



INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

Date of Meeting	11 th December 2018
Report Title	Short Breaks Services Statement
Report Number	HSCP.18.103
Lead Officer	Sandra Ross, Chief Officer
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Consultation Checklist Completed	Yes
Directions Required	No
Appendices	a. Aberdeen City Short Breaks Services Statement

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board approve the Aberdeen City Short Breaks Services Statement (SBSS).

2. Purpose of the Report

- 2.1. The purpose of this report is to seek the IJB's approval of the Aberdeen City Short Breaks Services Statement. Following IJB approval, the statement will be published as per the requirement in the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.

3. Summary of Key Information

- 3.1. On 1st April 2018 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 (the "2016 Act") came into effect. The 2016 Act extends and enhances the rights of carers in Scotland to help improve their health and wellbeing so that they can continue to care, if they so wish, and have a life alongside caring.



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- 3.2.** On 27th March 2018 the IJB approved the Aberdeen City Carers Strategy and on 22nd May 2018 the IJB approved the Adult Carer Support Planning and Eligibility Criteria for Carers, both of which are a requirement of the 2016 Act.
- 3.3.** A further requirement of the Act is that we publish a Short Breaks Services Statement by 31st December 2018. The purpose of the Short Breaks Services Statement is to outline what short breaks are, who can access them, provide information on what short breaks are available both locally and nationally, and detail Aberdeen City's approach to the provision of these.
- 3.4.** As with the Carers Strategy, the Short Breaks Services Statement covers both Young and Adult Carers. A sub group of the Carers Strategy Implementation Group was constituted to drive the development of the statement. The group consisted of representatives from both adults and children's services, providers, and carers. Their work was informed by the work of a national "Think Tank" facilitated by Shared Care Scotland and comprising of representatives from 12 local authority/partnership areas including Aberdeen City. The Think Tank published a template and guidelines which the sub group used to produce the draft Aberdeen City Short Breaks Services Statement.
- 3.5.** The draft SBSS underwent a 4-week consultation period focusing mainly on known carers, providers and members of the public. Feedback was very positive. People particularly liked the example short breaks scenarios. We propose to continue to develop a bank of example short breaks as more and more carers come forward and are more creative in personalising their support. These can be used during the support planning stage to help carers consider what type of short break might be useful for them.
- 3.6.** A short break is very personal to the individual caring situation and it is difficult to provide a definitive list of what could be available as the possibilities are infinite. The statement aims to convey that what is currently available is not the limit of what could be available. Each and every carer will have the opportunity to discuss, as part of their support planning, what a short break means for them and they will be supported to find the service that meets their need.
- 3.7.** As we have done for other Carer related documents, following approval of the SBSS, we will design and publish an easy read leaflet on short breaks.



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- 3.8. The publication of the Short Breaks Services Statement completes the current outstanding requirements of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 although we are awaiting the publication of Terminal Illness Regulations which we anticipate will impose timescales within which an Adult Carer Support Plan or Young Carers Statement should be prepared. It is anticipated these regulations will be approved by December 2019 and come into effect at some point in 2020.

4. Implications for IJB

- 4.1. **Equalities** - the publication of the Short Breaks Services Statement is a requirement of the 2016 Act. The statement applies to all carers regardless of their equality status. An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) was completed for the Carers Strategy which showed no negative impact. It is considered that an EHRIA is not required for the statement.
- 4.2. **Fairer Scotland** – the recommendations in this report have no direct implications on the Fairer Scotland Duty. All carers are treated equally dependant on need and eligibility.
- 4.3. **Financial** – charges for services to carers which meet their needs identified in either an Adult Carer Support Plan or Young Carers Statement should be waived. The financial impact of the Short Breaks Services Statement is not yet quantifiable. Additional funding of £725,000 was received for 2018/19 for the implementation of the 2016 Act. £150,000 was allocated to Aberdeen City Council Integrated Children’s Services for supporting Young Carers leaving a balance of £575,000 for use in supporting Adult Carers. It is determined that this funding will accommodate the financial impact of the 2016 Act in the current year. Further funding is anticipated in the 2019/20 settlement.
- 4.4. **Workforce** - the Short Breaks Services Statement will assist the workforce support carers to identify sort breaks appropriate to their caring role.
- 4.5. **Legal** - were we not to publish a Short Breaks Services Statement we are at risk of not meeting our legal obligations under the 2016 Act which would disadvantage carers and cared for people.
- 4.6. **Other** – none.



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5. Links to ACHSCP Strategic Plan


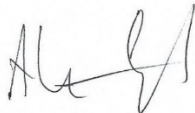
5.1 This report links to strategic priority 4 in the Strategic Plan i.e. “Value and support those who are unpaid carers to become equal partners in the planning and delivery of services, to look after their own health and to have a quality of life outside the caring role if so desired.”

6. Management of Risk

6.1. **Identified risks(s):** There is a risk that if we do not publish a Short Breaks Services Statement, there is the opportunity that the IJB could be in breach of the 2016 Act, and that carers and cared for people could be disadvantaged.

6.2. **Link to risks on strategic or operational risk register:** The Short Breaks Services Statement is linked to Risk 5 on the Strategic Risk Register “There is a risk that the IJB, and the services that it directs and has operational oversight, of fail to meet performance standards or outcomes as set by regulatory bodies.”

6.3. **How might the content of this report impact or mitigate these risks:** Approval and publication of the Short Breaks Services Statement will ensure staff and carers have appropriate information which in turn will ensure our obligations under the 2016 Act are met.

Approvals	
	Sandra Ross (Chief Officer)
	Alex Stephen (Chief Finance Officer)