



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**

**30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023**

#### **REPORT OF DIRECTOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES: YOUNG CARERS AND YOUNG ADULT CARERS REPORT**

**Author(s): Cathrine Silver, Interim Service Manager – Carers, Direct Payments, and Service User Engagement**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Corporate Parenting Board members with an update on the work with young carers in RCT during 2022/2023.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members:

Acknowledge the information contained within the report.

#### **3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 This is an information report.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The support service for young carers (aged 5-17) continues to be provided on a commissioned basis by Action for Children. Specific support is available via an externally funded post for Young Adult Carers (aged 18-25). Sibling carers (children whose sibling has additional needs) is now provided on a commissioned basis by Action for Children.
- 4.2 The assessment function for young carers remains within the Information, Assistance and Advice Service for Children's Services.
- 4.3 The all-age carers hub in Gelliwastad Road, Pontypridd, is now operational, with the Carers Support Project, the Young Carers and Sibling Support Services and the Young Adult Carers Project Worker all co-located.

4.4 The full report for RCT Young Carers and Young Adult Carers 2022/2023 (to date) is attached in Appendix A. Members may wish to note the below key details:

- The contract for the support element for Young Carers has successfully been retendered, with Action for Children winning the contract and continuing to offer Young Carer Support within RCT.
- Full levels of service delivery have resumed following the pandemic.
- There has consistently been double the number of referrals for Young Carer assessments compared to the preceding reporting period.
- Subsequently there has been an increased demand on services for Young Carers.
- Due to the success of the Siblings Pilot Project, the need for separate sibling support is now recognised and additional capacity to deliver this support has been made available as part of the new Young Carers contract.
- The Young Adult Carers Services has undergone a process of change and now delivers a slightly different model of support, which is outcome focussed and person centred.
- The grant funding for the Young Adult Worker post awarded for 2023/24 is subject to a deficit in terms of meeting salary costs, (no uplift was provided)
- Despite the success of the Young Carers ID Card, no further funding will be made available by WG, however RCT will continue to deliver a card scheme for young carers.

## **5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 This is an information report.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

6.1 This is an information report.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

7.1 There are no direct financial implications aligned to this report.

## **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 came into force in April 2016 and is intended to transform the way services are delivered. It repeals the majority of community care legislation including the Carers Strategies (Wales) Measure 2010.
- 8.2 The National Strategy for Unpaid Carers 2021 will become increasingly important for developing strategies and delivering support to carers of all ages going forward.

## **9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ FUTURE GENERATIONS – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**

- 9.1 The business covered in this report contributes to the following well-being goals:
- A prosperous Wales
  - A resilient Wales.
  - A healthier Wales.
  - A more equal Wales
  - A Wales of cohesive communities
  - A globally responsible Wales

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 Young carers and Young Adult Carers are now receiving a fully restored carer support service.
- 10.2 Work to improve the carer offer for under 25's will continue.
- 10.3 The National Strategy for Unpaid Carers 2021 will inform regional and local carers strategies and priorities.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**

**30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023**