



CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE NAN EILEAN SIAR

WESTERN ISLES HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

Chief Officer's Report

Report by Chief Officer, Health and Social Care

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the Joint Board on the work being undertaken in support of our strategic objectives.

COMPETENCE

2. The issues raised in the report have no immediate HR, legal or financial implications.

REVIEW OF CARERS SUPPORT

3. The Carers (Scotland) Act (2016) places a host of obligations on Integration Joint Boards, Local Authorities and Health Boards to assess need, develop personal support plans and provide access to short breaks and other support to mitigate the emotional and physical impact of unpaid care.
4. While that work has been undertaken iteratively since the legislation passed, and while we have recently produced a carers strategy, it is also true to say that more thought needs to be given to the offer of support. As such, a development session was held recently with stakeholders to consider how we might create a single, unified offer of support to unpaid carers across the Western Isles.
5. The needs of carers are of course diverse and variable, but there are a small number of recognised ingredients that are deemed to be helpful: individual support (training, advice, information, peer support); short-breaks and respite care; and empowering the carer voice (advocacy work and the collective expression of the carer experience).
6. In the Western Isles, we do not currently offer a single coherent pathway for unpaid carers and we want to correct this by bringing together the organisations which currently provide elements of the overall offer. To that end, we are working to map our existing service offer in more detail, describe the current ways in which unpaid carers engage with our local system, and identify any risks or obstacles that would prevent us from putting together a more cohesive offer of support. We will seek input from the national carers support organisations as we do this. We also think this process will allow us to address the absence of carer representation on the IJB itself.

REVIEW OF THIRD SECTOR PROVISION IN UIST

7. The HSCP Senior Management Team, along with the Uist LPG, recently hosted an event to explore the strategic realignment of resource towards the areas where we need to make more progress: dementia; learning disabilities; reablement and mental health.
8. The event brought together a range of local stakeholders and professionals, with a variety of suggestions being put forward about how resources could be used differently in support of our strategic objectives. The next stage of the work will be to engage the individual third sector partners to agree how new service arrangements can be put in place.

SPECIALIST DEMENTIA CARE

9. A seminar was recently held to explore how we are supporting people with dementia who have complex care needs in community settings. Our broad strategy to this point has been to develop





CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE NAN EILEAN SIAR

WESTERN ISLES HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

a peripatetic team of specialist health practitioners (psychiatry, psychology, Speech and Language, OT, psychiatric nursing) who are capable of reaching-in to a care home environment to provide tailored support to residents with complex care needs. However, this team is fragile and a number of core team members, for different reasons, have decided to move on to new positions. As such, we need to give further thought to how we best support people who require the most complex care. This work will be taken forward through a short life working group.

CORONAVIRUS

10. Members of the IJB will be aware that health and social care services across Scotland are currently putting in place contingency measures to ensure that we are as well prepared as possible to contain, delay and mitigate the spread of Coronavirus.
11. As part of that work, the Health and Social Care Partnership in the Western Isles is considering options to maximise the availability of clinical space and to ensure that our most vulnerable patients and service users are not exposed to the virus. This work covers all services from the hospitals to community settings.
12. Given that the position is changing on an almost daily basis, a verbal update on the current position will be provided to the IJB at its meeting on the 26th March.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that the IJB notes the position.

Ron Culley
Chief Officer, CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE





CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE NAN EILEAN SIAR

WESTERN ISLES HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

www.wispa.nhs.uk