

East Lothian Carers Strategy – Action Plan  
Reported to CoG on 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2007

<b>Item 12</b>
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AIM	WHAT WE WILL DO	BY WHEN	WHO	PROGRESS
1.1 Carers will be members of the joint planning groups and will be supported to encourage those groups to identify carers needs and how they will be met.	Promote the appointment of carers to planning groups which make decisions about issues which affect carers ability to care as much and as long as they wish, and identify resources to support Carers' involvement in planning	December 2005	CCOG	Joint Planning structures re-designed in /2 – Carers are now represented on all JPGs  We are working with the Community Care Forum to support the development of members' capacity to represent users and carers.
1.2 Carers and past carers of all ages will be involved in plans for changing existing services or developing new ones	Support the continuation of a regular 'Carers Forum' to contribute to the continuous feedback, monitoring and evaluation of joined up services, improve two way communication and feed into planning mechanisms and the management of operational services	May 2006	CSMT	When asked, Carers did not want a Carers Forum. Carers contribute to service development through Joint Planning Group and through specific issue based meetings
1.3 Carers will have real opportunities to participate in the review, development and delivery of our Joint Future arrangements.	Joint Future has now been mainstreamed into the work of JPGS.			Joint Future has now been mainstreamed the work of JPGS, with carers involved as partners.  Carers are also involved in the roll out of training in single shared assessment.
1.4 Carers involved in the planning process will be empowered and supported to enable them to represent carers generally	Identify practical actions which can be taken by purchasers and providers to enable carers to engage in planning and consultation at all levels e.g. transport, appropriate respite, involvement with the Access Panel	September 2006	CPG/ COG/Chairs of Planning Groups/CoEL	We are currently examining how we can better support carers involved in planning ; service development.  We are working with the Community Care Forum to support the development of members' capacity to represent users and carers.

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<p>1.5 Young carers views and needs will be represented in planning structures and more effective and specific consultation will take place.</p>	<p>Request joint planning groups across the council to advise CPG of what they are doing for carers in general and Young Carers in particular.</p>	<p>October 2006</p>	<p>CPG</p>	<p>Young Carers are represented on Carers Planning Group,.</p>
	<p>Engage the Heads of Service in Education and Children’s Services in discussion about the specific links between the Carers’ Planning Group, Carers’ Panel and Education and Children’s Services to ensure that Young Carers needs are addressed in an integrated way.</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Director of Community Services</p>	<p>Joint planning structures are being further designed (August 2007) to enable better connection with children’s services planning and more integrated responses to the need of young carers.</p>
	<p>Continue to support specialist workers in identifying ways Young Carers needs can be genuinely represented without Young Carers’ ‘downtime’ being further compromised</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>CPG</p>	
<p>1.6 CPG’s contribution to planning will be better informed by better information.</p>	<p>Explore the types of quantitative and qualitative data which is already generated and how this can be used effectively</p>	<p>December 2006</p>	<p>CPG/ Service Manager, Business Support</p>	<p>An information and data review has been carried out as part of the work the COG is leading to develop our performance framework.</p>
	<p>Encourage the identification of resources to take forward work to collate data which is</p>	<p>December 2006</p>	<p>CPG/ Service Manager Business</p>	<p>Carers Planning Group will develop local information requirements and targets for carers, as part of the process of developin</p>

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	<p>currently available - link with Local Improvement Targets Use the information collated from carers assessments to identify need and inform planning;</p> <p>particular information needs identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recording of the offer of assessment</li> <li>• The recording of the number of assessments requested</li> <li>• The recording of the number of assessments completed</li> <li>• The recording of information relating client group of the 'cared for' person</li> </ul>	February 2007	Support Chairs of Joint Planning Groups	<p>the 2008-2011 Carers Strategy. Our re-designed Joint Planning Groups are developing their client strategies, supported by more robust information than previously</p> <p>This information is now available</p> <p>This information is now available</p> <p>This information is now available</p> <p>This information is now available</p> <p>We are examining how we might use CDS /UDSET to better capture carers' needs – both met and unmet.</p>
1.7 Support the delivery of the Carers Information Strategy	Continue to work with NHS colleagues to develop the Carers Information Strategy and implement the Action Plan currently being developed with Lothian NHS Board	Timescales to be agreed with LNHSB	LNHSB/ ELCHP	<p>Carers Information Strategy now produced and approved by Scottish Executive.</p> <p>Rollout being led by NHS Lothian</p>
2.1 Increase opportunities for people who are or who become carers to be recognised (and to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and maintain an overview on the quality, availability and accessibility of information about carers and caring</li> </ul>	December 2006	CPG	<p>Poster based awareness raising campaign run as part of Carers Week (2005-6)</p> <p>The Carers Information Strategy will provide framework for further publicity and awareness</p>

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recognise themselves) as carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look to a range of methods to publicise Carers issues – e.g. ELC's FOCUS newspaper</li> <li>• Contribute to the proposed Community Care newsletter to improve the availability of information to Carers.</li> </ul>			<p>raising</p> <p>Carers of East Lothian have produced a revised carers information pack, using funds provided by East Lothian Council.</p> <p>Proposed newsletter not produced</p>
2.2 Carers will be offered the recognition and support they require to allow them to continue in their caring role for as long as they wish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to support the work of Carers organisations and others whose work provides opportunities to increase awareness and recognition of carers.</li> <li>• CPG will be involved in developing and delivering training for staff whose work brings them into contact with Carers and who undertake Carers Assessments</li> </ul>	Ongoing	CPG with partners	<p>Additional funding provided in 2007 by NH Lothian to match funding currently provided by East Lothian Council. This will support the work of Carers of East Lothian</p> <p>East Lothian Council funded the production of a new carers information pack in 2006.</p> <p>Adult Social Care has produced its draft Learning and Development Strategy. Members of Carers Planning Group were involved in this process.</p> <p>We will discuss with carers how they can best support the implementation of the strategy</p>
3.1 All carers will know that they are entitled to an assessment of their own	Continue to engage with relevant management structures (Community Care service managers and team leaders, Chief Nurses etc.) to ensure professionals are	Ongoing	CPG, Managers in ELC, ELCHP	<p>Work is ongoing to promote Carers Assessments across health and social care</p> <p>We have increased the number of</p>





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4.1 Former carers have opportunities to speak to someone when they need to, and where they want to.	Support the consultation of former carers being undertaken by COEL and use its findings to inform future plans.	November 2006	CPG/CoEL	<p>Research carried out by Carers of East Lothian and reported to CPG in 2006. This will inform the Carers Strategy (2008-2011).</p> <p>Former carers continue to contribute to policy and strategy development through their involvement in Carers of East Lothian.</p>
4.2 Former carers are able to get help with financial matters and returning to (or starting) work or study	Promote the development of initiatives which support the access of Carers to employment and which support Carers who are already in paid employment.	Ongoing	CPG	<p>This is part of the core service Carers of East Lothian provide.</p> <p>Carers of East Lothian has submitted bid to National Lottery for funding to support an initiative to support carers gain or sustain employment</p>
4.3 Former carers can get support to build up social activities and interests	Provide support to existing services that have a role in supporting people whose caring role has come to an end.	Ongoing	CPG	<p>This is part of the service Carers of East Lothian provide.</p> <p>Carers of East Lothian has submitted bid to National Lottery for funding to support former carers.</p>