

**Notes from the Clackmannanshire Carers' Voice Meeting**  
**Thursday 25 August 2022**

**Present:** Margaret Daniels, Carolanne Kane, Eugene Greasley, Fiona Hendrie, Paul Morris, Ian Wilson, Gina Witty, Elizabeth Murdoch, Alice Matthews (carers)  
Elizabeth Ramsay (F&CCC Board Member),  
Tracey Fullerton (C&S H&SCP)  
Sharon Brown, Catriona Smith, Deborah O'Hare (Social Security Scotland)  
Alison Tanner, Tracy Gibson, Diane Brines, Nicola Weedon, Susan Docherty, Alice Wadkin (F&CCC)

**Apologies:** Claire Walker, Malcolm Aitken, Betty Stenhouse, John McSwan, Hayley James, Rosa Clifford, Fiona Galbraith, Gillian Hynd, Graham Pearson, Brenda Simm, Allyson Campbell, Jackie Millar, Elizabeth Budgen (carers)  
Liz Rowlett (CTSi)  
Jessie-Anne Malcolm (NHS FV)  
Lesley Shaw (C&S H&SCP)

Nicola Weedon welcomed everyone to the meeting explaining that the main focus would be the consultation on the National Care Service Bill.

**1. IJB Update**

Paul Morris, Clacks Carers Rep on the IJB apologised that he did not have an update. He was unable to get into the last IJB meeting on Teams due to technical issues, but has been assured that these have now been resolved.

**2. National Care Service Bill Consultation**

Nicola shared a presentation from the Scottish Government about the National Care Service Bill (slide in Appendix) as well as the National Care Service consultation toolkit (copy attached). She suggested that the main areas for discussion would be whether the groups agreed with the Creation of a National Care Service, and whether they agreed with the Right to Breaks for Carers. If carers had strong opinions on other areas, they were welcome to record these in the toolkit. The meeting then split into four groups with a member of Carers Centre staff acting as scribe for each group. Nicola will collate the replies and upload them into the Scottish Government NCS Bill consultation website.

**3. NHS Update**

Jessie-Anne is on annual leave. She has asked the Carers Centre to share information about volunteering as a lay member with the NHS FV Pharmacy Practices Committee (attached).

**4. Clackmannanshire and Stirling H&SC Partnership Update**

Tracey Fullerton gave updates:

- The H&SCP are still in the process of confirming the job specification for a Carers Lead post – it is hoped this will go out for recruitment soon. UPDATE: Post advertised 29/08/22.

- Open meetings in Alva, Dolla, Clackmannan and Alloa are planned from mid-Sept to early October (dates to be confirmed and then shared via social media and newsletter). These engagement events will be a chance for H&SCP partnership staff to hear people's views on what supports their health and well-being and will feed into the locality and strategic plans.
- Two GP Link Workers are now in post, one in Clackmannanshire the other in Stirling, to facilitate social prescribing, build relationships with patients and help them to set goals and connect to community activities. The posts are part-time and funded through the H&SCP. Rajia Darnley is based at the Ochil Practice, in Sauchie. Tracey will be filming the GP Link Workers for the H&SCP website and YouTube channel and there will be more information in the H&SCP newsletter. Nicola informed the group that Rajia has already been in touch with the Carers Centre to find out what supports are available. Please contact Liz Rowlett at CTSi if you would like more information on the GP Link Worker posts ( [liz.rowlett@ctsi.org.uk](mailto:liz.rowlett@ctsi.org.uk) ).
- The carers consortium – information on getting involved will be in the H&SCP Newsletter – sign up to the mailing list here: <https://clacksandstirlinghscp.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=15a1e14089324cd5e4b1ae1c9&id=f5086388b6>
- The H&SCP base has now moved office from Stirling care village to Carsview with staff hybrid working - mixing office and remote working from home and local communities.
- Tracey reminded the group that she is keen to video carers who would like to share their health and social care experience or raise awareness about a particular issue. Please let Nicola know if you would like to take part.  
Link to H&SCP YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBwtUoNZILE9NZ-kQafbLQA>

## 5. Social Security Scotland

Cat from Social Security Scotland introduced the Social Security Scotland staff and spoke about how they are working locally. Staff are happy to help with advice and form filling for Scottish Benefits, currently:

- [Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Payment](#) – one off payment of up to £642.35 from 24 weeks in pregnancy up until a baby turns 6 months for families who get certain benefits.
- [Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment](#) – one off payment of £267.65 when a child is between two and three years and six months for families who get certain benefits.
- [Best Start Grant School Age Payment](#) – one off payment of £267.65 when a child would normally start primary one for families who get certain benefits.
- [Best Start Foods](#) – a pre-paid card from pregnancy up to when a child turns three for families on certain benefits to help buy healthy food.
- [Carer's Allowance Supplement](#) – an automatic payment made twice a year to people who get Carer's Allowance through the DWP on certain dates each year.
- [Funeral Support Payment](#) – money towards the costs of a funeral at a difficult time like this for people on certain benefits who are responsible for paying for a funeral.
- [Job Start Payment](#) – £267.65 for 16 to 24 year olds who have been on certain benefits for six months or more to help with the costs of starting a job.
- [Young Carer Grant](#) – an annual payment of more than £326.65 for people 16, 17 or 18 who care for people who get a disability benefit from the DWP for an average of 16 hours a week or more.
- [Child Winter Heating Assistance](#) - a £214.10 payment to help families of a child on the highest rate care component of Disability Living Allowance for Children to heat their homes.
- [Scottish Child Payment](#) - a new, unique to Scotland, benefit that will give qualifying parents and carers £80 every four weeks to help towards the costs of looking after each child under 6. It is planned to be fully rolled out to children under the age of 16 by the end of 2022.

- [Child Disability Payment](#) - a payment providing extra money to help with the costs of caring for a child with a disability or ill-health condition. It replaces Disability Living Allowance for children in Scotland that was previously delivered by the Department for Work and Pensions.
- [Adult Disability Payment](#) - a payment providing extra money to help people who have a long-term illness or a disability that affects their everyday life. It replaces Personal Independence Payment in Scotland previously delivered by the Department for Work and Pensions. Adult Disability Payment has opened for applications in the pilot areas (Dundee, Perth & Kinross, Western Isles, Angus, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Fife, Moray, East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire South Ayrshire). This will be followed by a gradual national rollout beginning on 29 August 2022. People who already receive Personal Independence Payment will be moved to the Adult Disability Payment automatically.

More information is available on their website: <https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/> or by calling: 0800 182 2222.

## **6. Carers Centre Update**

Nicola reminded carers that the weekly group continues to meet at Hawkhill on Tuesdays, 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm, and that the carer and cared-for person lunches are happening monthly at both Hawkhill and Tullbody. Tracy reminded everyone about the carer and cared-for person craft sessions at Reachout with Arts in Mind. Nicola also mentioned the Respite scheme, in particular the free family tickets for football matches at Falkirk FC (who have a game with Alloa in September!).

## **7. Carer issues**

No carer issues were raised at the meeting.

## **8. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Clackmannanshire Carers' Voice will be in November, date and venue to be confirmed.

## Appendix - Selected slides from Scottish Government information session about the National Care Service Bill:



### National Care Service (Scotland) Bill

## The Scottish Government wants to make sure –

- there is high -quality social care support for every single person who needs it in Scotland
- there is better support for unpaid carers
- care workers are respected and valued.



### National Care Service (Scotland) Bill

## To do this we will –

- make Scottish Ministers responsible for social work and social care support (as they already are for health)
- set up local care boards that will plan community health and social care services and make sure they are delivered
- services will have to meet standards set and checked by Ministers



### National Care Service (Scotland) Bill

## Framework and co-design approach

- We want to work with people who use social care support and with the people who give it (including unpaid carers) to design together (co-design) the details of how the NCS will work.
- The Bill doesn't say how everything will work. It allows for more decisions to be made later.

## Regulations and directions

- The Bill suggests that Parliament should give Scottish Ministers powers to make regulations (rules) or give directions (legal instructions) on lots of things
- These will fill in the details of how the National Care Service will work

## Regulations and directions

- Parliament has to approve (or reject) regulations
- Parliament doesn't approve (or reject) directions
- Ministers can decide which public bodies will be given directions
- Co-design work will think about what should be in the regulations and directions over the next year or so

## Rights to Breaks for Carers

- The Bill changes the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 to make sure that getting enough breaks from caring is part of a carer's 'Adult Carer Support Plan' or a young carer's 'Young Carer Statement'
- It also tells local authorities (until the NCS is established) to provide the necessary support. There will be no eligibility criteria.