

<b>Assessment No</b>	995	<b>Owner</b>	rickeera.kaur
<b>Resource</b>	HSCP	<b>Service</b>	Joint
	<b>FirstName</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Job Title</b>
<b>Head Officer</b>	Rickeera	Kaur	Contracts & Commissioning Officer
<b>Members</b>	Neil McKechnie - Contracts, Commissioning & Quality Manager - West Dunbartonshire HSCP Gillian Kirkwood - Service Manager - Y-Sort It		
	<i>(Please note: the word 'policy' is used as shorthand for strategy policy function or financial decision)</i>		
<b>Policy Title</b>	Young Carers - Contract 2024-2026		
	<b>The aim, objective, purpose and intended out come of policy</b>		
	The HSCP intends to award a contract for Young Carers services to the Provider Y-Sort It.  This will allow continued Young Carers services to be agreed and funded for the period 2024-2026  Intended outcomes:  -Consistent provision of support to young carers in West Dunbartonshire (WD) -Improved outcomes in wellbeing indicators for young carers in WD -The HSCP and partner services will meet statutory obligations in supporting young carers -Children and young people (C&YP) will feel valued and supported by services in WD.		
	<b>Service/Partners/Stakeholders/service users involved in the development and/or implementation of policy.</b>		
	WD HSCP Commissioning services Y-Sort IT : including feedback from their board, and people who use their service.		
<b>Does the proposals involve the procurement of any goods or services?</b>			Yes
<b>If yes please confirm that you have contacted our procurement services to discuss your requirements.</b>			Yes
<b>SCREENING</b>			
<i>You must indicate if there is any relevance to the four areas</i>			
<b>Duty to eliminate discrimination (E), advance equal opportunities (A) or foster good relations (F)</b>			Yes
<b>Relevance to Human Rights (HR)</b>			Yes
<b>Relevance to Health Impacts (H)</b>			Yes
<b>Relevance to Social Economic Impacts (SE)</b>			Yes
<b>Who will be affected by this policy?</b>			
Young carers and their networks in the WD area Professionals who support young carers Y Sort It workforce			

<b>Who will be/has been involved in the consultation process?</b>
Gillian Kirkwood, Y Sort It Young Carers, via Y Sort It Strategy and transformation team staff, WDHSCP Contracts and commissioning team staff, WDHSCP

**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.**

Specific group to consider	Needs	Evidence	Impact
<b>Age</b>	The service is available for young people age 8 - 24. This reflects evidenced difference of need for young carers and adult carers, and of the need for paced and managed transitions between children's and adults services. There is an adult carers support service in WD, the services maintain close links to support these transitions.	Improving Lives with Carers in West Dunbartonshire: West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership's Local Carers Strategy 2024-2026 (draft)  Carers (Scotland) Act	Positive - although there is defined age range for referral criteria, the services delivers specialised support specific to the needs of young carers. The service's criteria is in line with national policy and guidance.
<b>Disability</b>	Young carers are obviously much more likely to be affected in some way by disability. Therefore the service must be attuned to the needs and rights of young carers and how to promote these. The service provides accessible meeting spaces for visitors and also assess suitable venues for meeting young carers in the community. The service can advocate for young carer's needs and present these to our services or agencies at the young person's request if needed.	Improving Lives with Carers in West Dunbartonshire: West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership's Local Carers Strategy 2024-2026 (draft)	Positive - the service is accessible and attuned to the needs of people using it.
<b>Gender Reassign</b>	There is no readily available evidence about the impact of caring on trans people or their families.  The service has suitable policies to ensure fair recruitment that ensures as far as possible a staff team that reflects the demographics of the wider WD community.	Service specification: Young Carers Services	Neutral - the service is accessed dependent on young carer need and should undertake full assessment of the individual's holistic wellbeing relevant to their caring role.

<b>Marriage &amp; Civil Partnership</b>	The Local Carers Strategy sets out that services must understand the impact of caring, including on life balance and emotional wellbeing, therefore consideration to the needs of young carers in relation to their family lives will be a priority within the service.	The service undertakes a full assessment of need when required.	Positive - the service will undertake person centered assessment and care planning and respond to any issues as relevant.
<b>Pregnancy &amp; Maternity</b>	<p>The service will continue to support young carers as required, with provision made to support those affected by pregnancy or maternity issues. The service will continue to ensure that it is accessible to young parents, or young carers affected by pregnancy in their family. The service will undertake risk assessment where required if young or infant children are visiting their service with the young carer.</p> <p>The Provider has suitable policies and practices in place to support their workforce in pregnancy and maternity matters.</p>	<p>Improving Lives with Carers in West Dunbartonshire: West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership's Local Carers Strategy 2024-2026 (draft)</p> <p>Carers (Scotland) Act</p> <p>Getting it Right for Every Child - Scot Gov</p>	Positive - individualised assessments of need and care and support from the service should be of benefit to young carers, including advocacy support and support to access and engage with universal services.

<b>Race</b>	<p>Evidence within the Local Carers Strategy is that 1% of people using the service were from minority ethnic groups and there is recognition that this is not reflective of This is recognised within the local strategy and action planning for the service.</p> <p>Positive as the under representation is recognised therefore outreach. education, community focused work can be undertaken. the wider demographic of WD. National evidence suggests that people from of Asian ethnicity are more likely to undertake an unpaid caring role and less likely to seek support with that. Similarly gypsy and traveler communities are under represented in the evidence and research.</p>	<p>The service should continue to undertake monitoring to ensure it is reaching/ accessible to people in the community who are identified as having barriers/ unequal access to services.</p>	<p>Positive as the under representation is recognised therefore outreach. education, community focused work can be undertaken. The Provider works with other local services to identify who may be a young carer and who may benefit from support being offered. In addition, the Provider undertakes educational work with local services to promote the rights of young carers and uptake of support.</p>
<b>Religion and Belief</b>	<p>The service must be aware of and attuned to the needs of people of various religions and beliefs, in order to provide support that reflects the demographics of WD.</p>	<p>The service currently undertakes holistic assessment of individual's needs, including cultural needs.</p>	<p>Positive</p>

<b>Sex</b>	The service continues to recognise how caring responsibilities affect young people differently, and to be responsive to individual and group need.	<p>The Young Carers research report found that a majority of young carers in Scotland were female, and highlighted evidence about gendered differences in the types of care work undertaken by young people. This report also found that young female carers reported poorer wellbeing compared to young male carers, particularly in the 16-24 year old age group (National Care Service - adult social care: equality evidence review).</p> <p>A larger proportion of girls and young women are carers and a majority of young carers and young adult carers are female. Evidence suggests that female young carers are more likely than male young carers to carry out domestic tasks and to provide intimate care (Scot Gov 2017 - Young carers: review of research and data)</p>	Positive
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	The service is allocated on the basis of criteria relating to young caring responsibilities. A holistic assessment is undertaken by the service and updated to ensure accurate understanding of the young carer's needs, and responsiveness to any equalities related issues, such as understanding how LGBTQI+ young people may particularly be affected by caring responsibilities.	<p>Research by the Carers Trust UK 2016, found that "Young adult carers from the LGBT community are more likely to be bullied than their peers.</p> <p>Carers who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender are three times more likely to be bullied than other young carers and 15% more likely compared to other young LGBT people."</p>	Positive
<b>Human Rights</b>	The service plays an integral role in promoting the rights of young carers locally, advocating for these and in recognising and highlighting when systems change is needed. The Young Carers Statement (assessment undertaken by the service) revolves around the young persons rights.	<p>Relevant policies enacted through the service:</p> <p>Carers' charter Your rights as an adult carer or young carer in Scotland (Scot Gov 2018)</p> <p>GIRFEC</p> <p>The Promise</p>	Positive

<b>Health</b>	<p>The service continues to recognise the impact of caring on young people's wellbeing and the cross cutting considerations too. The service offers support specific to improving wellbeing indicators, including creative use of respite provision.</p>	<p>There are clear health inequalities relevant to young carers:</p> <p>More young carers have worse self-reported health than non-carers and fewer have 'very good health'.</p> <p>A long term health condition or disability is more common amongst young carers and young adult carers. It is unknown if and how this may be related to their caring role.</p> <p>Tiredness and feeling 'run-down' is a physical impact that many young carers have reported in various studies. There is a high prevalence of young carers reporting physical disorders such as hair loss and asthma.</p> <p>Young carers and young adult carers are twice as likely as young people generally to report a mental health condition (2011 Census). There is considerable evidence to say that young carers are more likely to suffer from anxiety, stress and depression. Young carers who are female appear to have comparatively worse mental health compared to male young carers. Young carers may find it harder to participate in social activities which may contribute towards feelings of isolation. Studies have also shown that young people often find benefit in their care-giving experience. (Scot Gov 2017 - Young carers: review of research and data)</p>	<p>Positive</p>

<b>Social &amp; Economic Impact</b>	<p>There are complex considerations for the service to analyse for each young person. It is known that young people from deprived areas in WD are more likely to have caring responsibilities than those from WD's affluent areas.</p> <p>It's known that caring responsibilities can impact on a young person's ability to learn and to sustain education, training and employment.</p> <p>The number of students in further and higher education who say that they are carers declines with each year of age. It is difficult to know whether this is due to changes in caring or educational status.</p> <p>Therefore it's crucial that the services continues undertaking young person centred assessments that take into account individual circumstances and include assessment of the young carer's choices and abilities.</p>	<p>(Scot Gov 2017 - Young carers: review of research and data)</p>	<p>Positive</p>
<b>Cross Cutting</b>	<p>There are numerous cross cutting considerations that should be drawn out in individual assessments through the Young Carers Statement.</p>		



**Actions**

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

**Will the impact of the policy be monitored and reported on an ongoing basis?**

Contract monitoring - monthly, then quarterly

Individual care plan monitoring - multi agency where possible and wholly includes young carer and the people important to them - as required

**Q7 What is your recommendation for this policy?**

Introduce

**Please provide a meaningful summary of how you have reached the recommendation**

The Young Carers Service continues to offer significant support to a high number of Young Carers in WD, including advocacy and representation to understand their collective needs and to promote these in local systems and processes.