

Think Carer Strategy

Report To (Meeting):	ONE Stockport Health and Care Board		
Report From (Executive Lead)	Sarah Dillon, Director of Adult Social Care, Stockport MBC		
Report From (Author):	Julia Hewer – Director of Signpost Stockport Emma Bowe – Head of Transformation Adult Social Care, Stockport MBC		
Date:	29/02/2024	Agenda Item No:	11
Previously Considered by:	Adult Social Care Senior Management Team ONE Stockport Health and Care Executive		

Purpose of the report:

To share with the One Stockport Health and Care Board our first draft of the **One Stockport Think Carer Strategy 2024 – 2029** and to provide members of the group with the opportunity to provide comments and feedback.

Key points (Executive Summary):

The Council have commissioned Signpost for Carers to deliver an All Age Carers strategy for the Stockport Locality. The Think Carer Strategy is a plan for Stockport as a place and a community. The intention is that it will become the focus for work to improve recognition of and support for carers in Stockport over the next 5 years and will help to guide services across Adult Social Care, the NHS as well as charities, the education sector, employers and many other local services. The strategy is aligned to the ambitions described within the One Heart section of the Borough Plan, the One Health and Care plan and the Neighbourhoods and Prevention programme.

The strategy has been co produced with carers from across Stockport. Carers of different ages and with varying caring roles have been at the heart of shaping the priorities within the strategy.

A new carers partnership made up of Stockport carers, organisations and partners has been formed and will oversee the implementation and delivery of the strategy. The partnership has contributed to the development of the strategy and has enabled us to engage with individuals, groups and key partners in the third sector, for example Stockport Advocacy and Healthwatch. Alongside this a carers network is being developed. This will provide a forum for carers to meet, offer peer support and share experiences.

The Think Carer strategy is supported by an action plan that will enable us to deliver on the ambitions and priorities described. We will monitor progress through the new Carers Network and the Carers partnership which together will improve the voice and visibility of carers in Stockport. We will also develop a carers charter for all partners to sign up to.



As we develop our carers strategy we are encouraging partners to consider how they can adopt 'Think Carer' within their organisations. We would encourage partners commit to becoming carer friendly employers and mandate carers training across teams.

We would also like our partners to think about how you can support carers in their roles, this may include providing services via the connecting carers card or offering a carer friendly space that can be accessed.

Recommendation:

The Board are asked to:

- Provide comments and feedback in relation to the content of the Think Carer Strategy, Executive Summary and priorities at a place.
- Provide suggestions to any other meetings or forums where the draft Think Carer strategy may need to be presented.
- Provide commitment to endorsing and embedding the Think Carer strategy and charter across the Stockport locality.
- Provide commitment to delivering locality wide Think Carer training and displaying key carer information within key locations.
- Support partners across Stockport to become Carer friendly employers.
- Consider any further opportunities to support carers in their roles and provide commitment to move this forward. This may include providing services via the connecting carers card or offering a carer friendly space that can be accessed.

Decision		Discuss/Direction	X	Information/Assurance	
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Aims (please indicate x)		
Which integrated care aim(s) is / are supported by this report:	People are happier and healthier and inequalities are reduced	X
	There are safe, high-quality services which make best use of the Stockport pound	X
	Everyone takes responsibility for their health with the right support	X
	We support local social and economic development together	X

Conflicts of Interests	
Potential Conflicts of Interest:	There are no potential conflicts of interest.

Risk and Assurance:	
List all strategic and high-level risks relevant to this paper	Risks include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carers not feeling valued and ceasing their caring roles, placing further demand on other health and social care services. • Partners across the Stockport locality not meeting their statutory obligations around carers.

Consultation and Engagement:	
Local People / Patient Engagement:	<p>In developing the strategy the following consultation took place;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual carers • Carers groups • Carers partnership board which enabled feedback from third sector partners, for example Stockport Advocacy and Healthwatch <p>The draft strategy is now being presented to a number of key meetings for discussion and feedback;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Social Care SMT – completed 26/01 • Children and Families SMT – scheduled 05/02 • Corporate Leadership team – scheduled 06/02 • Executive Group – scheduled 08/02 • Scrutiny committee – scheduled W/C 26/02 • PACT and Making it Real Board – TBC • People and Community Voice Subgroup <p>Feedback gathered as part of this roadshow will inform the finalisation of the strategy. We will be seeking to present the final version of the Think Carer Strategy to the Locality Board.</p>
Workforce Engagement:	<p>Socialisation with practitioners in the Stockport Locality has not yet taken place. Once feedback has been gathered from the above strategic meetings a communication and engagement plan will be developed to share the strategy and action plan with practitioners across the locality including in social care, the acute setting and primary care.</p>

Potential Implications:				
Financial Impact: Please note - All reports with a financial implication require detail of the level of funding, funding stream and comments from Finance.	Non-Recurrent Expenditure	£0		
	Recurrent Expenditure (please state annual cost)	£0		
	Funding stream	Yes		No
	Included in the s75 Pooled Budget	NA		
	GM ICB (Stockport) delegated budget	NA		
	Other, please specify	NA		

<p>Finance Comments:</p>	<p>The Council has invested non recurrently to develop the Think Carer strategy.</p> <p>There are no direct financial implications arising at this time as a result of this strategy, however during the duration of the strategy investment may be required to deliver on some of the priorities for which business cases will need to be developed. There are a number of quick wins that can be delivered at low cost.</p> <p>The vital role that carers play in Stockport cannot be underestimated. Carers are key to supporting individuals to remain living independently at home, reducing and delaying the need for expensive commissioned services.</p>
<p>Performance Impact:</p>	<p>Measuring performance against the deliverables within the strategy will help us to know that we have succeeded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carers will tell us that their experiences have improved. • They will tell us that they feel valued and supported in their role as carer, and want to continue caring for as long as appropriate. • Carers feel empowered and recognised. <p>Carers play an important role in supporting the performance of the Stockport locality, across all ages. They support individuals who are cared for to leave hospital, can help to avoid hospital admission and play a vital role in our neighbourhood and prevention work. Ensuring that individuals are supported at home in their community.</p>
<p>Workforce Impact:</p>	<p>Through the launch of the Think Carer Strategy we can ensure that our workforce has a better knowledge of the carers offer in Stockport. They will understand the priorities and take proactive action to support the delivery of the action plan.</p> <p>Our workforce will always Think Carer.</p>
<p>Quality and Safety Impact:</p>	<p>An Equality impact assessment has not yet been completed. This will be done before the strategy is finalised.</p>
<p>Compliance and/or Legal Impact:</p>	<p>Carers are a key policy area for the Department of Health and Social Care. This strategy mirrors national best practice.</p>

	<p>Care Act 2014 The Children and Families Act 2014.</p> <p>Consideration must also be given to the Equality Act 2010 and human rights.</p> <p>There are requirements which must also be followed by Primary Care trusts and NHS.</p>						
<p>Equality and Diversity:</p>	<p>General Statement: An Equality impact assessment has not yet been completed. This will be done before the strategy is finalised.</p>						
	<p>Has an equality impact assessment been completed?</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>No</p>		<p>N/A</p>	
	<p>If Not Applicable please explain why</p>						
<p>Environmental Impact:</p>	<p>General Statement:</p>						
	<p>Has an environmental impact assessment been completed?</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>No</p>		<p>N/A</p>	
	<p>If Not Applicable please explain why</p>						