



## Report

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**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**To: The Chair and Members of Cabinet**

### **Doncaster's Carers Journey 2024**

<b>Relevant Member(s)</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>	<b>Wards Affected</b>	<b>Key Decision?</b>
<b>Cllr Sarah Smith</b>		<b>All</b>	<b>Yes</b>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. Carers are people who support a partner, family member, friend or neighbour who relies on this support to help them live their life. This is sometimes called "informal" care because it is unpaid aside from the limited support offered by welfare benefits. There is a large amount of evidence both nationally and internationally about the essential nature of the support that informal carers provide, and how statutory services like those provided by the Council and the NHS would be overwhelmed if it did not exist.
2. Doncaster's All-Age Carer's Strategy 2022-2025 was agreed by organisations across Team Doncaster and approved by Council Cabinet. It was co-produced by Council officers and Team Doncaster partners alongside informal carers.
3. Doncaster's Carers Journey 2024 has been put together by in a similar way. It is designed to review what has been done to better support informal carers in 2023, and what is planned to be achieved over 2024.
4. Doncaster's Carers Journey will be updated on an annual basis based on a "you said, we did" approach that will build on achievements and continue to embed co-production.

#### **EXEMPT REPORT**

5. This report is not exempt.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

6. To approve "Doncaster's Carers Journey 2024".

## **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

7. Our vision is for every carer of every age and from every background in Doncaster to live in the place they call home with the people and things that they love, in communities where they look out for one another, doing things that matter to them.

## **BACKGROUND**

8. Doncaster's Carers Journey 2024 parallels the All-Age Carers Strategy in being structured around six themes which were chosen by Doncaster carers themselves:

- Identification
- Recognition
- Information and Advice
- Rights
- Connection
- Independence and Wellbeing

9. Each theme is set out in a dedicated section that provides a clear definition, some examples of progress, and first person insights from the lived experience of individual Doncaster carers.

10. 2024 priorities for each theme are then grouped together, setting out in one place the commitments that Doncaster's statutory organisations have made to further improving support this year.

11. Finally the document sets out ways for more of Doncaster's carers of all ages to have their voices heard.

## **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

12. Not producing a "Doncaster's Carers Journey 2024" (option one)









13. Team Doncaster officers compiling the document (option two)

14. Team Doncaster officers compiling the document alongside Doncaster carers as part of an ongoing programme of improvement (option three).

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION**

15. Option Three is recommended. It is essential to keep track of improvements to the identification, recognition, information, advice, rights, connection and wellbeing that Doncaster's carers should be experiencing through Team Doncaster partners working closely alongside.

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 <b>Tackling Climate Change</b>				✓
Focusing on supporting carers to live their lives on their own terms, developing the skills that are important to them and maintaining their sense of personal independence and contribution.				
 <b>Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work</b>	✓			
Focusing on supporting carers to live their lives on their own terms, developing the skills that are important to them and maintaining their sense of personal independence and contribution.				
 <b>Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs</b>	✓			
Focusing on developing employment opportunities both for carers and for people who would like to support them.				
 <b>Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all</b>	✓			
Carer priorities include increasing information, advice and access to support that will support health and wellbeing.				
 <b>Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs</b>	✓			
Carer priorities include ensuring access and opportunity for all of Doncaster's communities, built on a shared understanding of human rights.				
 <b>Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough</b>	✓			
Carers support includes helping carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, as well as carers who themselves are children and young people.				
 <b>Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future</b>	✓			
Carers priorities include connecting people with their communities (including communities of interest) and using digital means to help achieve this where appropriate.				
 <b>Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities</b>	✓			
Carers priorities include connecting people with their communities, including the local strengths that different neighbourhoods have in relation to their cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities.				

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
Fair & Inclusive	✓			
<p>“Doncaster’s Carers Journey 2024” is explicitly intended to address the disadvantages that carers disproportionately face which are compounded by other protected characteristics.</p>				

### Legal Implications [SRF 03/01/2024]

16. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### Financial Implications [CL 03/01/2024]

17. The contents of the Local Account are in line with existing Adults, Wellbeing and Culture budgets and therefore there are no current financial implications arising from this report. Any future financial implications arising would need to be managed within the overall Adults, Wellbeing and Culture budgets.

### Human Resources Implications [SB 05/01/2024]

18. There are no direct human resource implications in relation to this report.

### Technology Implications [PW 04/01/2024]

19. Priority 6 includes the provision of the AskSARA online tool which was approved by the Council’s Technology Governance Board (TGB) in April 23. Any additional technology requirements to support the key priorities will be considered by TGB for inclusion in the Technology Forward Plan, to ensure the resources, expertise and capacity within services is available. This will be monitored and continuously reviewed via TGB.

## RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

20. “Doncaster’s Carers Journey 2024” sets out carer priorities for 2024 co-produced alongside Doncaster carers themselves. Full delivery of many of these improvements will also require joint work alongside a wider range of partners.

## CONSULTATION

21. “Doncaster’s Carers Journey 2024” has been developed alongside local carers using a co-production approach and alongside partnership organisations at the Carers Strategic Oversight Group.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

22. "Doncaster's Carers Journey 2024"

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

23. None

## **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

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