

Appendix 2

Implementation of the Care Act 2014 as it applies to Carers & Checklist against new Vision for Carers

Care Act Chapter	Specific requirements	How the new Vision for Carers will align
<p>General Responsibilities and Universal Services</p>	<p>Promoting Wellbeing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The core purpose of adult care and support is to help people to achieve the outcomes that matter to them in their life • Local Authorities must promote wellbeing when carrying out any of their care and support functions in respect of a person • The wellbeing principle applies in all cases...it applies equally to adults with care and support needs and their Carers 	<p>The Wellbeing Principles will be woven throughout the new Carers Offer by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that all Members of MCN are trained on the Care Act 2014 (if not already) • That all 'interventions' focus on outcomes and demonstrating how Wellbeing has been promoted for Carers
<p>Preventing, Reducing or Delayed Needs</p>	<p>To meet the challenges of the future, it will be vital that the care and support system intervenes early to support individuals, help people retain or regain their skills and confidence, and prevents or delays deterioration wherever possible.</p> <p>The local authorities responsibilities for prevention applies to all adults and Carers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carers, including those who may be about to take on a caring role or who do not currently have any needs for support which may not be being met by the local authority or other organisation <p>For Carers and prevention, interventions to help Carers care more effectively and safely could include:</p>	<p>The communication and marketing campaign should hopefully 'reach' more Carers and encourage them to come forward to help and support</p> <p>The Universal Offer for Carers (advice/information and signposting) will deliver a preventative approach for Carers – helping them with their current level or caring and preventing Carer breakdown</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely and proportionate interventions or advice on moving and handling safely or avoiding falls in the home, or training for Carers to feel confident in performing basic care tasks • Looking after their own mental health and wellbeing and coping mechanisms e.g. ICT or adaptations • Accessing the advice, information and support they need including welfare benefits 	<p>The new NHS Manchester Training Programme for Carers is already in place and will continue to offer timely and proportionate interventions and advice to Carers on how to stay safe and well in their caring role</p>
Information and Advice	<p>Local Authorities are responsible for ensuring that all adults including Carers in their areas with a need for information and advice about care and support are able to access it</p>	<p>The new SPOC will have a clear identity and branding to ensure that all Carers know that the SPOC is a commissioned service by MCC</p> <p>The Communication and Marketing Campaign will encourage more Carers to come forward for help and support</p>
Market-Shaping and Commissioning	<p>High quality, personalised care and support can only be achieved where there is a vibrant, responsive market of service providers. The role of the local authority is critical to achieving this, both through the actions it takes to directly commission services, and the broader understanding and interactions it facilitates with the wider market that benefit local people and communities</p>	<p>The Commissioning of Manchester Carers Network to provide all the non-statutory services for Carers is best places to both understand and meet the needs of Carers. This will be monitored by commissioners during the lifetime of the Programme to ensure performance, deliverables and outcomes are achieved for Carers</p>

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First Contact, identifying needs and assessment	<p>Carers can be eligible for support in their own right. The threshold is based on the impact a Carer's need for support has on their wellbeing. There is a 3-part eligibility test:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The needs arise as a consequence of providing necessary care for an adult 2. The effect of the Carer's needs is that any of the circumstances specified in the eligibility regulations apply to the Carer; and 3. As a consequence of that fact there is, or there is likely to be a significant impact on the Carer's wellbeing 	<p>Statutory Carer's Assessments will continue to be in place and offered to Carers. We want to enhance the statutory assessment through the SPOC so that ALL Carers receive both a SPOC, local offer as well as a statutory Carer assessment if they wish</p>
Efficient and Effective interventions to fulfil assessment duties	<p>There are many examples of how local authorities have approaches their assessment and eligibility duties including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding who is best places to provide assessments within a local area and can ensure a proportionate approach • Exploring the cost of assessments and using them to inform local approaches to delegating all or some of the assessment functions • Using whole family approaches to better support Carers • Use of appropriate protocols between adults and children's services to support and identify Young Carers • Consideration of Integrated Assessments with health to reduce the need for multiple assessments 	<p>The Vision for Carers places greater emphasis on joint working between statutory and VCS interventions around Carers' assessments.</p> <p>Work is ongoing around Young Carers with Children's Services and support Young people to transition into adulthood as a seamless process</p> <p>There will be opportunities in MLCO to align/combine approaches for Carers assessments</p>
Charging and Financial Assessment	<p>"Local Authorities are not required to charge a Carer for support and indeed in many cases it would be a false economy to do so. When decided whether to charge, and in determining what an appropriate charge is, a local authority should consider how it wishes to express the way it values Carers within its local community as partners in care,</p>	<p>MCC has no plans to charge Carers for any support service</p>

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	<p>and recognise the significant contribution Carers make. Carers help to maintain the health and wellbeing of the person they care for, support this person's independence and enable them to stay longer in their own homes for longer..." ADASS (Association of Directors of Adult Social Services)</p>	
<p>Person-Centred Care and Support Planning</p>	<p>Care and Support should put people in control of their care with the support that they need to enhance their wellbeing and improve their connections to family, friends and the local community. A vital part of this process for people with ongoing needs which the local authority is going to meet is the Care and Support Plan or Support Plan in the case of Carers.</p> <p>The person must be genuinely involved and influential through the planning process. It should be made clear the plan 'belongs' to the person it is intended for, with the local authority role to ensure the production and sign off of the plan to ensure that it is appropriate to meet the identified needs</p> <p>The personal budget in the Support Plan will give everyone clear information about the costs of care and support and the amount the local authority will make available. This must include an option to take a Direct Payment</p>	<p>MCC Adult Social Care is fully compliant with the Care Act and meets people's needs with either arranged services or a direct payment.</p> <p>Prepayment cards are shortly going to be introduced for people to take a direct payment as a preloaded card. This will enable increase back office efficiencies and a timely and proportionate delivery for Carers</p>
<p>Use of 'Replacement Care'</p>	<p>Replacement Care used to be known as Respite or Short Breaks. This new terminology Replacement Care is much more acceptable and does not depict a burden on Carers e.g. respite definition = <i>a short period of rest or relief from something difficult or unpleasant</i></p>	<p>Whilst replacement care is available and offered to citizens and Carers, the provision is currently poor with limited external care providers available for short term replacement care. However, the new homecare procurement will be enable</p>

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		episodic replacement care e.g. a sitting/short care service to be easily put in place
Use of a Carer's Personal Budget	<p>Local Authorities must have regard to the Wellbeing Principles of the Care Act as it may be the case that the Carer needs a break from caring responsibilities to look after their own physical, mental health and emotional wellbeing and to spend time with other members of the family and personal relationships. Whether or not there is a need for replacement Carer, Carers are entitled to look after their own Wellbeing via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A course of relaxation classes • Training on stress management • Gym or leisure centre membership • Adult learning • Development of new work skills or refreshing existing skills • Pursuit of hobbies such as the purchase of a garden shed • Purchase of a laptop/broadband so they can stay in touch with family and friends 	<p>MCC Adult Social Care is fully compliant in this area, although the Carers Budget is significantly underspending.</p> <p>There will be some design work around the use of this budget and how it can be potentially aligned to the SPOC/Targeted Delivery to help Carers earlier. This will be managed and overseen by Commissioning and ensuring a balanced budget is maintained.</p> <p>Further work will be done on an analysis of Carers spend to glean vital intelligence in this area.</p>
Review of Support Plans for Carers	<p>Good practice dictates that reviews should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process for review Carer Support Plans should be proportionate and take into consideration risk and fluctuating needs • Consideration should be given to the method of review and making options available to Carers • Reviews should be person-centred and outcome focused 	<p>This is a vital strand of the new Carers Vision – reaching more Carers earlier in the process and introducing flexible ways for them to receive a review of their needs (currently annually). The SPOC can maintain contact with Carers on a regular basis to</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review should be intrinsically linked to any change in circumstances or presenting need • Consideration should be given to the timing of the first review and subsequent reviews 	ensure their needs are being met
Adult Safeguarding	<p>Circumstances in which a Carer could be involved in a situation that may include a safeguarding response include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Carer may witness or speak up about abuse and neglect • A Carer may experience intentional or unintentional harm from the Adult they are trying to support or from professionals or organisations they are in contact with • A Carer may unintentionally or intentionally harm or neglect the adult they support on their own or with others 	MCC and MSAB have clear guidance and procedures in place for any adult safeguarding matter
Integration and Partnership Working	<p>For people to receive high quality health and care and support, local organisations need to work in a more joined up way.</p> <p>Under the Care Act, local authorities have responsibilities to promote integration with health services in order to improve the wellbeing of adults with care and support needs and Carers, prevent or delay the need for support, and improve the quality of care and support.</p>	<p>MCC is well advanced in this area with the integration of services and commissioned as delivered by MHCC and MLCO.</p> <p>Much more work needs to take place in relation to Carers. This Strategy will underpin and enable joined up delivery of health and care services for Carers going forward</p>
Transition to Adulthood	Local Authorities must assess the needs of Young Carers as they approach adulthood. For instance, many Young Carers feel they cannot go to university or enter employment because of their caring responsibilities. Transition assessments and planning must consider how to support Young Carers to prepare for adulthood and how to raise and fulfil their aspirations.	Children's Services has now appointed a dedicated Young Carers Officer. This officer has now joined the Carers Partnership Group and the Lead Commissioner for Adult Carers

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	<p>Local Authorities should indicate how it would meet the eligible needs of any family members that were previously being met by the Young Carer</p>	<p>has joined the Children's Carers Delivery Group. There is the intention to improve the transition experience/journey for Young Carers going forward as part of this Strategy</p>
<p>Delegation of local authority functions</p>	<p>Part 1 of the Care Act sets out local authorities' functions and responsibilities for care and support. Sometime external organisations might be better placed than the local authority itself to carry out some of its care and support functions. This power is intended to flexibility for local approaches to be developed in delivering care and support and to allow local authorities to work more efficiently and innovatively, and provide better quality care and support to local populations</p> <p>Good practice means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities retain ultimate responsibility for how its functions are carried out • Individual wellbeing should be central to any decision to delegate a function • Consideration should be given to the contracting and monitoring arrangements for any delegated functions • The use of information technology and reporting requirements to the local authority • Required skills, training and competencies of staff undertaking these functions • Expected standards and outcomes by the external organisation • How complaints will be handled 	