

AssessmentNo	405	Owner	JBurns
Resource	HSCP		Service/Establishment Joint
	First Name	Surname	Job title
Head Officer	Margaret-Jane	Cardno	Head of Service, Strategy and Transformation
	(include job titles/organisation)		
Members	Kim McNab -Carers of West Dunbartonshire John Burns- Service Improvement Lead Lorraine Davin- Service Manager Clare Steel- Carer representative		
	<i>(Please note: the word 'policy' is used as shorthand for strategy policy function or financial decision)</i>		
Policy Title	Eligibility Criteria Policy for (Unpaid) Carers		
	The aim, objective, purpose and intended out come of policy		
	To implement eligibility criteria for unpaid carers living in West Dunbartonshire in compliance with section 21 of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. Implementation will see the unconditional offer of an adult carer support plan/ young carer statement to all identified carers. If the offer is taken up, and someone is assessed as eligible, this will lead to proportionate transparent decision making around supporting carers to access services via Self-Directed Support options, to achieve their desired outcomes. Where the offer is declined or the carer is assessed as ineligible, carers will be supported to access universal services.		
	Service/Partners/Stakeholders/service users involved in the development and/or implementation of policy.		
	West Dunbartonshire Carers Development Group comprising: unpaid carers, representatives from the HSCP Children and Families Social work team, HSCP Finance, WDC Education, HSCP School Nursing, HSCP Adult health and care services, HSCP District Nursing, West Dunbartonshire CVS, Y Sort it, Chief Nurse, HSCP addictions, HSCP Mental health, HSCP Justice, Champions Board, HSCP Information Services, HSCP Care at Home Services, HSCP learning disability services, HSCP Adult Support and Protection		
Does the proposals involve the procurement of any goods or services?	No		
If yes please confirm that you have contacted our procurement services to discuss your requirements.	No		
SCREENING			
<i>You must indicate if there is any relevance to the four areas</i>			
Duty to eliminate discrimination (E), advance equal opportunities (A) or foster good relations (F)	Yes		
Relevance to Human Rights (HR)	Yes		
Relevance to Health Impacts (H)	Yes		
Relevance to Social Economic Impacts (SE)	Yes		
Who will be affected by this policy?			
Unpaid carers who may be entitled to support via the definition in the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 https://www.gov.scot/publications/carers-scotland-act-2016-statutory-guidance-updated-july-2021/ and referred to in the West Dunbartonshire HSCP Local Carers Strategy http://www.wdhscp.org.uk/carers/local-carers-strategy which includes the following: In the Carer (Scotland) Act 2016 “carer” means an individual who provides or intends to provide care for another individual (the “cared-for person”). (a) in the case of a cared-for person under 18 years old, to the extent that the care is or would be provided by virtue of the person's age, or (b) in any case,			

to the extent that the care is or would be provided— (i) under or by virtue of a contract, or (ii) as voluntary work. A “young carer” means a carer who— a. is under 18 years old, or b. 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. In the Act “adult carer” means a carer who is at least 18 years old but is not a young carer. Meaning of “young adult carer” In West Dunbartonshire a carer aged between 16-24 years is considered to be a Young Adult Carer HSCP services, Cared for people and Service Providers for Carer Supports will also be affected. Whilst there is limited detailed data on the number of unpaid carers and the number of unpaid carers who would need support under this policy, some estimations have been used from data available from Carers of West Dunbartonshire.

Who will be/has been involved in the consultation process?

West Dunbartonshire fed into a national consultation regarding eligibility criteria via methods including: 1-1 discussions and contribution via a range of pre existing groups. West Dunbartonshire also had representation on the national Health and Sports committee round table discussion on same. More recently there has been engagement with: Carers of West Dunbartonshire Staff, a small group of carers, a small group of young carers, the Carers Development Group and other local partners including education. While there are no plans to consult further, feedback from stakeholders will be sought as part of the monitoring of the implementation of the policy.

Please outline any particular need/barriers which equality groups may have in relation to this policy list evidence you are using to support this and whether there is any negative impact on particular groups.

	Needs	Evidence	Impact
Age	Unpaid carers, where they accept the offer, will have their needs thoroughly assessed via an adult support and care plan / young carer statement.	Eligibility criteria will apply to all carer groups with a clear and transparent equitable approach. The Carers eligibility criteria and the national eligibility criteria for adult social care people are aligned. The Carers eligibility criteria has already been implemented in several local authorities and been well received by unpaid carers .	From a life course perspective, the policy supports continuity of support for young carers as they become young adult carers and onto becoming adult carers. This enhances equality and that carers are supported across the life course to be children and have a childhood similar to non carer peers and then as adults to have a life alongside caring.
Cross Cutting	Carers of Service Users who may not be assessed as eligible could see a change to their support which may have an impact on the cared for person. Assessments and support for both the carer and the cared		Adult carers support plans and young carers statements will take cognisance of all protected characteristics in accompanying guidance to revised acsp/ycs. The policy sets out clearly how to access self

	for person should be undertaken together whenever possible as a change in one may have a direct impact on the other.		directed support (SDS) options for carer support and this will enhance equality and support a life alongside caring. The policy highlights that acsp/ycs will be reviewed at least annually or when there is a significant change to circumstances and this will have a positive impact as changing needs of unpaid carers will be identified
Disability			Positive impact as protected characteristics considered in adult support and young carer statement and allows support to be tailored accordingly.
Social & Economic Impact		Policy recognises that carers have a right to access support which could sustain their employment and clear pathway to advice services	Focus on supporting employability and advice services should have positive impact
Sex		Current data shows that 76% (n-1287) of the unpaid carers currently being supported from Carers of West Dunbartonshire are female. This is similar to the national picture	Any policy impacts will be experienced more by women as locally and nationally they are more likely to be unpaid carers until retirement age.
Gender Reassign			No data available nationally and locally
Health			The policy sets out maximum waiting times for when a carer should be offered an acsp/ycs

			when caring for someone who is terminally ill which will have a positive impact.
Human Rights			Positive impact on status of carers as rights holders with HSCP and partners as duty bearers
Marriage & Civil Partnership		Currently data on marriage and civil partnership status is collected by Carers of West Dunbartonshire	No anticipated impact
Pregnancy & Maternity			No anticipated impact
Race		Race data collected by Carers of West Dunbartonshire - Race breakdown of carer services currently broadly meets the local profile of the population. Assertive outreach and focused engagement work continues with under represented groups e.g. traveller population and via ISARO https://isaroinitiative.org.uk/	Targeted work should have positive impact
Religion and Belief			No anticipated negative impact
Sexual Orientation		Data on sexual orientation not currently available . Assertive outreach and focused engagement work planned with under represented groups and networks	No anticipated negative impact

Actions

Policy has a negative impact on an equality group, but is still to be implemented, please provide justification for this.

Not applicable
Will the impact of the policy be monitored and reported on an ongoing bases?
A monitoring framework will be developed as part of the programme of work regarding adult carers support plan and young carer statement and reported to the Carers Development Group
Q7 What is you recommendation for this policy?
Introduce
Please provide a meaningful summary of how you have reached the recommendation
This policy should be introduced due to the assessed benefits and absence of significant negative impacts identified through this equalities impact assessment (EQIA). The group who completed the EQIA, made up of the manager from Carers of West Dunbartonshire, a carer rep, an HSCP Service Manager and an HSCP Service Improvement Lead who are all also members of the Carers Development Group which provided its endorsement of the policy, are satisfied that from the available data, the policy stands to make a more positive difference than negative. Examples include advancing equity and equality through transparent and collaborative decision making, ensure, where appropriate, carers can access Self Directed Support options and services proportionate to their needs. Work undertaken to deliver the policy will also see assertive approaches taken to engage seldom heard populations. It was also recognised that some data was unavailable for some certain protected characteristics, both at a local and national level. Efforts will be made to better understand any potential impacts on all protected groups and a monitoring framework is being developed to assist with this.