

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

FORUM- 27 October 2010

CRITERIA FOR HOME CARE SUPPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the CHP Forum with information relating to the criteria for accessing Care at Home Support Services within East Ayrshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 East Ayrshire currently provides Care at Home Support to 1553 people aged over 65. In addition 422 people aged between 16 and 64 with learning disabilities, physical disabilities or affected by mental ill health access care at home. In total over 24,000 hours of care at home support is delivered each week in East Ayrshire.
- 2.2 Care at Home Support is provided by a range of independent sector providers and East Ayrshire Council Care at Home Services.
- 2.3 With respect to the East Ayrshire Council service, there are mainstream Home Care Services provided across localities for people aged over 65 and young adults with long term health conditions. In addition here is a smaller East Ayrshire Council Home Care Service for people aged 16 – 65 who have a learning disability or experience mental ill health.
- 2.5 All Home Care Services provided by the independent sector and by East Ayrshire Council require to be registered with the Care Commission who monitor care services in order to ensure they meet National Care Standards.

3. CRITERIA FOR HOME CARE SUPPORT

- 3.1 In 2009, the East Ayrshire Council Cabinet agreed updated *eligibility criteria for access to services based on national guidance (National Eligibility Criteria for Adult Social Care)* which aims to ensure greater consistency and transparency in standards for access to care services across all councils. The Framework considers both the severity of the risk and the urgency of interventions to respond to the risks. Alison - This lays out clearly the definitions of risk and priority for access to services. It can be summarised as follows:
- **Critical-** Major health issues, neglect or abuse, risk of harm to self and risk to carers on account of undertaking their caring role

- **Substantial-** significant health, abuse and neglect issues, risk of harm to self and others and risk to carers of undertaking their caring role.
- **Moderate-** some health issues which impact on independence or intermittent distress, potential risk of harm and potential risk of carer and person relationship breaking down
- **Low-** Low health problems, minimal difficulties with respect to personal care. Carer support needs are minimal with respect to providing the caring role.

3.2 All referrals to Social Work services for assessment are considered within this context in terms of response. On completion of assessment a care plan is determined reflecting the assessed needs of the individual. If care at home services are identified within the care plan the person and their carers has the option to elect for a direct payment whereby they would receive money from the council in order to purchase their own supports. Alternatively they can access home care services provided by East Ayrshire Council or one of the independent sector providers. Who provides the home care service will be dependent on the capacity of services within the persons location to provide the level of support at specific times required

3.3 Across all services there is a particular focus on enablement, rehabilitation, inclusion and maintaining or promoting independence. We are working towards ensuring this is specified within all Care Plans and reviewed regularly to ensure those providing Care at Home Services are working in partnership to achieve a shared positive outcome for those who receive the service.

3.4 As with all care at home services a charge for service provision will be applied subject to a financial assessment.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The CHP forum is requested to

- i) note the content of this report.

Eddie Fraser
Chair of OLG and Head of Community Care