



# Executive Partnership Board

## Report

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| <b>Title:</b>           | Carer Partnership Board Update  |
| <b>Date:</b>            | 20 February 2012  |
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### Carers Partnership Update

The Carers Partnership Board met on the 25<sup>th</sup> January after the inaugural meeting of the Executive Board in November 2011. This report is an update on key work of the group.

#### Board and Membership

The Board is currently chaired by a carer, the new terms of reference set out that 50% of the 15 members of each board should be service users and carers. The partnership agreed that representatives should be sought to cover a wide range of condition and groups. There was a need identified to continue to secure both operational and partner sign up to the group. The group agreed the following key partners:-

- Carers from a wide range of background representing different conditions and groups
- Voluntary Sector
- Mental Health Trust
- Black and Minority Ethnic (BME)

- People working on the ground

The Carers Partnership Board is working with the SUCO – the ULO to secure wider membership and ensure that carers are not financially disadvantaged by incurring costs of attending meetings.

### Governance

The Carers Partnership Board welcomed the creation of the Executive Board, noted revised Terms of Reference and reporting structure. The Carers Partnership will now revise future schedule to meet bi monthly.

### Carers Strategy

The Strategy has Four Big Ideas, each of the Big Ideas has identified lead from within the group. A written update or exception report is submitted at each meeting. A year one report will produced in May 2012.

### Priorities template

The Carers Partnership Board felt unable to complete the template circulated on behalf of the Executive Board within the timescale set for the following reasons:-

- It need to have wider stakeholder involvement
- Time is needed to develop it
- It Needed longer than 20 minutes on the agenda
- Should not be officer led
- Unclear of how these priorities would fit with strategy already in place

The Carers Partnership Board have agreed to have a wider planning session in March 2012 to complete the template.

## Carers Safeguarding Toolkit

The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) produced a review paper in July 2011 called “Carers and Safeguarding Adults – Working together to improve outcomes.” In response to this document the Safeguarding Quality Assurance Officer has developed a self audit tool for local organisations. Both Carers Bucks and Crossroads Care Bucks and Milton Keynes, Crossroads Care North Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes have agreed to take part in the pilot.

## NHS Breaks

The funding for carers breaks has been the subject of debate locally with the Carers Partnership Board raising the matter with SHA and local Councillor to state their dissatisfaction that the funding had not been identified by NHS Bucks or allocated to general carers breaks. (Breaks are funded by NHSB as part of some continuing care packages and for childrens breaks for carers.)

The new Operating Framework for 2012/13 states additional requirements for PCT's and NHS Clusters. These include transferring funds to the local authorities via S256 for an indicative number of carers' breaks. This should be supported by a joint plan agreed by the both the PCT and Local Authority.

Clare Blakeway Philips - Assistant Director - Partnership Development NHS Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Cluster tabled a draft business case for carer breaks that had been developed in partnership with Bucks CC. Carers welcomed the proposal and endorsed the model proposed. Carers wanted to ensure equal weight is given to Carers' own health and needs, as to the 'cared for' person.

### Domiciliary Care

The Carers Partnership Board expressed its concern and disappointment at the disruption to Domiciliary Care services, given that re-assurances were given at the last meeting.

### Day Care Transformation

Concern has also been expressed, as to whether there will be sufficient ongoing funding for non-building, community-based day provision, particularly for people with Learning Disabilities. It was expressed that family carers of adults with Learning Disabilities often have a very extended, lifelong commitment to their caring role, so special consideration needs to be given to ensure that their contribution is sustainable.