
Area CPG Focus – Oban Lorn and the Isles

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles CPG would like to raise two locally important matters:

1. Support for Young Carers which falls under Outcome 4 and 5
2. Parking Review which falls under Outcome 2

Support for Young Carers

A young carer is a child or young person aged under 18 who has a significant role in looking after someone else who is an experiencing illness or disability.

The North Argyll Carers Centre (NACC) Young Carers Service has been operational for 15 years. It currently has 108 registered young carers from aged 8 upwards and provides regular active support for around 80 at any one time. It is estimated that there are around 300+ in the area

- 50% caring for a parent/ grandparent with a physical or mental illness (including addictions)
- 50% are sibling carers, not the primary carer, but much affected by having sibling disability.
- 20% of carers caring for someone on autistic spectrum

The service offers a place for young carers to meet, peers support groups, access one to one emotional support and practical support as required and, importantly, take part in regular respite and fun activities.

Key outcome for Young Carers: Young Carers will be enabled to thrive and protected from inappropriate caring roles

Key Points for Consideration

- The bulk of referrals come through education and social work. There is an increase in numbers, particularly from rural areas, which can give logistical problems as well as additional costs due to location of carers
- There is no statutory funding from the Local Authority or NHS to support its activities. There used to be an application process through Children & Families however this is no longer available and NACC has to try and source outside funding to run the service.
- NACC is part of a Carers Centres network. Similar issues are faced throughout the area and another centre has shared that a funding application to a major funder had been unsuccessful because it considered the work to be statutory.
- The Carers Act 2018 will include statutory duties however there is currently no sense of what associated funding will be available once it comes into force.

Key Points for Discussion

- The need for secure funding streams to enable the Young Carers Service to be delivered

Parking Review

There is an ongoing Argyll & Bute wide Parking Review taking place which is at different stages throughout the area.

CPP Management Committee members are requested to provide strategic input relating to parking into the review at an appropriate stage in the process.

For further information please contact: Lorna Elliott, Community Governance Manager 01631 567995