

Adult Health and Social Care Partnership Board Carers Strategy Implementation Plan Workshop

The workshop

On 4 June 2013, the Adult Health and Social Care Partnership Board held a workshop to bring people together to work out how to put the Implementation Plan for the new Carers Strategy into practice.

The workshop was attended by over 100 people, with carers making up just under half. A mixture of service providers, commissioners and other partners made up the rest.



The workshop was chaired by the Deputy Chair of the Adult Health and Social Care Partnership Board, Dr Joe McManners. The keynote speech was given by Dame Philippa Russell, Chair of the Standing Commission on Carers. Other speakers included adult and young adult carers, a service provider and commissioners.

What people said

There were two group discussions. The first group discussion looked at the actions in the Implementation Plan for adult carers and the second looked at the differences we could make for young adult carers.

In general there was:

- Broad support for the actions in the plan
- Many examples of good practice to build on to support the plan, both in Oxfordshire and elsewhere
- A view that things were and would keep getting better



What people said about the plan:

- Ensure that carers are always included in planning care
- Make the measures in the plan about people, not numbers
- The mix of people and organisations delivering the plan should be wider
- Join up and co-ordinate services
- Make sure there is a plan in place for crisis that really works

“Ask do you help somebody, not are you a young carer?”

“Without the bridge of language everything is inaccessible”

“Could there be a carers champion in GP surgeries?”

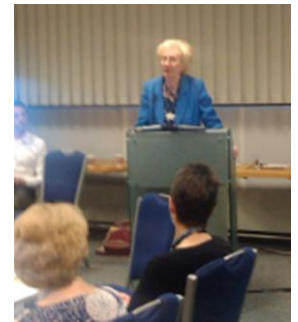
Other key things people said:

- Use social media more to communicate with carers
- Take away the stigma of being a carer
- Make sure colleges know about young carers
- Do not lose contact with young adult carers once they leave school
- Look at the whole family, not just the individuals



“Let’s make a real difference to the way that hospitals work with carers”

“For continuity of care it needs to be the same person at best or at least a good paper trail”



Dame Philippa Russell

What people liked about the workshop

- The mix of people attending
- Dame Philippa Russell
- Carers’ presentations
- Having a say
- Young carers being there



“Many different peoples’ ideas, thoughts involved”

“Great to have a joined up discussion with adult and children’s services about transition”

“Thank you, I feel you have given a listening ear to young carers”

Next steps

- People at the workshop felt they had not been given enough time to consider the actions in the Carers Strategy Implementation Plan, so everyone has been given a further two weeks to give their views.
- The Carers Strategy and Implementation Plan will be finished by the middle of July 2013 and made available online to stakeholders and interested parties.
- The Carers Strategy Steering Group, made up of representatives from carers, providers, commissioners and other key organisations will make sure the actions are put into practice.
- There will be a report on progress in putting the strategy and implementation plan into practice to the Adult Health and social care partnership Board in the summer of 2014.

For further information please contact Trish Thomas (Trish.Thomas@Oxfordshire.gov.uk, Tel: 01865 323632) or Michelle Evans (michelle@oxoncarersforum.org.uk, Tel: 01235 520440).