

**Report to:** Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Lead Member/Officer:** Lead Member for Education, Children & Young People/  
Head of Education and Children's Services

**Report Author:** Early Help Programme Manager

**Title:** Support for Young Carers in Denbighshire

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## **1. What is the report about?**

Further to the Information Report presented to Partnerships Scrutiny Committee in December 2018, Committee Members asked for more detailed information. This is to ensure that the Council's aspirations and vision for Young Carers as laid out in the Corporate Plan and the Carers Strategy are on track to be delivered, ensuring that all possible measures are being taken to identify 'hidden' young carers to offer them appropriate and sufficient support with a view to them realising their full potential.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

To examine the work being undertaken corporately to support Young Carers across the County in relation to:

2.1. the offer of Leisure Cards to Young Carers;

2.2. work being undertaken by Education Services (Education and Children's Services), and in schools along with the costs associated with the various initiatives and opportunities provided).

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

That Partnerships Scrutiny Committee considers the report and supports the work undertaken to support Young Carers.

## **4. Report details**

### **4.1 Offer of leisure cards to young carers**

Every Young Carer referred to Wrexham, Conwy and Denbighshire (WCD) Young Carers and who access groups and one to one support is offered a complimentary Leisure Card in Denbighshire.

The Leisure Card has been offered free of charge and gives up to 30% off admissions such as swimming, classes, squash, badminton etc. Young Carers require proof of eligibility in the form of a letter or ID badge.

The Leisure Card provides Young Carers with cheaper but not free, access to several activities. This does not equate to a Membership for the Fitness/Gym facilities (only available to 11-15 years attending with an adult paying member).

Leisure Services did offer to cater to any needs (within reason) and were willing to work with WCD Young Carers Service to develop around their needs. They would start with the Leisure Card option, and progress accordingly. WCD's Service Manager retired, and after an internal consultation period around how the Service could be restructured, an advert is currently out for a new Service Manager. In the interim period, the Outreach Workers and the central Chief Executive Officer from Ceredigion have been offering the Leisure Card to all Young Carers in Denbighshire.

Feedback from the issuing of the forms to Young Carers has been mixed:-

- there is still a cost even if they have a Leisure Card;
- that they do not have anyone to go to the Leisure Centre with;
- it did not give the whole family an opportunity to go together;

Suggestions around a reduced rate or free pass for at least one other person to attend with them may make a difference to take up.

#### **4.2 Work being undertaken by the Education Service and in schools (along with the costs associated with the various initiatives and opportunities provided)**

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>COST</b>
1. WCD Young Carers have presented the work of the Service to Headteachers, Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinators (ALNCOs) and at a Health & Wellbeing Speed Learning Event organised by Education and Children's Services	The Presentation and ongoing support from WCD Young Carers will assist schools in identifying 'hidden' Young Carers and in supporting them.	None
2. Following this Education and Children's Services have followed up with schools through a survey to determine their engagement with WCD Young Carers and how they themselves support Young Carers.	The Survey is live now, and will be open until February half term.  The results will then be analysed and appropriate actions discussed and shared.	None

ACTIVITY	IMPACT	COST
<p>3. From September 2019, Education and Children's Services will be monitoring the performance of identified Young Carers through the performance function in Education. This will be in addition to working with schools to ensure that they are recording and supporting Young Carers to reach their potential and that they are confident in signposting them to support services</p>	<p>We will be working and welcoming WCD regularly to various platforms of communication with schools to ensure that the messages remain current and that the work of schools is celebrated across the Local Authority.</p>	<p>None</p>

**5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

No decision required. This area does contribute towards the Corporate Priority to Develop Resilient Communities.

**6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

No costs or effect on other services.

**7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**

A Well-being Impact Assessment is not required in this instance, as this is an Information Report for Scrutiny, a decision or proposal is not being sought.

**8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

No consultations undertaken or identified.

**9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

None required

**10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

No risks identified

## **11. Power to make the Decision**

Section 7.4.2(b) of the Council's Constitution outlines the Committee's powers in relation to reviewing performance in relation to policy objectives, performance targets and specific service areas.

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