

Carers Partnership Board Minutes

11th March 2025

1) Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Present:
 - Independent Members from Cambridgeshire x 4
 - Independent Member from Peterborough x 2
 - VCSE sector representative x 1
 - Peterborough City Council Commissioning x 1
 - Peterborough City Council Service delivery x 0
 - Cambridgeshire County Council service delivery x 1
 - Cambridgeshire County Council Commissioning x 0
 - Speakers x 1
- Apologies were received

2) Minutes of the previous meeting and Action Log

- The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025 were approved.
- The Impact Log was reviewed.

3) Feedback from Independent Members

An Independent Member has been attending the Peterborough Carers Strategy Group on behalf of the Partnership Board. They have provided the following feedback:

- The City Council's housing department are exploring how they can ensure that when talking with tenants they identify carers and seek to ensure that they are connected with carers services

They also noted that in the Learning Disability Mortality Report it was noted that people with Learning Disabilities are not necessarily having their screening for breast, cervical, prostate cancer. It was thought that this could be due to the nature of the screening that has to be carried out. It was noted that bowel cancer screening is taking place which is not an intrusive test.

The Independent Member noted that that St Neots Integrated Neighbourhood (a number of GP practices working together with others) are looking at Learning Disability Annual Health Checks.

The Independent Member also noted that the Integrated Care Board have looking at the model of health support for people with learning disabilities across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This work has currently been paused.

The Independent Member wanted to know if the Carers Partnership Board were happy to have her continue to attend meetings on their behalf, which the Partnership Board agreed to.

In Cambridgeshire there is continuing concerns about the Learning Disability Partnership (between health and social care) separating and what will happen in the future. Engagement was promised in a letter which has not taken place. People have not been told how they will access their healthcare needs from 1st April (3 weeks after the Carers Partnership Board meeting). They haven't been told how the relationship will work between health and social care.

4) Review of Priorities 2024-25; setting priorities for 2025-26

The priorities for 2024-25 were:

- Cambridgeshire Learning Disability Partnership review – communication and engagement
- Voice of Young Carers on the Partnership Board
- Carers service strategy implementation (involved in the Peterborough Carers Strategy Oversight Group)
- Carers Service tender process (contracts awarded – Caring Together, Centre 33, and Making Space)
- Changes to PIP proposed in General Election by Conservatives (information about benefits, eligibility, and support to apply circulated)

The Partnership Board set the following priorities for 2025-26

- Cambridgeshire Learning Disability Partnership – monitor how changes impact on service users

- Voice of Young Carers on the Partnership Board

5) Cambridgeshire Community Navigators tender – Antonina Yaneva

Antonina Yaneva (Commissioning Manager, Cambridgeshire County Council) talked about the work of the Community Navigators project, which is currently managed by Care Network Cambridgeshire. The project will be going out to tender in the near future.

The project works with people to help them find activities that they are interested in.

Questions were raised about:

How to find out about the service if not part of a network or digitally excluded?

A: Can be referred in various ways such as by the County Council, GP/Social Prescribers, place-based community services

Concerns were raised that there is a 'signposting circle' where organisations receive referrals but then refer people onto other organisations rather than providing support directly.

Actions: Antonina to attend a future meeting to update the CPB
Antonina to provide feedback on monitoring of signposting

It was noted that search engines do not always direct people to intended services, sometimes they direct to services that charge or to scam websites.

When commissioning the service will people who have used the service be involved in the tender process, such as setting questions and assessing responses.

A: that is part of the plan

How will access people who don't use the service?

A: that is a challenge

It was noted that when google Cambridgeshire Community Navigators the search engine says that the service is permanently closed.

Action: GL to contact Care Network and have this information corrected.

Note: Care Network were alerted to this. The office it refers to is not open to the public, the service is open to be contacted by phone or online.

6) Updates from the all-age Carers Service

Centre 33

- working with commissioner s to reduce waiting list in Peterborough
- Training being provided to Young Carers Champions in schools
- Young carers advisory board held in February
- Working with Tech4YC to address digital exclusion
- Working with commissioners to run two task and finish groups – early identification and prevent, and education.

Caring Together

- Services include helpline, groups, and counselling
- Young Cares Day on 12th March

7) Update from Social Care Commissioners and Operational Leads

PCC Update

MW advised that that sale of the Dementia Resource Centre building is not going ahead so the Alzheimer's Society are able to stay there for the foreseeable future.

The commissioning of the Carers Service in Peterborough went live yesterday, there are two lots, Adult Carers and Young Carers.

CCC Update

LG advised that the Carers Service in Cambridgeshire has been commissioned with services being provided by Caring Together, Making Space, and Centre 33.

8) Any Other Business

A Dementia Panel is being considered by Healthwatch with a meeting taking place on 9th May to explore further.

Date of next meeting

Date: Tuesday 13th March

Time: 11am to 1pm

Venue: City College Peterborough, Brooks Street, Peterborough and Zoom