

# WORKING TOGETHER

to Support Carers & Young Carers  
in Wandsworth **2017-2020**





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# Forward

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We are delighted to be introducing this latest strategy for carers and young carers in Wandsworth. It comes at a pivotal time, with the ever-increasing need to provide good quality services to carers and young carers and those they care for within the rapidly changing landscape of health and social care. Wandsworth Council, the local NHS and local voluntary sector organisations are committed to working together in order to achieve our aims.

This strategy draws on the views, learning, experiences, ideas and aspirations of carers and young carers and the services that work with them. It provides us, collectively, with a focal point from which to further understand the diverse needs of local carers and cared-for people and build on the good work already taking place to support them in and beyond their caring roles.

This time round we have aligned our priorities with those highlighted in the national carers' strategy; however, we remain mindful of the local need and have ensured that carers and young carers in Wandsworth were involved in shaping this strategy from the beginning.

Carers and young carers are key partners in care and indeed in delivering this strategy so we will continue to work closely with them to inform and influence decisions we make and to hold us to account for what we say we will do.

Although implementing this strategy over the next three years will not be without its challenges we are confident that we can achieve the intended outcomes for carers, young carers and cared-for people in the borough.



Cllr Paul Ellis  
Chairman  
Wandsworth Health and Wellbeing Board



Cllr Claire Clay  
Carer's Champion  
Wandsworth Borough Council

# Memorandum of Understanding - An Integrated Approach to Identifying and Assessing Carer Health & Wellbeing in Wandsworth

## 1 Introduction

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This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets out the agreed approach to supporting the implementation of an integrated approach to the identification and assessment of carers' health and wellbeing needs across Wandsworth.

- a. Wandsworth Borough Council
- b. The following commissioners and providers of NHS-funded care:
  - NHS Wandsworth Clinical Commissioning Group
  - St. George's University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
  - South West London & St. George's Mental Health NHS Trust
  - GP Federation, Battersea Healthcare Community Interest Company
- c. Carers Partnership Wandsworth

## 2 Our vision for carers

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Our vision in Wandsworth is to raise awareness of the vital roles played by carers and young carers; to collectively provide good quality personalised support to carers, and young carers and those they care for; to build solid networks ensuring that carers and young carers know where to go for information and support; to enable carers and young carers to balance their own lives with their caring roles, and; to ensure that local service providers understand these needs and are committed to working together to meet them.

# 3 Working together to support carers

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Partners agree to co-operate with each other, to promote the wellbeing of individual carers, and to adopt a whole family approach in their work to support local carers of all ages, in order to:

- a. maintain the independence and physical and mental health of carers and their families
- b. empower and support carers to manage their caring roles and have a life outside of caring
- c. ensure that carers receive the right support, at the right time, in the right place
- d. respect carers' decisions about how much care they will provide and respect carers' decisions about not providing care at all
- e. ensure that health and social care services provided are reflective of the needs of local carers as well as those who use the services directly





## 4 Key principles

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The integrated approach to identifying, assessing and supporting carers' health and wellbeing needs rests on a number of supporting principles. Each of these principles covers a number of practical points and each of these practical points features examples of positive practice, in order to encourage other practitioners and commissioners to replicate or build on success.

Partners to the Memorandum of Understanding agree that:

- 4.1 **Principle 1** – We will support the identification, recognition and registration of carers in primary care.
- 4.2 **Principle 2** – Carers will have their support needs assessed and will receive an integrated package of support in order to maintain and/or improve their physical and mental health.
- 4.3 **Principle 3** – Carers will be empowered to make choices about their caring role and access appropriate services and support for them and the person they look after.
- 4.4 **Principle 4** – The staff of partners to this agreement will be aware of the needs of carers and of their value to our communities.
- 4.5 **Principle 5** – Carers will be supported by information sharing between health, social care, carer support organisations and other partners to this agreement.
- 4.6 **Principle 6** – Carers will be respected and listened to as expert care partners, and will be actively involved in care planning, shared decision making and reviewing services.
- 4.7 **Principle 7** – The support needs of carers who are more vulnerable or at key transition points will be identified early.

## 5 Moving forwards

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Actions arising from this agreement are set out in the strategy and action plan attached to this MoU.

We will put in place arrangements for periodic audits and the provision of reasonable assurance to the Council, Health and Wellbeing Board, Clinical Commissioning Group, and the public, on how this memorandum of understanding is being implemented and how our work is making a difference to carers. Feedback from carers, their representatives, and those who are cared for, will be an essential element of these audits.

We will involve carers, in recognition that they are 'experts by experience', in monitoring and reviewing services, and when seeking to redesign, commission or procure carer support services.

We will put programmes for learning and development in place to raise the awareness and understanding of the needs of carers and their families, and of local carer support services.

We will design training and support for those undertaking carers needs assessments to have the necessary knowledge and skills. This will include ensuring that practitioners in the local authority and partner agencies are aware of the specific requirements concerning carers of the Care Act 2014 and amendments to the Children and Families Act 2014 and accompanying Guidance and Regulations.





## 6 Thinking carer across the system

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By supporting carers we are also supporting those who are cared for. No one should have to care alone. In order to ensure that carers receive the right support, at the right time, and in the right place, a carer who indicates that they require additional support or that their capacity or willingness to continue caring is diminished, should be referred to the local carer support organisation to have their immediate needs addressed.

Where a carer indicates they have a health need during an interaction with the NHS, this health need should be addressed as soon as possible, after which the healthcare practitioner should initiate a discussion about the carer's wider support needs and refer to the local carer support organisation.




Partnership working and co-operation is key to providing a joined up, seamless service. This will include joint working between the local authority, the NHS, voluntary organisations, education, public health, housing and local communities to support carers.

Central to this joint working will be the development of local data and information sharing processes between agencies, so that information follows the carer across their own care and support pathway without them constantly having to re-tell their story.

The needs of carers should also be recognised by commissioners and planned for. Work through the local Health and Wellbeing Board, the Better Care Fund Board, and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, will include identification of the needs of carers, including Young Carers and Young Adult Carers in the local area; this identification will be crucial in avoiding crisis breakdowns.

The local Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy will include shared strategies for meeting these identified needs, setting out arrangements for working together and the actions that each partner will take individually and collectively.

# 7 Signatories

Organisation	Name and title	Signature
Wandsworth Health and Wellbeing Board	Cllr Paul Ellis, Chairman	
Wandsworth Borough Council	Councillor Claire Clay, Carers' Champion	
Wandsworth Carers' Partnership Board	Greta Adedeji, Carer Representative	
Wandsworth CCG, Commissioning & Planning	Josh Potter, Director	
Wandsworth Borough Council, Department of Adult Social Services	Kerry Stevens, Assistant Director (Operations)	
Wandsworth Borough Council, Department of Public Health	Houda Al-Sharifi, Director	
Wandsworth Borough Council, Department of Children's Services	Dawn Warwick, Director	
St George's NHS University NHS Foundation Trust	Elizabeth Palmer, Director of Quality Governance	
Battersea Healthcare Community Interest Company	Jeremy Fenwick, Chief Executive Officer	
Wandsworth Carers' Centre, Carers' Partnership Wandsworth	Eglionna Treanor, Chief Executive Officer	
Wandsworth Young Carers' Project, Family Action	Nigel Lockley, Operational Manager	

# **Wandsworth Carers and Young Carers Strategy and Action Plan**



# 1 Vision statement

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Our vision in Wandsworth is to raise awareness of the vital roles played by carers and young carers; to collectively provide good quality personalised support to carers, and young carers and those they care for; to build solid networks ensuring that carers and young carers know where to go for information and support; to enable carers and young carers to balance their own lives with their caring roles, and; to ensure that local service providers understand these needs and are committed to meeting them.

## 2 Introduction

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Carers play a highly valued role in supporting those who are vulnerable due to age, frailty, illness and disability by enabling them to remain in their own homes and communities for longer whilst ensuring their health and wellbeing needs are met, sometimes at the cost of their own health, wellbeing, social and economic needs.

Children and young people often have caring responsibilities too and this can present a different set of challenges; young carers often miss out on opportunities that other children have to learn, play and enjoy a normal childhood. They can become isolated and with no relief from the pressures at home can develop poor physical or mental health. Young carers should not be providing care in the same way as adult carers, nor should they be spending a lot of their time caring for someone.

In recognition of the vital role that carers perform and with the goal of preventing young carers from taking on inappropriate caring roles this strategy has been developed to drive the support that will enable carers and young carers to continue providing appropriate levels of care for as long as they chose to and in a way that will not be harmful to their health or wellbeing.





This Strategy responds to national Government policy and sets out Wandsworth Borough Council's (WBC) and NHS Wandsworth Clinical Commissioning Group's (WCCG) priorities for supporting carers and young carers in Wandsworth. The strategy forms part of a Memorandum of Understanding between local health and social care organisations and is accompanied by an action plan for how the defined objectives will be met.

The strategy has been developed by the Carers' Partnership Board (formerly the Carers Strategy Group). Through focus group discussions carers and young carers were also involved in this process. The views of those working within health, social and community care have also been taken into account in developing this strategy.

The issues found to be most important to carers; such as getting information at the right time and access respite when needed, and for young carers having the time and energy to complete homework and socialise with other young people, have been aligned to the broader priorities defined in this strategy.

It is also important to look at the support needs of young adult carers, usually defined as being between the ages of 14 and 25, as they are faced with the additional challenges that come with transitioning from children's to adult services.

WBC and WCCG recognise the need to implement more innovative service delivery methods in order to maximise the resources available for supporting carers and young carers while fulfilling our commitment to maintaining high quality support to them. We will continue working in partnership with all stakeholders in order to achieve this.

# 3 Background

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## 3.1 Why Support Carers and Young Carers?

Although caring for a loved one can be very rewarding it can also have a negative impact on a carer's health and wellbeing particularly for a child or a young person; putting them at risk of harm or having a negative effect on their achievements in school and on their social and emotional development.

The GP patient survey in 2013 highlighted the impact of caring on carer health; 51% of non-carers were found to have a long-standing health condition which rose to 60% of all carers and 70% of carers caring for 50 or more hours per week. 83% of carers stated that caring had a negative impact on their physical health while 87% stated that caring affected their mental health. Similarly, young carers often report feeling tired or under pressure.

In 2013 research by Carers Trust and the University of Nottingham found that almost a third of young carers surveyed (29%), reported their own physical health was 'just OK', and 38% reported having a mental health problem.

Young carers providing between 20 and 49 hours per week are over 3 times more likely to report their health as not good compared to children without caring responsibilities (Office of National Statistics, 2011).

We also know that in Wandsworth young carers are three times as likely as their peers to be persistently absent from school and over twice as likely to be classified as School Action Plus on the Special Education Needs register.

Identifying carers often presents a challenge as many people do not see themselves as carers but instead just a family member, a spouse or a friend. It can also be difficult to identify where there are children or young people with caring roles as it is usually only the adults in each situation that come into contact with the health and social care services. Many families also fear the idea of social services involvement so would rather avoid it.

Carers and young carers are key partners in recognising the vulnerability of those they care for but it is important to note that carer support is a crucial factor in reducing the likelihood of harmful behaviour (intended or not) toward the carer and/or the cared for person (Social Care Institute for Excellence review, 2011).

Each year the UK economy is saved billions of pounds through the care provided by carers and young carers so it is in everybody's interest to ensure they are properly supported.



## 3.2 Current Legislation Relating to Carers

In 2014, the Government published **Carers Strategy: Second National Action Plan 2014-16** which highlighted their plans to recognise and support carers. Four key areas were prioritised:

1. Identification and recognition
2. Realising and releasing potential
3. Supporting carers to stay healthy
4. A life alongside caring

The strategy provided a platform for developing specific pieces of legislation around supporting carers.

### 3.2.1 The Care Act 2014

The **Care Act** (2014) brings together previous social care legislation into one act and means important changes for carers as of 1st April 2015:

- For the first time carers have the same legal rights as service users
- Local authorities have a duty to assess carers who may have eligible needs
- Carers who meet eligibility criteria have a right to a support plan and a personal budget
- Carers may be charged for services they receive in their own right
- Carers should be supported to retain and gain employment
- Carers have new rights to be consulted on the cared for person



- Local authorities have a duty to provide information and advice relating to care and support locally, to include:
  - training – learning and skills for caring
  - coping – with routine caring responsibilities
  - managing work – how the workplace takes into account carer’s responsibilities
  - local support and services – knowing where to go close to home
  - benefits and finance – assistance and independent advice available
  - information on assistive technology – devices and equipment that improve daily living

### 3.2.2 The Children and Families Act 2014

The **Children and Families Act** (2014) in conjunction with the Care Act (2014) seeks to ensure that young carers and parent carers receive the support they need. The legislation now ensures the right to an assessment of needs for support will be extended to all young carers under the age of 18 regardless of who they care for, what type of care they provide or how often they provide it and:

- Places a clearer duty on local authorities to undertake an assessment of a young carer’s needs for support on request, or on the appearance of need.
- Requires councils to ensure that young carers are identified and there is consideration as to whether they are a Child in Need.
- Makes links between children’s and adults’ legislation to enable local authorities to align the assessment of a young carer with an assessment of an adult they care for to prevent inappropriate care.
- Requires councils to be proactive about identifying young carers in their area and acting to help reduce their need for support through the provision of information and preventative measures (for example in schools or through early help services).

Under the Children and Families Act (2014) local authorities also have a duty to provide an assessment to a parent of disabled child under the age of 18 if it appears that the parent carer has support needs or if they request an assessment.

Young people turning 18 and their carers may also be entitled to adult social care services; there is therefore some overlap between the Children and Families Act (2014) and the Care Act (2014) with respect to providing support to young adult carers (aged 18-25).

The Government expects that these changes will trigger action from both children’s and adults services – assessing why a child is caring, what needs to change and what would help the family to prevent children from taking on inappropriate caring duties.

# 4 Carers and young carers in Wandsworth

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## 4.1 Prevalence

The 2011 Census showed there to be 307,000 people living in Wandsworth, 19,728 of whom are carers age 16 or over. Of these, 13,132 (4.3%) people provide less than 19 hours of unpaid care each week, 2,876 (0.9%) provide 20-49 hours and 3,977 (1.3%) people provide more than 50 hours of unpaid care each week.

According to the Census 8.7% (1,719) of the carers in Wandsworth are under the age of 24 while 15.5% (3,050) of carers are aged 65 or above with the remaining 75.8% percent of carers being of working age.

Of these 19,728 carers, 3,631 (18.4%) reported having 'fair' health while 1,227 (6.2%) reported having 'bad' or 'very bad' health. Census results revealed that the number of people reporting 'very good' or 'good' health increased as the hours of care provided decreased.

Although Census figures are unlikely to capture the situation entirely they do provide a snapshot of local trends.

Measuring the number of young carers in Wandsworth is challenging, in part because young carers often wish to remain hidden. Although national surveys vary widely in estimating the number of young carers in the UK there are thought to be between 500 and 600 in Wandsworth.

## 4.2 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2014 (JSNA) for Wandsworth highlights the impact that changing demands, particularly in older people's services, could have on carers. With the aging population and the drive to keep people at home for longer and out of hospital the focus for carers within the JSNA is to ensure that more carers receive an assessment of their own needs.

Similarly the JSNA also recognises young carers as a vulnerable group with known inequalities in later life, though the number of young carers in Wandsworth is currently unknown. The JSNA highlights the need to increase identification of young carers, prevent young people from taking on inappropriate caring roles and ensure that young carers who have been identified are afforded the same educational and developmental opportunities as their peers who do not have caring roles.

## 4.3 Current service provision

In August 2015 a new carer support service, **Carers Partnership Wandsworth**, was jointly commissioned by WCCG and WBC to support adult carers in Wandsworth. Services are grouped into five main areas:

- Advice, Information and Informal Advocacy
- Peer Support
- Respite and Unplanned Replacement Care
- Back Care and Therapies
- Health & Social Care Liaison and Training

WBC also funds a **Young Carers Project** which provides young carers with the opportunity to socialise, share experiences; participate in activities and outings, and; access support for issues such as with school work, future planning and their caring roles.

In addition to these services WBC and WCCG coordinate a number of other initiatives through which carers and young carers are supported:

- The **Wandsworth Carers Guide** and the **Adult Care Information Service** each provide a comprehensive directory of the services available to carers and young carers.
- As part of the **Planning All Care Together** programme (**PACT**) WCCG commissions a 30 minute carer consultation which provides adult carers with the opportunity to discuss any health and wellbeing issues arising as a result of their caring role with their GP. The service is available to any carer with a Wandsworth GP.
- WBC is committed to identifying and assessing carers and young carers who may have support needs.



# 5 Our vision for carers and young carers in Wandsworth

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Our vision in Wandsworth is to raise awareness of the vital roles played by carers and young carers; to collectively provide good quality personalised support to carers, and young carers and those they care for; to build solid networks ensuring that carers and young carers know where to go for information and support; to enable carers and young carers to balance their own lives with their caring roles, and; to ensure that local service providers understand these needs and are committed to working together to meet them.

WBC and WCCG want to build on the progress we have made in supporting carers and young carers over previous years and encourage a more joined up and seamless approach to supporting carers across the different organisations, resulting in an improved experience for carers, young carers and cared-for people in using health and social care services.

We will continue to fund the services that provide direct support to carers and young carers and we will work more closely with services that provide direct care and support to cared-for people, ensuring that the needs of carers and young carers and the challenges they face are addressed as part of the care planning process. We will endeavour to build closer links with the third sector with the aim of reaching out to unidentified carers within their own communities where support may be more readily received.

We would like to build on our capacity to understand the needs of carers and young carers and those they care for through more comprehensive review and analysis of data that we collect while continuing to evaluate the impact of our commissioned services on them. In order to achieve this we recognise the importance of creating opportunities for carer and young carer involvement in service monitoring and review and plan to further develop these further.

We will also strengthen lines of accountability for increased assurance that strategic aims will be delivered.

## 5.1 Carer and Young Carer Engagement

The Council and CCG recognise the importance of ensuring that carers and young carers are engaged at every stage of the commissioning process – from service planning to development, delivery and monitoring - as this is fundamental to understanding of their needs and ensuring these are met.

Currently in Wandsworth we use a number of methods for obtaining feedback from carers and young carers about the services we deliver and for engaging them in the process of developing these.

Feedback methods include Department of Health Carers Survey, user satisfaction questionnaires, focus groups, workshops and participation in delivery groups.



In developing this strategy, two workshops and a survey were conducted to begin to understand what carers felt worked well and where they wanted to see improvements. Carers were again consulted via another workshop, closer to completion of the strategy, to ensure it was still reflective of their needs. The key issues for carers were:

- Lack of awareness of what services were available to them
- Lack of consistency between the support they are promised and the support they have received
- Having to navigate complex health and social care systems unsupported can be very challenging
- Providing constant care with no break is very hard

A workshop was also held at the beginning of the process to find out what young carers wanted the strategy to look like. The key issues for young carers were:

- Often not enough time or energy to complete homework tasks
- Difficult to focus in school lessons
- Lack of opportunities to socialise with other young people
- Other young people that don't have caring responsibilities often don't understand

We will continue to engage carers and young carers in these processes and increase opportunities for such participation.

## 5.2 Priorities, Aims & Actions

This strategy focuses on four main priorities which have been aligned to the four priorities defined within the National Carers' Strategy Action Plan (2014). Each priority is underpinned by strategic aims.

### 5.2.1 Priority One - Identification and Recognition

Timely identification and recognition of carers and young carers is key to having their support needs understood and met by those who are responsible for developing and delivering the services used by them and those they care for. It is also a key factor in preventing the health and wellbeing of carers and young carers from deteriorating and resulting in their own need to access acute services.

Carers and young carers are experts in the care and support that they provide so it is important for the health and social care professionals that work with them to recognise and respect their views in planning care for those with care needs.

In Wandsworth we have made significant progress in raising awareness of carers and young carers by working closely with schools, health and social care organisations and the voluntary sector. Initiatives include:

- Staff training
- Establishing carers and young carers leads in schools and in GP practices
- Facilitating opportunities for carers and young carers to engage in the process of service planning
- Facilitating regular carers forum meetings

We recognise that further work is needed to raise the profile of carers and young carers in order to encourage identification, particularly self-identification for those who do not see themselves as carers, and to ensure their needs are considered at key points of contact with local services.

#### Adult carers

We aim to:

- Work with local services to improve staff carer awareness and to improve our understanding of the local carer population to facilitate proportionate identification and support.

#### Young carers

We aim to:

- Raise awareness within health and social care settings, among staff and service users, of young carers and the impact that caring can have on their development and day to day lives.

### 5.2.2 Priority Two - Realising and releasing potential

This priority focuses on improving support to young carers, young adult carers, carers of working age and former carers.

For many children and young people caring has a negative impact on educational attainment and thus future development and career opportunities. Caring is also likely to have a negative impact on emotional health and wellbeing and the ability to develop a social life or to 'be a child'. It is therefore important to ensure young carers have the support they need to reach their educational potential and pursue their goals.

The ability to gain or to remain in employment is hindered by caring responsibilities for many adults, which can have a negative impact on confidence and wellbeing. Supporting carers to know their employment rights and to access training will enable them to gain new skills and refresh old ones. This will assist some in remaining in employment and others in the process of re-integration into the workforce, particularly where a caring role comes to an end.

Carers can currently access a number of free training courses on Wandsworth Council's staff training and development programme and we plan to improve this access through clearer information and increased publicity. Further to this Carers Partnership Wandsworth facilitates a range of free training courses for carers.

#### Adult carers

We aim to:

- Support carers in understanding their rights around employment and benefits while
- Support carers in gaining and sustaining skills and to explore employment options once the caring role comes to an end.

#### Young carers

We aim to:

- Work closely with schools to improve processes for identifying young carers and understanding and meeting their needs.

### 5.2.3 Priority Three - Supporting carers and young carers to stay healthy

Accessing support in a timely fashion is key to enabling people to continue caring for as long as they wish to do so and in ensuring they are in a suitable position to carry out their caring roles safely and effectively. Early intervention for young carers can reduce the negative impact on outcomes for young carers.

A common barrier to accessing services in a timely fashion is the need for carers to repeat their story to different health and social care professionals. Not only does this present a challenge to carers and young carers but also means that professionals may miss out on key information when assessing the support needs of carers and young carers. We recognise that work is needed to improve efficiency in way that information is shared across different organisations.

We plan to continue working with health and social care professionals to improve their understanding of the caring role and to ensure that effective protocols are in place for sharing information about and supporting carers and young carers and those they care for.

We aim to ensure that quality information and advice about healthy lifestyles and council and CCG funded preventative services that promote good health and wellbeing is available to carers and young carers. We recognise the need to target those engaged with services as well as those who are not. This will equip carers to make informed choices that can help them to look after their own health and wellbeing as well as knowing where to go for help when they need it.

#### Adult Carers

We aim to:

- Support carers in accessing timely, personalised assessment, outcomes and reviews to ensure they can undertake their caring duties safely and within their limitations.

#### Young carers

We aim to:

- Work proactively across Children's and Adults services to prevent children from taking on inappropriate caring roles and to ensure that outcomes of social care assessments are reflective of the appropriateness of each caring role that is maintained.



#### 5.2.4 Priority Four - A life alongside caring

Many caring roles become all-consuming and result in the loss of a carer's social life; financial security; the ability to partake in activities they would usually enjoy; the ability to spend time alone or to rest or sleep. Each of these factors is key to maintaining wellbeing which is why it is important for carers to have a life alongside, or outside of, caring.

In order for young carers to grow into healthy, stable adults it is important they have the same opportunities as children without caring roles do to develop emotionally, socially, educationally and creatively. A caring role that prevents a child from developing in any of these ways is deemed as inappropriate and the situation should be reviewed to see where additional support can be provided to the person needing care in order to minimise the impact on the young carer.

We recognise that focusing on one's own needs is not always easy when caring for someone which is why we are keen to empower carers and young carers to explore their options outside of caring and take steps to ensure their own needs are met too.

The Young Carers Project in Wandsworth currently provides an environment where young carers can meet other young carers to share experiences, take a break from caring and just be children. Wandsworth Children's Services also works closely with local schools to promote flexibility around learning to encourage young carers to meet deadlines and achieve their educational goals.

Carers Partnership Wandsworth facilitates a number of social activities for carers and delivers a flexible respite service which carers are able to access when they want to take some time for themselves.

We will continue to work with carers and young carers to empower them to access the services that enable them to thrive outside of their caring roles.

#### **Adult Carers**

We aim to:

- Help to reduce isolation for carers by providing personalised support to carers in accessing the full range of services to support carers in areas of their lives that are not directly related to their caring roles.

#### **Young Carers**

We aim to:

- Ensure that young carers have opportunities to meet and socialise with other young people, to 'be children', do homework and fulfil their potential in education.

## 5.3 Next steps

The **Wandsworth Carers Partnership Board (WCPB)** meets quarterly and holds responsibility for overseeing implementation of the strategy and its action plan. The WCPB will be accountable to the **Older People's Programme Board**<sup>1</sup> and will report to them on progress of the action plan on a quarterly basis. Any significant issues will be escalated to the Health and Wellbeing Board as necessary.

The Wandsworth Strategy for Carers and Young Carers will cover the 3-year period from July 2017 until June 2020. The defined actions will be undertaken during this period but will be subject to annual review and amendment where necessary. Any such amendments will be subject to approval by the Older People's Programme Board.

The WCPB will review performance of the action plan following each year of implementation with a view to refreshing the strategy after year 3.

Carers and young carers will continue to be asked about their experiences of services in Wandsworth and their views will continue to inform our plans for service development under this and future strategies.

<sup>1</sup> The role of the Older Peoples' Programme Board is to be accountable to the WBC and WCCG Health and Wellbeing Executive for the preparation and delivery of an integrated programme of health and social care for older people.





If you have any questions about this leaflet  
or if you need it in a different format  
(for example, large print)  
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