

Carers – a National Perspective

**Barbara Disney – Service Manager
20th February 2017**

National Strategy:

- The Consultation for an updated National Strategy for Carers has closed and responses are being considered.
- Published responses through National Organisations indicates priorities need to be: greater emphasis on the recognition of carers, and prioritising carers of people with Mental Health problems, carers of people with Dementia, older carers and a continued emphasis on young carers
- The NHS, particularly acute hospitals, develop their carer awareness, particularly around discharge planning
- But, we'll have to wait and see.....

ADASS Carers Policy Network

Luke Addams, Divisional Director, Adult Social Care is the joint ADASS National Carers Policy Network lead as well as the regional lead.

What is the ADASS Carers Policy Network?

- Care and Support Reform Programmed (a partnership between DoH, LGA and ADASS)
- Carers is one of several interconnected workstreams
- Made up of a wide spectrum of interested parties including front practitioners, experts (including “by experience”), organisations representing the “Carers voice”

What does the Carers Policy Network do?

- Promotes good practice in supporting Carers
- Produces policy documents and good practice
- Influences Central and Local Government to develop their own policy
- Guides and influences commissioners
- Substantially contributes to the thinking about the role of Carers, the ways in which Local and Central Government can support Carers in their caring role

Young Carers:

- “No wrong doors working together to support young carers and their families”
- Duties and powers of the Care Act and Children and Families Act as they apply to Carers, including recognition of the cared for and young carer assessments
- Identification of young carers, through a range of health, social and educational professionals
- promoting their wellbeing through effective, flexible services capable to responding to support needs

In Tower Hamlets:

- **Joint Carers' Strategy, has been refreshed to address the needs of the 19,000+ Carers who live in Tower Hamlets (Census, 2011).**
- **Strategy refreshed following the implementation of the Care Act 2014, Children and Families Act 2014 and the Nationals Carers' Strategy**
- **The strategy covers young, parent and adult carers.**
- **Strategy pulls together local data, Carers JSNA (October 2016), carer and professional feedback and provides the strategic framework for how Carers will be supported in Tower Hamlets over the next three years**

**Carers must
receive the recognition
and status they deserve.**

Questions?