

Notes from the Clackmannanshire Carers' Voice Meeting
Wednesday 10 September 2025
Hawkhill Community Centre, Alloa

Present: (carers and former carers) Eugene Greasley, Margaret Daniels, Alice Mathews, Andy Witty (IJB carer representative), Elizabeth Ramsay, Eleanor Drysdale, Christopher Butcher and Lorraine Sinclair
(professionals) Katy McBride – C&S H&SCP – Research & Engagement Officer
Wullie Bell - CAB
(Carers Centre staff) Nicola Weedon & Caroline Quinn

Apologies: (carers) Kevin Anderson, Audrey Cassels
(Professionals) Lesley Fulford, C&S H&SCP, Gemma Pritchard-Woollett, CTSi, Cllr Ellen Forson, Cllr Fiona Law

Agenda

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| • Welcome and introductions | Nicola Weedon |
| • Housing Adaptations Review | Katy McBride
C&S H&SCP
Andy Witty |
| • IJB Carer Rep Update | |
| • NHS/H&SCP/3 rd sector update | |
| • Carers Centre update | Nicola Weedon |
| • Carers' Issues/Concerns | |
| • AOB | |

Nicola welcomed carers and professionals to the meeting, doing necessary introductions and covering housekeeping.

Housing Adaptions Review

Katy McBride introduced her role and briefed the attendees about the Clackmannanshire Carers Group Housing Adaption Review. Her presentation covered:

- Background and Context
- Assessment
- Timely provision
- Cost effectiveness of interventions
- Reviewing 'all housing' – local authority / housing association / private rental / owner occupied

- Explanation of aids (portable pieces of equipment like toilet frames and adaptations, which are fixed. Adaptations can be minor like a handrail, or major like a wet room or stairlift.
- Increased demand for adaptations
- Existing provision

Waiting List, access to services, streamlining resources, increase in demand, rising costs .ASKSara

Katy opened up a conversation with the room and carers shared their experiences, made comments and asked questions, including:

- the process and provision for private housing
- Minor adaptations– most are happy with process /timing
- Handrail installation – left with no explanation why one handrail was fitted and not two as two were necessary
- Ramp installation/stairlift – explanation for refusal, could there be an appeal process?
- Follow up checks on major installations – who deals with problems down the line?
- Discussion on Scottish Government guidelines on Accessibility for new-build housing.

(Katy has agreed to share her presentation, please contact nicolaweedon@centralcarers.co.uk if you would like a copy.)

IJB Carer Representative Update - Andy Witty

Andy gave an informal update as he has just officially attended his first IJB meeting. Self-Directed Support was on the agenda, a particular area of interest to Andy. Andy is concerned that there was a lot of talk about “overspend” rather than recognition that the problem is under-budgeting. Andy recognises that it is early days in his new role, and is keen to hear from carers who would like him to raise issues with the IJB.

CAB – Wullie Bell

Wullie explained his services for carers and highlighted his outreach in the community:

Tuesday	Dollar, Hive	12 to 2pm
Thursday	Tullibody Civic Centre	11am to 1pm
	Alva Cochrane Hall	2 to 4pm

He also mentioned that CAB are recruiting volunteers.

Carers Centre Update

Nicola and Elizabeth updated attendees regarding the lack of progress on re-commissioning of carer support services across Clackmannanshire and Stirling.

Nicola provided information about the new volunteer driver scheme operating in Clackmannanshire, and the new bus service for people travelling to the Eye Clinic at Falkirk Community Hospital.

 CERT Volunteer Driver Service • Do you need a lift sometimes? • Do you struggle to get to key appointments like medical, local services or clubs? • No access to your own transport? • Do you struggle with public transport or does it not suit your journey? If this is you, why don't you sign up to become a member of our volunteer driver service? Membership and trips are free. If you are interested, please contact briony.lindsay@clacksregen.org.uk or call: 07521 428 296 or complete our membership form Clackmannanshire Economic Regeneration Trust SCIO (CERT). Registered charity number: SC050327	Eye Clinic Bus Service The bus service will offer a telephone pick-up service between 8.30am and 5.30pm once a week. Patients within postcode areas FK10 to FK14 are eligible and will be required to show drivers their NHS Forth Valley appointment letter before boarding the bus. They will then be returned to their home address, although there may be a small waiting period for the bus to return to FCH. If the trial is successful, the service will be continued and possibly expanded to include other days in 2026. Patients are asked to book their seat by calling Order of Malta dial a journey on 01786 465355 and selecting Option 1. The bus service will be subsidised with each single trip costing £2 per passenger.
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Carer Issues / AOB

Carers did not raise any issues.

Nicola closed the meeting at 12 noon and thanked everyone for coming along.