

Carers Reference Group
Friday 8th June 2018
Carers Leeds, The Headrow, Leeds

Present at the meeting Jackie Hartley, Family Carer Louise Mills, Adult Social Care Lynn Bailey, Family Carer and Facilitator Madeleine Fahy, Through The Maze Shirley Evison, Family Carer Kausar Iqbal, Family Carer Diana Barnes, Family Carer Ann Seaton, Family Carer Ian Brooke-Mawson, Strategic Commissioning Manager (Carers)	Apologies Becky Mitchell, Family Carer Maureen Lumb, Family Carer Maire Sykes, Family Carer Liz Davis, Family Carer Elaine Wilkes, Mental Health / Learning Disability Carers Leader – Leeds and York NHS Partnership Foundation Trust
1.	Welcome and introductions
	Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if everyone could introduce themselves.
2.	Minutes of the extra meeting held 20th April 2018 and matters arising
2.1	The group checked the minutes for errors or omissions. There was just one correction to be made to item 2.1– the minutes stated that Shirley, Jackie and Kausar still have the Housing 21 cards. Jackie’s name should be removed from this sentence.
2.2	Matters arising Emergency support for Carers – a few of the carers were registered with Housing 21 but since the changes in ownership, it wasn’t clear whether carers records had transferred and carers queried why hadn’t they been advised of the changes. Ian explained that Housing 21 was taken over by Ark Home Healthcare who were subsequently acquired by a consortium but they are still trading as Ark Home Healthcare. During the change in ownership, Adults and Health were given assurance that carers had been contacted. Carers were advised to contact the company to ensure that they are still registered and check that their personal details are accurate.
3.	Carers Leeds – Elaine Wilkes
	Elaine was unable to attend the meeting so this agenda item will be scheduled for a later date.
4.	General Update – Ian Brooke Mawson
4.1	Carers Strategy and Action Plan; The government released the National Carers’ Strategy in 2008. In 2016, work was due to begin on the next strategy but this was put on hold. The government have now released a

	new National Carers Action Plan. Ian provided an overview of the priority areas within the plan which include • Ensuring social and health care staff are more 'carer' aware • Carer's financial wellbeing, working with employers to help them recognise the value of contributions the carers make • Young carers • Recognising carers in the wider community • Building caring communities (i.e. dementia friendly stickers on shop window) • Researching evidence There followed lengthy discussions around carers needs and experiences. A few carers reported that they hadn't had a carer's assessment, while one reported that her carer's assessment was good. This issue will be discussed at a later meeting and carers were advised of the following. Carers are entitled to an assessment of their own needs and can contact the numbers below, if they hadn't recently had an assessment or if circumstances have changed. • Carers Leeds 0113 380 4300. Carers Leeds will meet with carers to assess their situation and see how they can help. They can also liaise with social care to ensure carer's needs are assessed and help with benefit claims. • Telephone 0113 222 4401 or visit the Council website https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/health-and-social-care/adult-social-care
4.2	Leeds Carers Partnership These are open meetings held at the Civic Hall. Ian can take Carers Reference Group issues to the Carers Partnership, if they wish. Ian sends information from the Carers Partnership to Louise Mills for wider circulation.
4.3	Carers Respite Carers raised concerns about access to respite, especially when carers need hospital treatment. Ian provided a summary of the regulations surrounding the provision of respite and explained that work is underway to increase the number of Shared Lives Carers.
5.	Council Chamber Takeover Day Tuesday 19th June 2018
	There was a brief discussion around the Takeover Day agenda and who the guest speakers were. After each agenda item, the audience, including family carers would be invited to respond.
6.	Tenfold Awards
	Lynn and Better Action for Families have been nominated for a variety of Tenfold awards. The winners will be announced at the ceremony on 22nd June. The Good Lives Leaders scheme have also been nominated for an award and a few of the reference group members are part of this scheme. Congratulations were given to all nominees for the well-deserved recognition of their hard work and achievements.

7.	Date of next meetings
	• 7th September 2018 – Carers Reference Group meeting • 23rd November 2018 – Carers Reference Group meeting