

**Decision Maker:** **CARE SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

**Date:** **For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Care Services Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee on 10th March 2016**

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent                      Executive                      Non-Key

**Title:** **DRAFT JOINT STRATEGY FOR CARERS**

**Contact Officer:** Andy Crawford, Commissioning Manager  
E-mail: Andy.Crawford@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Assistant Director: Commissioning, ECHS

**Ward:** All Wards

---

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Bromley Council and Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group have jointly commissioned a new Carers' Strategy (attached) for the borough. The report seeks Portfolio Holder approval to adopt the new strategy.
- 

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members of the Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee are asked to comment on the Draft Strategy.
- 2.2 The Care Services Portfolio Holder is asked to approve the Draft Strategy for adoption as the new Bromley Carers' Strategy 2016-2020.

### Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
  2. BBB Priority: Supporting Independence:
- 

### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable: No financial implications arising directly from the report
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Social Support – Support for Carers
  4. Total current budget for this head: £1,535,000
  5. Source of funding: Core ECHS budget
- 

### Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
- 

### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
  2. Call-in: Applicable
- 

### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): There is an estimated 30,000+ carers within the borough
- 

### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

### 3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 Since 1999 there have been four published strategies for Bromley's carers. These strategies have been created with Bromley's carers and other local stakeholders, including health service commissioners and providers. They each reflected the situation at the time: the legislation, the then known numbers of carers, research, and included an action plan. When condensed, the messages are similar to those of today: that stakeholders need to work better together to support carers, that all agencies could do more to identify and sign-post carers, and that carers need to be supported through more innovative ways of having a break from caring.
- 3.2 In June 2012 the London Borough of Bromley and Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) published a refresh of the 2007-10 carers' strategy for the year 2012-2013<sup>1</sup>. This strategy refresh acknowledged that it was an interim strategy due to the forthcoming changes to national legislation (Children and Families Act 2014 and Care Act 2014), and made recommendations for preparing for those reforms, as well as for responding to other local situations.
- 3.3 Between 2012 and 2015 'support for carers' was included in the Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy.
- 3.4 In June 2015 Bromley Council and Bromley CCG commissioned a project, funded by the Better Care Fund, to develop a new joint 5 year Carers' Strategy to identify the current priorities, establish the future direction of travel and to shape the commissioning intentions. The brief was to engage with the broad range of local stakeholders in order to ensure currency of the new strategy and engender a broad ownership of the outcomes.
- 3.5 The new Carers' Strategy is now in final draft form. It has been approved by the Clinical Executive Group of Bromley CCG and is now presented for comment by the Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee and approval by the Portfolio Holder so that it can be adopted as the new Joint Carers' Strategy and work can commence on implementation of the action plan and development of a new commissioning strategy.

### 4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Carers' Strategy reflects the national policy direction and guidance in the Care Act 2014 and the Children and Families Act 2014 and based upon the Bromley principles of supporting independence.

### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The 2015/16 budget for carers is £1.535m. It is anticipated that the new strategy will inform future priorities for this budget and may well bring a number of changes. However, it is anticipated that future expenditure will be within the current cost envelope. All spending proposals will be subject to separate approval by Members as and when appropriate.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Legal and Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	<sup>1</sup> London Borough of Bromley and NHS Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group (2012) Bromley's Carers Strategy <a href="http://www.bromley.gov.uk/downloads/file/870/strategy_for_carers_201213">http://www.bromley.gov.uk/downloads/file/870/strategy_for_carers_201213</a>