# Health and Wellbeing Board – Norfolk and Waveney

### Information Update: October 2018

Information Update title:	Carers Charter
Lead:	James Bullion, Executive Director of Adult Social Services

### Summary

Nationally, the picture shows that three in every five people will become a carer at some point in their life and one in five carers gives up work to care. The number of unpaid carers has risen by 16.5% over the last fifteen years, outstripping general population growth (6.2%). It is anticipated that by 2037 the figure for carers will have grown to nine million.

In Norfolk, there are an estimated 99,419 unpaid adult carers who look after a family member or friend (Carers UK, 2015). Caring affects people from all walks of life, at all ages, living in the smallest village or the larger towns and cities

In October 2017, Norfolk County Council agreed a motion that recognised the invaluable contribution of informal carers and equally the challenges they face. As such, the Council agreed they deserved a fair deal, and agreed to develop a Carers Charter.

The Council agreed to develop a Carers Charter with a particular focus on:

- Employers and carers
- Young carers
- Respite for carers and how they are supported to continue to engage in community activities

A Task and Finish Group was established with an Independent Chair. Additional external officer support was provided by Sharon Brooks, Chief Officer of Carers Voice Norfolk and Waveney (formerly known as Carers Council for Norfolk).

A Carers' Charter was developed and agreed by the Group and endorsed by Norfolk County Council on 15 October 2018.

Here are links to the <u>Report to the County Council</u>, which includes the detailed report from the Task and Finish Group, and to the <u>Carers' Charter</u>.

## Action:

The Health & Wellbeing Board is asked to:

• Note the Carers' Charter and consider raising awareness of it to other organisations

#### Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

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