

**Title:** Torbay's Carers Strategy 'Measure Up' 2015-17

**Wards Affected:** All

**To:** Health and Wellbeing Board **On:** 17 December 2014

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## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 To report to the Board on the consultation to develop an interagency Carers strategy for Torbay, for the period 2015 – 17, and the proposed priorities for action.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the draft priorities for 'Measure Up' 2015 – 17 are endorsed by the Board and that the Board agree that an Action Plan is produced with clear targets, timescales and responsibilities for delivery. That the Torbay's Carers strategy Action Plan is reviewed annually and the Board updated on achievement.

## 3. Supporting Information

- 3.1 Unpaid caring is an increasingly significant issue for the population of Torbay. Census data (2011) shows that 12.3% of the population of Torbay are Carers against an England average of 10.2%; the proportion of carers age 65+ is 33% against an England average of 22%; and 4,684 carers in Torbay are providing 50 hours+ of caring per week, 50% more than the England average. The challenges for addressing the health needs of the population require attention to supporting unpaid carers, both to enable them to maintain their caring roles and to look after their own health and well-being. The contribution of unpaid caring to community care cannot be underestimated.
- 3.2 The Measure Up approach to Carer support in Torbay continues to be recognised as an example of national good practice. It is based on a long term, whole systems approach, grounded in assessment of local needs and an evidence base of what works. The model combines direct access services available to all carers (information, advice and emotional support); targeting groups of carers who are hard to reach or excluded; prevention of breakdown in carers mental and physical health; and working with communities and local organisations to develop community capacity to support carers.
- 3.3 The model focusses on prevention, early intervention and whole family working and we are confident that current support arrangements, and the

priorities identified in the strategy, will enable Torbay to be Care Act compliant.

#### **4. Relationship to Joint Strategic Needs Assessment**

4.1 There are a range of connections between the needs of Carers and the priorities identified in the JSNA. The following are examples:

Developing well – Data from known Young Carers shows a geographical correlation in terms of disadvantage, when compared with a map of the indices of multiple deprivation. Young Carers under 25 are vulnerable to poor outcomes. Evidence shows that 30% of Young Carers experience problems at school with attendance, attainment and social development, rising to 40% where they care within a family affected by substance misuse.

Living and working well – Nationally, some 3.6 million over-50s are unpaid carers, and of these, 792,000 have had to leave their job or change their hours to care for loved ones, with a significant impact on income.

Ageing well – As carers age and their own health deteriorates, their need for support will grow. Poor physical health among carers is a major predictor of psychological distress. Two-thirds of people with dementia live at home, with their family providing most of their care.

#### **5. Relationship to Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

5.1 The model for Carer support in Torbay is based on a whole system approach to meeting the health and social care needs of carers. There is a good fit with the underlying principles – addressing inequalities, a focus on prevention, and an integrated and joined up approach. Existing Carers support services and the proposed priorities for Measure Up 2015 – 17 will contribute to the outcomes identified for the 16 priorities in the strategy.

### **Appendices**

Draft priorities Torbay's Carers Strategy 'Measure Up' 2015 - 17

#### **Background Papers:**

The following documents/files were used to compile this report:

Torbay Carers strategy 'Measure Up' 2012 – 14

Healthwatch Torbay - Review of Local Carers Services in Torbay

DH Carers Strategy: Second National Action Plan 2014 – 16

DH Response to the consultation on draft regulations and guidance for implementation of Part 1 of the Care Act 2014

Torbay Strategy for Young Carers Under 25

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