

**REPORT TO: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
12 OCTOBER 2011**

SUBJECT: RESPITE SERVICE DELIVERY AND DEVELOPMENTS

BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CARE)

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To update Committee on the overall delivery of respite services within Moray, including the delivery of the Concordat Commitment and the developments being realised based upon local demand.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section E (1) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to exercising the function of the Council as Social Work Authority under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Committee:-

- (i) consider the continued development in relation to respite services;
and**
- (ii) consider the ongoing involvement of unpaid carers in the
developments relating to respite services.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Respite Concordat Commitment was a national target for the delivery of an additional 10,000 respite weeks across Scotland. It was to be delivered over 3 years as follows:

Financial Year	Number of Additional Respite Weeks
2008/09	2,000
2009/10	6,000
2010/11	10,000

As a national target there was no division given for each Local Authority, however in Moray it was calculated by population size in the same way as funding is allocated by the Government.

- 3.2 Moray has successfully met and surpassed the targets for the increased delivery over the 3 years of the concordat culminating in the delivery of 1989 respite weeks in 2010/11. Scotland wide the Respite Concordat Commitment has been significantly surpassed with an additional 30,628 respite weeks being reported by the Scottish Government as delivered by the end of 2009/10.
- 3.3 Concurrent with the delivery of the Respite Concordat there have been a number of developments that relate directly to local need and demand.

- (i) A non-means tested respite service was introduced in 2009 as a direct result of consultation carried out for the re-commissioning of unpaid carer services. This service is accessed via the Formal Carers Assessment Process and is in addition to other existing respite services which are means tested.
- (ii) Caring Together in Moray, the local Carers Strategy was co-produced with involvement of almost 5% of the then known carer population. This included the prioritising of issues. Respite was identified as joint 4th priority. Further involvement with the carers found that volume was not the main factor for concern but that carers wanted different respite, more flexible services that better met their needs.
- (iii) A further, more detailed respite survey, was sent out to approximately 600 carers and we received 122 responses. The analysis of this reflects the previous issues identified. With the greatest levels of dissatisfaction expressed in relation to the flexibility of the respite services not meeting the needs.
- (iv) The evidence gathered from the work on the strategy and the respite survey had led to the development of the Short Breaks Bureau to allow introduction of alternatives to traditional respite service delivery, giving people more choice and control. This supports the Personalisation Agenda and the growing opportunities for Self Directed Support.
- (v) Moray Shared Lives Service delivers an alternative to institution based respite for older people and people with a physical and/or sensory disability. And it is planned that this will expand in the next financial year to support service users within Mental Health Services.
- (vi) Moray is collaborating, along with other Local Authorities, with Shared Care Scotland to look at creating a system to share availability of Care Home respite places via a web portal. This will again open up opportunities for choice and reduce the incidence of under-utilised beds that we frequently see.
- (vii) The use of Assistive Technology is being explored as a support or an alternative to other forms of respite. This, in part, is in response to the comments of carers of people who will not accept services but may be more comfortable and less anxious about a piece of equipment.

3.4 The introduction of flexibility into local respite delivery will also allow for less under-utilisation of the respite that is available. Currently a number of our services, including the non-means tested respite are under-utilised. One of the reasons for this is that current services do not meet the needs of all carers and service users.

3.5 Unpaid Carer Support Services and Non-accommodated Respite Services are in the process of being re-commissioned. Carers have been consulted in a variety of ways to find out their views about service delivery. Carers also make up one third of the evaluation panel for the tendering process.

4. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

(a) Single Outcome Agreement/ Service Improvement Plan

The delivery of respite services to unpaid carers relates to the following Single Outcome Agreement, National Outcomes and Service Improvement Plan priorities:

- (i) National Outcome 6– We Live Longer Healthier Lives.
- (ii) Service Priority 3.3 – Promoting Care in the Community, Self-care & Telecare
- (iii) Service Priority 3.4 –Addressing Inequalities

(b) Policy and Legal

This report concurs with the overall aims of current policies i.e. Changing Lives and the Personalisation Agenda.

(c) Financial implications

The resource implications for the delivery of respite services will be within existing resources.

(d) Risk Implications

The delivery of respite services supports the further development of unpaid carer services in Moray, which contributes to the agenda of *Shifting the Balance of Care*.

Failure to deliver appropriate respite services would have a detrimental effect on the above overall aim; the risk being that unpaid carers may not be able or willing to continue to provide care and services will not be able to meet increasing demographic demand.

(e) Staffing Implications

Funding for a Short Breaks Bureau Co-ordinator has been secured as part of the overall approved spend in relation to the Change Fund.

(f) Property

There are no issues arising directly from this report.

(g) Equalities

There are no issues arising directly from this report.

(h) Consultations

The following have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments have been incorporated

Corporate Director (Education and Social Care), Head of Community Care Services, Service Manager – Assessment and Care, Service Manager P&SD Services, Acting Integrated Learning Disability Services Manager, Senior Performance and Quality Officer, Principal Solicitor (Litigation and Licensing) and Deborah O'Shea, Principal Accountant.

5. **CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 This report highlights the continuing development of respite services and sets out the evidence for the drive towards increased flexibility and the introduction of alternative options in order to deliver greater outcomes for unpaid carers.**

Author of Report: Pauline Knox, Carers Strategy & Development Officer
Background Papers: With the Author
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