

North Somerset Council

Report to the Adult Services and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Panel

Date of Meeting: 7 July 2022

Subject of Report: Draft Carers Inquiry Day Report

Town or Parish: N/A

Recommendations

- (1) To endorse the findings and recommendations set out in the Inquiry Day report; and
- (2) To consider next steps.

1. Summary of Report

The attached Inquiry Day report pulls together the findings of the ASH Panel Carers Inquiry Day held on 19 October 2021. Members are asked to consider the findings and recommendations set out in the report, taking into account the presentation (attached) at this meeting provided by the Strategy & Policy Development Officer, Adult Care.

2. Policy

Policy and scrutiny contributes towards the council's corporate aims of providing strong community leadership, working transparently with our residents, businesses and partners; reducing inequalities and promoting fairness and opportunity for everyone; contributing towards building safer and stronger communities; and protecting and enhancing our environment.

3. Details

The ASH Carers Inquiry Day was held in autumn 2021, and originated from an idea of Cllr Mark Crosby who was Chair of the ASH Panel at that time. Due to ill health Cllr Crosby is unable to present this report himself, but the Panel would like to acknowledge the work that he put into the Inquiry Day helping it to be such a success.

The day was organised as follows: the morning section of the event comprised: -

3.1 Keynote address by Emily Holzhausen, Director of Policy and Public Affairs, Carers UK.

3.2 Session 2: Carers' Testimony – the Panel heard accounts of their experiences from four carers.

3.3 Session 3: Stakeholder Testimony - Members heard accounts from representatives from Healthwatch; the Alzheimer's Society; Carers Support Alliance; Community Connect (service commissioned from Curo by the Council providing information and advice to older residents); the Single Point of Access (SPA) service (provided by the council to provide a central telephone service for those in need of Adult Social Services and healthcare services in their homes); Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership and University Hospitals Bristol & Weston.

The afternoon part of the meeting comprised: -

3.4 Session 4: a roundtable discussion with representatives from the following Parish and Town Council representatives: Clevedon, Nailsea, Long Ashton, Winscombe and Sandford, Tickenham and Wraxall and Failand.

3.5 The Inquiry Day Steering Group, comprising four ASH Panel Members and representatives from Healthwatch and Council officers, oversaw the drafting of the Inquiry Day report which sets out the findings and a series of recommendations drawn from the carer and stakeholder testimonies and discussion with Parish and Town Councils.

4. Consultation

N/A

5. Financial Implications

N/A

Costs

N/A

Funding

N/A

6. Legal Powers and Implications

N/A

7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

N/A

8. Risk Management

N/A

9. Equality Implications

The work of policy and scrutiny is based on the council's commitment to ensure that the consideration of equality and diversity is an integral part of decision-making to bring about positive changes that are felt by service users, Councillors and employees

10. Corporate Implications

Policy and scrutiny reviews and work align to the Corporate Plan and emerging priorities.

11. Options Considered

N/A

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