effectively together for future need identified through the consultation process.

Including Focus Groups with Young Carers, the consultation was produced live on Neath Port Talbot County Borough Councils 'OBJECTIVE' pages. A link to this portal was distributed during the consultation via email to the relevant stakeholders and widely promoted through social media via Council for Voluntary Services.

A summary of the consultation and including themed responses from focus groups can be found in Appendices 3 and 4 of this Report.

Feedback has been received via email, online submissions and verbal themes through focus Group activity.

The main themes of the comments received during consultation can be summarised as follows:-

**The requirement for a Young Person 'friendly' document which outlines the strategy**

**The requirement for more awareness of Young Carers and the barriers faced to be promoted in Schools and Colleges.**

**Appropriate support for Young Carers other than that of peer support groups.**

**The requirement for raised awareness among the local community in relation to Young Carers.**

**Easily accessible online tool kits/advice lines and awareness promotion to be available for young carers to access independently.**

## **More appropriate support for the cared for person to enable Young Carers to feel safer about being away from the house, such as Assistive technology intervention**

The above comments do not suggest significant amendments to the proposed Draft Young Carers Strategy that was presented to CYPE on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017. However, they do highlight the areas of requirements which will allow Young Carers to have a voice in its implementation.

The Draft Young Carers Strategy has therefore been amended to reflect feedback during the consultation in a more detailed manner; however additional data sets have also been included in the EIA to provide Members and the public with the local picture in relation to Young Carers and the National picture and figures have been amended within the strategy to reflect this. In addition, as a result of the consultation, a Young Carer Stakeholder Group will be developed where in which Young Carers can have a platform for their voice in relation to the Strategy and its implementation and a NPT Young Carer Leadership Group, which will consist of partners from Health, Education and Commissioned Services which will develop a detailed implementation plan which will be reviewed and an update on its progress will be brought back to Cabinet Board in 2018.

## **5. Financial Impact**

**There are no financial impacts associated with this Report.**

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. An overview of the EIA has been included in this report and it is essential that Members read the Equality Impact Assessment, which is attached to the report at Appendix 5, for the purposes of the meeting.

## **7. Workforce Impacts**

There are no workforce impacts associated with this Report

## **8. Legal Impacts**

The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 brings strategic relevance to how Local Authorities and public bodies make decisions. It places an emphasis on Local Authorities and other public bodies to work together in a more sustainable and cohesive approach. The Act means that public bodies need to be look at preventative solutions when making decisions for people and communities and that it needs to involve the people living in local communities when planning for the future.

## **9. Risk Management**

Failure by the Council to adopt a Young Carers Strategy will see an inability to ensure accurate and effective commissioning of an appropriate needs led services for Young Carers and their families.

## **10. Consultation**

This item has been included in the Forward Work Programme and consultation has been carried out with relevant stakeholders as detailed in this Report.

## **11. Recommendation**

Having given due regard to the Equality Impact Assessment. It is recommended that Members Approve the Neath Port Talbot Young Carers Strategy 2017-2020.

## **12. Reason for Proposed Decision**

This document builds on the achievements of previous Neath Port Talbot Carers Strategy documents. The current draft document aims to continue to provide strategic Direction for services for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers from 2017-2020. Full endorsement of the Neath Port Talbot Young Carers Strategy 2017-2020 will provide strategic direction for services for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers over the next 3 years.

## **13. Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

## **14. Appendices**

**Appendix 1 - The Draft Neath Port Talbot Young Carers Strategy  
2017-2020**

**Appendix 2 - Communication and Engagement Plan 90 days**

**Appendix 3 - Objective Portal results**

**Appendix 4- Comments raised through Consultation**

**Appendix 5- Equality Impact Assessment for the Draft Young  
Carers Strategy 2017-2020.**

## **15. List of Background Papers**

Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board Report of 5<sup>th</sup>  
January 2017

## **16. Officer Contact**

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