

The Coalition of Carers in Scotland Annual General Meeting

DATE: Wednesday 24th November 2010

VENUE: Apex Waterloo Place Hotel, 23 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh EH1 3BH

Agenda

Morning Session

'The strategy is right, but we need clarity about how it will be implemented. The strategy will be deemed a success only if it actually makes a difference to people's experiences on the ground in their communities' (Jackie Baillie MSP)

The theme of our meeting is 'Translating Caring Together into Action. Throughout the day we will address several of the Headline Actions within the Strategy and discuss how they can be translated into action.

10.30am **Registration and refreshments**

11.00 to 11.10 **Welcome and Introductions**

11.10 to 12.00 **'We will ensure carer representation on Community Health Partnerships' (CHPs)**

As budgets tighten and cuts to local services become a real threat, this session will examine how carer representation on CHPs can help to influence local decision making to the benefit of carers.

- A representative from local government will outline how CHPs, operate, and what their role and responsibilities are.
- Tony Segall will talk about his role as a carer representative of East Lothian's CHP
- This will be followed by a question and answer session

12.00 to 12.30 **'We will invest a further £1 million in 2010-11 to provide more innovative short breaks provision in Scotland to be delivered by the voluntary sector.'**

- Don Williamson from Shared Care Scotland will provide an update on Short Breaks developments in Scotland, including actions arising from the new Carers Strategy and the £5million Short Breaks funding announced by the Scottish Government at the launch of the strategy.
- This will be followed by a question and answer session

12.30 to 1.30 **Lunch**

Afternoon Session

1.30 to 2.00 **Annual General Meeting**

- Chairperson's statement
- Network Coordinator's report
- Treasurer's report
- Election of Executive Committee members
- Any Other Competent Business

2.00 to 3.00 **'We will develop a Carers Rights Charter, consolidating existing legal rights and setting out key principles for carer support both now and in the future'**

Caring Together recognises carers for the first time as 'Equal Partners in Care' and provides a commitment to develop a Carers Rights Charter.

- Jennifer Roe from Carers Link will explore the idea of how 'equal' carers currently are, where do they face difficulties and discrimination in their lives and how we can begin to plan for a more 'equal' future
- Round table discussions

3.00pm **Close of meeting**