



of carers in Scotland

Annual General Meeting

24th November 2010

Carer Engagement in Community Health Partnerships

**‘We will ensure carer representation on Community Health Partnerships’ (CHPs)
Carers will be central to the planning, shaping and delivery of services for the people with care needs and in relation to support for themselves’**

Headline Action Point

Caring Together, Scotland’s Carers and Young Carers Strategy, July 2010

Why Carers have a right to be Involved in Community Health Partnerships

- Carers save £7.68 billion a year – more than three quarters of the NHS budget
- Over 115,000 care for over 50 hours a week,
- There are as many carers as the entire paid care workforce
- Carers are ‘Equal Partners’ and experts with a great deal of knowledge to share
- Economic Downturn will put a squeeze on resources
- Carers need to play a Central role in Shifting the balance of care

What is a Community Health Partnership (CHP)

CHPs were created through the National Health Service Reform (Scotland) Act 2004. They are attached to the local Health Board and also have a Public Partnership Forum which give local communities a chance to influence local services.

CHPs have been charged with the management of community health services. They also:

- Bring together those providing community based health and social care services**
- Feed local needs into Board planning and resource allocation**
- Funding for CHPs is devolved from the NHS Boards and varies in its extent between CHPs**

Recent Developments in Joint Planning

- **Health and social care budgets for older people will now be joint. Partnership areas must develop local implementation plans to come into effect in April 2011**
- **‘Carers will have a seat around the table’ (Shona Robison, October 2010)**
- **A Change Fund of £70million will be established to fund more preventative, personalised services**
- **All political parties are looking at joint budgets and joint services**

10 Good Reasons for Carer Participation on CHPS

1. Pointing out the carer dimension in all discussions and planning of community health services – for example

- when nursing services are reviewed**
- when patient issues are raised**
- when health promotion initiatives are proposed**
- when flu clinics are planned**
- when GP and pharmacist contracts and services are discussed**
- in the development of fall prevention strategies**

10 Good Reasons for Carer Participation on CHPS

2. **Demanding consultation with carers and their organisations before important developments take place**
3. **CHPs are responsible for pharmacy services – pointing out their potential role to help identify and inform carers**
4. **CHP's must demonstrate a strong focus on health equalities – pointing out how carers suffer from health inequalities and making proposals to address these through improved carer support. Drawing attention to the specific situation and cultural needs of BME carers**

10 Good Reasons for Carer Participation on CHPS

- 5. Scrutinising CHP budgets – how much money do they spend on carer support?**
- 6. CHP's have a role in hospital discharge support - drawing attention to the need to support carers in hospital discharge through carer assessments and training**
- 7. CHP's have distinct responsibilities to support the Long Term Conditions agenda – and to develop self-care and self-management strategies for LTC patients – working with carers is essential to support self care initiatives with patients**

10 Good Reasons for Carer Participation on CHPS

- 8. Highlighting the needs of young carers in all discussions on children and family issues, health services aimed at young families and in all long term condition discussions.**
- 9. CHP's should work with schools to promote healthy living, and develop a young carer focus in their work with education services.**
- 10. Carer information strategies funding has been continued - ensure there are transparent ways of allocating funds, and priority is given to supporting local carer organisations to deliver services to identify and enhance the health and wellbeing of carers.**

The Coalition of Carers in Scotland

Supporting Carer Engagement

- **Playing an active role in the implementation of carer engagement in CHPs**
- **Ensuring carer engagement is meaningful and carers on CHPs represent the wider views of local carer communities**
- **Providing training in Carer Participation in Planning**
- **Establishing a forum for carer representatives**
- **Identifying and sharing common issues across Scotland**