

Carers as Equal Partners in Care

The Carers Collaborative Forum
for carer representatives on
Integration Joint Boards



Legislation

Community Care and Health Act 2002

Carers recognised as 'Partners in Care'

Public Bodies (Joint Working) Act 2014

Carers must have a seat on Integration Joint Boards

The Carers Act (Scotland) 2016

Carers must be involved in the planning of local services

The National Care Service Bill (current)

Carers to have have voting rights on the National and local Boards

Carers Collaborative

Established in 2016, it meets 4 times a year

Aims: Peer support, sharing and developing good practice, meeting decision makers and contributing to national policy

Best Practice Standards: Role and Remit, Expenses Policy
Equality Impact Assessments and 'Carer Proofing'

Scoping: Annual report looking at progress and recommendations

Standard 1: Carer engagement is fully resourced

Progress

- Majority now receive training and a full induction.
- Information is more accessible and received more timeously.
- Examples of mentoring and buddying

Challenges

- Not all areas have expenses policies and all costs are not included

Standard 2. Carers represent the views of local carers

Progress

- Most areas have a carers reference group or carers forum
- Carer representatives have good links with local carers centres

Challenges

- Harder to reach groups are not always represented

Biggest Challenge – Recruitment and Retention.

Very big role to undertake on a voluntary basis

3. The involvement of carers is meaningful and effective

Progress

- In most areas carers are involved in a broad range of planning groups
- Carers report they are valued and considered equal partners

Challenges

- Carers least likely to be involved in decisions around allocating the budget
- 1 in 3 carers cannot add items to the Agenda

Learning

Evolving Recognition and language

‘Partners in Care’

‘Equal Partners in Care’

‘Equal and Expert Partners in Care’

‘More than Equal’

Next – Growing Networks and Voting Rights!