

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
18 JANUARY 2018
SUPPORT FOR CARERS IN NOTTINGHAM
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To ensure that carer support services are meeting the needs of carers in the City.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- a) review how commissioners are working to ensure that carer support services meet the needs of carers in the City;
 - b) review how providers are working to ensure that their services meet the needs of carers in the City; and
 - c) identify any further evidence that it wishes to consider.

3 Background information

- 3.1 During the course of the Committee's 2015 review of end of life and palliative care services, councillors spoke to carers about both the end of life care received and the support that they received as carers of someone at the end of their life. The carers spoken to commented that they felt that the experience of being a carer of a person receiving end of life care could be lonely and isolating. They felt that their caring responsibilities took over their life for that period. They discussed that there was a feeling of being inadequate to carry out the role. While the carers had made use of respite care, they were not aware of other support available to them. While recognising that these were small scale anecdotal examples, in its report the Committee highlighted the need to recognise the potential for social isolation of carers and consider how providers can support carers at risk of social isolation or experiencing social isolation. The Committee also wanted to ensure that there were appropriate mechanisms for ensuring carers are aware of the support available to them and how to access it. These recommendations were fed into the strategic review of support for carers carried out by Nottingham City Council and Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group in 2016.
- 3.2 Following this review, carer support services were recommissioned and new services commenced in April 2017.

- 3.3 Nearly one year into the new service contracts, the Committee wanted to review how the services were working and, in particular, the extent to which they are meeting the needs of carers. A paper about the strategic review carried out, the re-commissioning of services and the services currently commissioned is attached. Representatives of commissioners and providers of carer support services will be attending the meeting to discuss this with the Committee.
- 3.4 The Committee may wish to consider whether there is any other evidence that it would like to consider to contribute to this review, for example service user experience.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Paper on Support for Carers in Nottingham

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Report and recommendations of the Health Scrutiny Committee Review of End of Life/ Palliative Care Services 2015/16

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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