

Draft Terms of Reference

Support for Older Carers

Middlesbrough Council is responsible for fulfilling a statutory role for carers as set out in the Care Act 2014, namely;

- A focus on promoting Carers' wellbeing.
- A duty on local councils to prevent, reduce and delay the need for support, including the needs of Carers.
- A right to a Carers' Assessment based on the appearance of needs.
- A right for Carers' eligible services to be met.
- A duty on Local Authorities to provide information and advice to carers in relation to their Caring role and their own needs.

From this the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel wish to consider the following:

Terms of reference 1:

To examine the current numbers of older carers identified to the Council (including caseloads for social workers), and to consider trends to access whether Covid has had an impact on hidden carers coming forward to identify themselves.

Terms of reference 2

To understand the Council's focus on promoting Carers wellbeing (all carers), including accessing what information and advice is provided by the local authority and partner organisations (e.g. Carer's together) to carers in relation to their Caring role.

Terms of reference 3

To understand the processes in place for Carers' when they identify themselves to the Council (e.g carer assessments/ time frames/ support provided) and to access the current financial provision provided to Carers'.

Terms of reference 4

To understand 'what it is to be a carer' and what the impact of Covid has had on their lives.

Terms of reference 5

To understand future plans, as identified through the South Tees Carers Offer/ Strategy and to assess the impact this will have on the Local Authority and support for carers.

Terms of reference 6

To examine other local authorities who demonstrate best practice in supporting older carers.