



## EA CHP Forum

<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>19 October 2011</b>
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Carers Forum Update</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>To update the CHP Forum on the activities of the Carers Forum.</b>
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>The CHP Forum is asked to note the contents of the report.</b>

### 1. Meetings

- 1.1 The Carers Forum has had two meetings since the last CHP Forum and covered a number of topics. Items discussed at these meetings included facilities for young carers, the respite group, the East Ayrshire Carers (Strategy,) Action Plan and Carers involvement in training for professional staff and family support packages.
- 1.2 At the last meeting of the Carers Forum on the 6<sup>th</sup> October the main item of business was the East Ayrshire Carers Plan and the collation of the responses to the draft Plan sent out to Carers and other stakeholders. The Forum sent the draft East Ayrshire Carers Action Plan to over 60 individuals and organisations and at the end of September received 7 responses.

The Forum considered these responses at the meeting and the East Ayrshire Carers Action Plan was subsequently updated for presentation and to seek approval from the CHP Forum.

### 2. Carers Support Packages

- 2.1 Representative from the Carers Forum are working with East Ayrshire Council, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, Support Organisations, Ayrshire Independent Living Network and other stakeholders to investigate more personalised and cost effective ways to provide a range of support packages in East Ayrshire.
- 2.2 The Forum has highlighted a local example of a personalised family care package that the Forum believes demonstrates good practice and one that could be used as a future model. The Forum is also keen to develop other models for future reference.

### **3. Carers Forum Focus Group – (SCISWIS Inspection) The Care Inspectorate**

- 3.1 A number of Carers Forum members met with inspectors in Kilmarnock as part of the (SCISWIS) inspection in East Ayrshire on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The meeting went well and Forum members were able to report positively to the inspectors.

### **4. Respite Group**

- 4.1 The Respite Sub Group which had been convened as a result of the CHP Carers Forum to look at respite across East Ayrshire and develop different models of respite to meet individual need, met for the second time last month and consideration was given to the following:

- Whether current provision is meeting required needs
- What areas of good practice are there
- Consider respite provision across a whole range of services in EAC

- 4.2 The intention in the long term is to also visit facilities elsewhere in Scotland that are highlighted as good practice and explore cost effective ways that people can manage their own respite/short breaks. The sub group also agreed to take forward a number of actions including looking at the number and range of respite facilities and packages.

### **5. National Meetings**

- 5.1 A number of the local Forum members participate in National Carers meetings where it has been noted that East Ayrshire CHP is amongst the first if not the only CHP in Scotland to enable Carers to form their own forum and involve two Carers directly into its committee structure.

**Brenda Emmerson**  
Chair of the East Ayrshire Carers Forum  
10th October 2011