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| <b>POLICY NAME</b>  | Young Carers in Barnet   |                             |              |
| <b>Document Description</b>   | Provides an overview of Barnet's commitment and position on provision of services to Young Carers and Young and Carers in transition to Adult Social Services. This Policy provides a summary of relevant legislation, taking into account the requirements of the Children and Families Act 2014 and Care Act 2014. |                             |              |
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# Barnet Young Carers Policy 2015

## Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Introduction .....  | 4  |
| 1. Scope and context .....  | 6  |
| 1.1. Purpose.....   | 6  |
| 1.2. Scope of Policy .....  | 6  |
| 1.3. Review of the Policy.....                                      | 6  |
| 2. Legislative Context .....  | 7  |
| 1.4. Definitions .....  | 7  |
| 1.5. Relevant legislation .....                                     | 7  |
| 1.6. Children and Families Act 2014 .....                           | 9  |
| 1.6.1. Key changes relating to young carers .....                   | 9  |
| 1.7. Care Act 2014 .....  | 10 |
| 1.7.1. Summary of Care Act provisions relating to young carers..... | 10 |
| 3. Our Approach .....   | 13 |
| 1.8. Joined up services for a Whole Family Approach .....           | 13 |
| 1.8.1. Memorandum of Understanding .....                            | 13 |
| 1.8.2. Joint Referral Pathway.....                                  | 14 |
| 1.9. Identifying Hidden Young Carers in the community .....         | 15 |
| 1.10. Equalities and Young Carers .....                             | 15 |
| 1.11. Communicating to Young Carers .....                           | 15 |
| 1.12. Training and Awareness Raising for Practitioners .....        | 16 |
| 1.13. Assessments .....   | 16 |
| 1.13.1. Young Carers - Assessments.....                             | 16 |
| 1.13.2. Young Carers in Transition - Assessments .....              | 17 |
| 1.13.3. Young Adult Carers aged 18-25 years. ....                   | 18 |
| 1.14. Children's Service Referral Pathway for Young carers .....    | 18 |
| 1.15. Young Carers Support Services.....                            | 19 |
| 1.16. Measuring the impact of our work .....                        | 20 |
| 4. Useful Contacts .....  | 21 |
| 5. Related Policies and Information .....                           | 22 |
| 6. Appendix 1 - Parent carers' needs assessments.....               | 23 |

## Introduction

This policy is to ensure that young people carrying out a caring role in Barnet are identified and have access to support where needed. It has been written in conjunction with the Barnet Carers Policy 2015.

### **New Legislation and statutory duties**

Barnet welcomes the introduction of the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Care Act 2014 which together have strengthened the law to support delivery of a range of outcomes for well-being, education, employment and health for carers, young carers and their families.

The Children and Families Act 2014 has set out new duties for the local authority in identification, assessment and support of young carers and this policy sets out the new duties and how we will fulfil them. The Care Act 2014 places carers on the same legal basis as those that they care for. It includes new duties relating to young carers in transition to adult services.

The new responsibilities created by the two acts are placed on the local authority as a whole (not just Adult Social Services or Childrens Services) and are intended to promote a whole council/ whole system approach.

### **The main changes in duties relating to young and parent carers are:**

- The local authority should take reasonable steps to identify the extent to which there are young carers in their area who have needs for support
- Rights to assessments for young carers are now extended so that young carers have a right to an assessment *whatever the level of their caring*
- Young carers or their parent and parent carers have a right to *request* an assessment of needs for support
- The local authority has a duty to assess young carers and parent carers needs for support on appearance of need
- Assessments must adopt a *whole family approach* involving the young carer, the parent, and any other person requested by the carer or parent
- Assessments should consider the young carer's wellbeing and participation in education, training, recreation and employment
- Transitional assessments should be undertaken for young carers who may have needs for support after 18 years if the authority believes it would be of 'significant benefit'
- Parents and other carers of disabled children approaching adulthood are to be assessed for support from adult social services
- The authority must provide information and advice relating to care and support for adults and support for carers

## Young Carers

The 2011 Census revealed that there are 166,363 young carers aged 5-17 years old in England. Barnet's Census information shows a figure of 666 young carers aged 5-17 years and 1,027 young adult carers aged 18-24 years. It is believed this could be the tip of the iceberg<sup>1</sup> and further research<sup>2</sup> suggests that eight per cent of children and young people identify as young carers which equates to 4,430 young carers in Barnet. Currently approximately 500 young carers are known to the lead provider of support services for young carers.

***'Many young carers remain hidden from official sight for a host of reasons, including family loyalty, stigma, bullying, not knowing where to go for support.'***<sup>3</sup>

### Challenges of being a Young Carer

The role of being a young carer builds strengths such as sensitivity to others, maturity and stronger family bonds however young carers are particularly vulnerable and may need targeted support.

Due to the physical and emotional demands of their caring responsibilities 1 in 20 young carers miss school at times and may experience lower educational attainment than their peers (equivalent to 9 grades lower overall). Between 16-19 years they are more likely than the average not to be in employment, education and training. Accordingly they may also face poorer employment prospects in the future. As they grow up they may face bullying or social isolation from peers and may experience low self-esteem, feelings of guilt, anxiety and anger.

### Barnet's commitment

Barnet is committed to improving outcomes for young carers and their families. We will do this by providing appropriate assessment and support for young carers to ensure they are not providing inappropriate care and that they have the same opportunities to progress in life as their peers.

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<sup>1</sup> ['Hidden from view'- Children's Society Research paper, 2013.](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Research in 2011 by Nottingham University \(2011\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> Hidden from View

# 1. Scope and context

## 1.1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that young people carrying out a caring role in Barnet are identified and have access to support where needed.

This policy provides information on the new key legislation underpinning the changes to the council's statutory duties with young carers and sets out the principles that Barnet adheres to in providing services for young carers.

## 1.2. Scope of Policy

The Policy is aimed at managers and practitioners working within Family Services and Adult Social Care who will come across young carers in the course of their work. The Policy covers the duties of the authority in relation to current legislation, and all staff are expected to comply with the policy.

The Policy is also aimed at practitioners and staff within schools and other educational settings, to help increase awareness and ensure identification of young carers within educational settings.

The Policy is designed to enable close working with families of young carers, and young carers.

## 1.3. Review of the Policy

The Young Carers Policy will be reviewed in 2018. This Young Carers Policy will be reviewed after three years or earlier as required by policy or legislation changes to make minor amendments as agreed by the Director of Family Services (or designated senior manager).

## 2. Legislative Context

### 1.4. Definitions

#### In accordance with the Care Act 2014 and Children and Families Act 2014

**Carer** - Section 10 (3) of the Care Act defines a carer as: “an adult who provides or intends to provide care for another adult (adult needing care)”

This is not the same as someone who provides care professionally, or through a voluntary organisation.

**Young Carer**- the Children’s and Families Act 2014 defines a “young carer” as a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person.

***Note:** this definition has changed to extend the definition of a young carer having a right to an assessment of need for support beyond the previous focus on a young person carrying out inappropriate and excessive levels of care*

**Child’s Carer / Parent Carer** - the Children’s and Families Act 2014 defines a “Parent carer” as a person aged 18 or over who provides or intends to provide care for a disabled child for whom the person has parental responsibility.

[See Appendix 1 for further information](#)

**Carer in transition (Young Carer)** - the Care Act states that if a young carer is likely to have needs for support after becoming an adult and the authority is satisfied that an assessment would be ‘of significant benefit’, the local authority must assess whether the young carer has needs for support and whether they are likely to have needs after becoming 18.

### 1.5. Relevant legislation <sup>4</sup>

The Care Act 2014 and the Children and Families Act 2014, which amends the Children Act 1989, together provide a framework to ensure whole family needs are met and inappropriate caring by young people is prevented or reduced.

Prior to the introduction of these acts, the legislative framework for carers and young carers was complicated making it difficult for them to understand how they could access support. The Children and Families Act gives young carers (and parent carers) similar rights to assessment as other carers have under the Care Act.

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<sup>4</sup> A summary of the legislation relating to carers including young carers pre-2012. [Carers and their rights: the law relating to carers; Luke Clements, 2012](#)

The impact of the new legislation is that for the first time, carers are recognised in the law in the same way as those they care for, and are eligible for assessment and support.

### **Acts working in partnership**

Paragraph 1.23 of the Care Act 2014 Guidance states “the Care Act is designed to work in partnership with the Children’s and Families Act 2014, which applies to 0-25 year olds and young people with SEN and Disabilities”.

In combination, the two Acts enable areas to prepare children and young people for adulthood from the earliest possible stage, including their transition to adult services.

There is a commitment between Adult Social Care and Family Services within Barnet to work together to ensure that we appropriately support the needs of carers no matter what their age. The mechanisms for this are outlined in this Carers Policy and in our Young Carers Policy.

### **[Children and Families Act 2014 \(England only\)](#)**

The Children and Families Act 2014 gives young carers a right to assessment and to have their needs met with an emphasis on whole family assessments carried out by someone suitably trained. It also imposes a duty on local authorities to identify young carers in their area who may have needs for support.

### **[Care Act 2014: statutory guidance](#)**

This comes into force in 2015; its main provisions for carers simplify, consolidate and improve existing legislation, "putting carers on an equal legal footing to those they care for and putting their needs at the centre of the legislation".

It replaces some aspects of the three previous Carers Acts which laid out the nature and outcomes of carers assessment and support:

- The Carers (Recognition and Services) Act 1995
- The Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000
- The Carers (Equal Opportunities ) Act 2004.

### **[The Equality Act 2010 \(UK wide\)](#)**

Under the [Equality Act 2010](#), no individual should be discriminated against in service provision, employment or education because of: age, disability, gender reassignment, marital status, race, religion/belief, sex or sexual orientation.



Further to this, a carer cannot be discriminated against on the basis of their association with a disabled person.

## **1.6. Children and Families Act 2014**

The Children's and Families Act 2014 applies to 0-25 year olds and young people with SEN and Disabilities. It provides for assessment and support for young carers before transition, and parent carers of children under 18.

The Children and Families Act 2014 has amended the Children Act 1989 by inserting [new Sections 17 ZA to ZC](#) to deliver changes that affect young carers. The new section came into force on 1 April 2015 to coincide with the implementation of the Care Act 2014.

### **1.6.1. Key changes relating to young carers**

#### **Identification**

The Act requires councils to be proactive about identifying young carers with needs in their area

#### **Child in Need**

Consideration should be given as to whether a young carer is a 'child in need'

#### **Assessments**

The right to an assessment of needs for support is extended to all young carers under 18 years whatever the nature of their caring role; regardless of who they care for; what type of care they provide (emotional/practical); or how often they provide it. They no longer have to be undertaking a 'regular and substantial' amount of care.

The local authority must assess whether a young carer within their area has needs for support and, if so, what those needs are, if –

- It appears to the authority that the young carer may have needs for support
- The young carer or a parent request an assessment of their needs for support<sup>5</sup>

The local authority must ensure the person carrying out the assessment 'has sufficient competence, knowledge, skills and training to be able to carry out the assessment'<sup>6</sup>

#### **Education, training and work**

An assessment when carried out will have regard to the young carer's participation in education, training, recreation and work

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<sup>5</sup> [Children and Families Act 2014 Section 96](#)

<sup>6</sup> Young Carers (Needs Assessments England) Regulations 2015

## **Whole Family Approach - children and adult's legislation**

The Acts make links between children's and adults' legislation to enable local authorities to align the assessment of a young carer with an assessment of an adult they care for (preventing inappropriate care).

### **Note: Regulations and Guidance for Children and Families Act 2014**

*Regulations and guidance for the Children and Families Act 2014 will include additional requirements and more details and is due to be published in 2015.<sup>7</sup>*

## **1.7. Care Act 2014**

The amendment to Section 17 of the Children and Families Act will work with provisions in the Care Act 2014 so as to apply equally to both children's and adult services.

For full details please refer to the [regulations and guidance for the Care Act 2014](#), which includes information around whole family approaches and young carers and includes a statement that:

“When carrying out an adult's or carer's assessment, if it appears that a child is involved in providing care the local authority must consider:

- the impact of the person's needs on the young carer's wellbeing, welfare, education and development;
- whether any of the caring responsibilities the young carer is undertaking are inappropriate.”

### **1.7.1. Summary of Care Act provisions relating to young carers**

#### **(i) Whole Family Approach**

The Care Act emphasises the need for professionals from different agencies to work together in a coordinated manner around each young, parent or adult carer to help achieve outcomes that matter to them.

The Care Act reinforces new rights for young carers by requiring that local authorities:

- Must take a *whole family approach* to assessing and supporting adults so that young carers' needs are identified when undertaking an adult or adult carers' needs assessment

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<sup>7</sup> We have noted where information in this policy is derived from the draft regulations.

- Should ensure that adult's and children's social services work together to ensure assessments are effective.

This means when a child is identified as a young carer, the needs of everyone in the family are to be considered. This should trigger action as needed from both children's and adult's services:

- assessing why a child is caring,
- what needs to change
- what would help the family to prevent children from taking on this responsibility in the first place.

## **(ii) Inappropriate levels of caring**

The Guidance stresses that young carers should not be left with inappropriate levels of caring and says that "Inappropriate caring responsibilities should be considered as anything which is likely to have an impact on the child's health, wellbeing or education, or which can be considered unsuitable in light of the child's circumstances and may include:

- personal care such as bathing and toileting;
- carrying out strenuous physical tasks such as lifting;
- administering medication;
- maintaining the family budget;
- emotional support to the adult."

## **(iii) Provision of information and advice to carers**

A local authority must establish and maintain a service for providing people in its area with information and advice relating to care and support for adults and support for carers.

## **(iv) Identifying Young Carers**

The local authority must also identify any children who are involved in providing care and they may become aware of this through the assessment of the person needing care or their carer, or informed through family members or a school.

Identification of a young carer in the family should result in an offer of an assessment for the adult requiring care and support and, where appropriate, the local authority must consider whether the child or young carer should be referred

for a young carer's assessment or a needs assessment

#### **(v) Transitional Assessments**

The Care Act contains provisions to help preparation for adulthood for three particular groups of people – children, young carers and child's carers. A transition assessment must take place when there is significant benefit to the young person or carer in doing so, and if they are likely to have needs for care or support after turning 18. It will generally be at the point when their needs for care and support as an adult can be predicted reasonably confidently.

Parents and other carers of disabled children approaching adulthood are to be assessed for support from adult social services. It should be noted that this assessment is referred to as the child's carer's assessment and so applies both to parents and others providing care to that child in transition.

These changes will help to ensure an effective transition where someone or their carer is reaching the age of 18 who is already receiving support.

#### **Identifying young people and young carers who are not already receiving children's services**

Most young people who receive transition assessments will be children in need under the Children Act 1989 and will already be known to local authorities. However, local authorities should consider how they can identify young people who are not receiving children's services who are likely to have care and support needs as an adult.

*Key examples include:*

- young carers whose parents have needs below the local authority's eligibility threshold but may nevertheless require advice or support to fulfil their potential
- Young carers receiving Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) may also require care and support as adults even if they did not receive children's services from the local authority.

Even if they are not eligible for services, a transition assessment with good information and advice about support in the community can be particularly helpful for these young people.

Often when young people who have not been in contact with children's services present to the local authority as a young adult, they do so with a high level of need for care and support. Local authorities should consider how to establish mechanisms in partnership with local educational institutions, health services and other agencies to identify these groups as early as possible in order to plan and prevent the development of care and support needs.'<sup>8</sup>

## 3. Our Approach

### 1.8. Joined up services for a Whole Family Approach

There is a commitment between Adult Social Care and Family Services in Barnet to 'support every young carer to meet their potential'. It reflects Barnet's commitment, in its corporate priorities, to safeguard vulnerable children and adults.

An effective whole family approach supports all members of a family to ensure that a young person is prevented from taking on an inappropriate caring role that negatively impacts on their own mental or physical well-being, education, access to leisure or life chances.

Information and support for practitioners working with young carers is available on the Working with Children in Barnet web page<sup>9</sup> see [Section 5](#).

#### 1.8.1. Memorandum of Understanding

Barnet has agreed a *Memorandum of Understanding between Adults and Communities and Family Services* (MOU) which is being refreshed in 2015. The MOU is an agreement about how we work with young carers and follows guidance from the Associations of Director of Children's Services (ADCS) and Association of Adult Directors of Social Services (ADASS). It encourages a whole-family approach

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<sup>8</sup> The Care and Support Statutory Guidance

<sup>9</sup> See reference and link in [Section 5](#)

stressing the importance of ensuring young carers are relieved from inappropriate or excessive levels of care.

### **1.8.2. Joint Referral Pathway**

Adults Social Care and Family Services have developed and agreed a joint referral pathway to support working together. The services are committed to working together to ensure that young carers are identified, offered assessments and support which are based on a whole family approach whichever service they are identified through.

## 1.9. Identifying Hidden Young Carers in the community

The council will support hidden young carers to identify themselves and seek support and/or assessments where needed.

**Schools** – A Schools Liaison Officer links with all primary and secondary schools, using leaflets, 1:1, group-work and other means to ensure hidden young carers are aware of support provided and can access this. This service is commissioned by the council through the young carers support service.

**Other Services** – Practitioners in the Early Intervention service, those in Adults' Social Care and in community-based services will be supported through multi-agency training to be competent in identifying young carers.

**Health** – [Barnet Carers Service](#) have a GP and Hospital Liaison role which helps to raise awareness of GPs, community nursing teams and hospitals to identify young carers when the service is working with the 'cared for' .

## 1.10. Equalities and Young Carers

The Equality and Human Rights Commission's in its 2010 Equality Review when stressing the importance of addressing the inequality experienced by young carers noted that a disproportionate number were from certain ethnic minority backgrounds (including Bangladeshi, Black African and Black Caribbean and Pakistani).

Barnet is committed to identifying and supporting young carers across the diverse communities in Barnet as identified in the borough's Equality Policy:

*'We will work with all our partners in the private, public and community sector and the rich diversity of Barnet's communities to: seek out the voices of people who are not always heard and those who need extra help to access our services'*

## 1.11. Communicating to Young Carers

The council is committed to ensuring young carers can access information on how to access support, and their rights to a Young Carers Assessment.

The commissioned lead provider for the provision of support services for young carers will provide information about support services for young carers on their web page.

The commissioned Young Carers Support Service will provide information to young carers in primary and secondary schools through the Education Liaison Worker, who will also provide leaflets to schools.

The council will ensure information about young carers with links to support services is available through the *Local Offer*, and on the council web site.

## 1.12. Training and Awareness Raising for Practitioners

Family Services is working with Adult's Social Care to ensure we have a joint training approach to include practitioners working with adults as well as those from the children's workforce. The multi-agency training on offer will ensure that managers and practitioners throughout Adults and Family services are adequately trained to be confident in understanding the issues of young carers, can identify young carers, and are competent to ensure assessments and support are provided as appropriate.

The council will also ensure that relevant community services are supported through the training offer.

## 1.13. Assessments

### 1.13.1. Young Carers - Assessments

In accordance with the Children and Families Act Family Services will offer a Young Carer's Needs Assessment when

- (i) It appears that the young carer may have needs for support, or
- (ii) The young carer or the parent of the young carer asks for an assessment of the young carer's need for support.

If a care-related assessment has previously been carried out in relation to the same person cared for, we will only offer an assessment where:

- it appears that the needs or circumstances of the young carer
- or the person being cared for has changed

All assessments will follow a *whole family approach* with Family Services working closely with Adults Social Care team to ensure the young person's needs are assessed in conjunction with the person being cared for.

A young carer's needs assessment will assess whether a young carer has needs for support and, if so, what those needs are. Practitioners will be trained to offer an assessment relevant to the needs of the young carer.



### **Impact of caring role on education, health and development**

When assessing the needs of a young carer, the practitioner will take into account the impact of the child's caring role on their education, health and development. The views of education and health professionals will help inform the assessment's conclusions about how the child is affected by their responsibilities as a carer. The needs assessment will take account of relevant information about the clinical and care needs of the person cared for which will be known to health and adult care services

#### **The assessment will address:**

- the extent to which the young carer is participating in or wishes to participate in education, training or recreation, and
- the extent to which the young carer works or wishes to work
- whether the child's caring role limits their educational opportunities, perhaps because it means there are reasons why they are absent from school
- whether caring prevents the child from building relationships and friendships
- how caring affects the child's emotional wellbeing.

#### **We will ensure that within the assessment we consider:**

- The preferences and wishes of the young carer
- The outcomes desired by the young carer
- Any other assessment in relation to the young carer or the person being cared for which we believe to be relevant
- Any differences of opinion between the young carer and the person cared for with respect to the care which the young person provides for that person
- The importance of adopting a whole family approach

### **1.13.2. Young Carers in Transition - Assessments**

*The Care Act states that if a young carer is likely to have needs for support after becoming an adult at age 18 years, and the authority is satisfied that an assessment would be 'of significant benefit', the local authority must assess whether the young carer has needs for support and whether they are likely to have needs after becoming 18.*

The council is committed to ensuring that a young carer over the age of 16 and under the age of 18 years will be considered for a suitable assessment which considers their future needs after reaching the age of 18 years. The young carer may be identified through either Adults Social Care or Family Services, and will be referred to Family Services where a support need is identified.

**Transitional assessments:** Family Services will assess the needs of young carers as they approach adulthood. For instance, many young carers feel that they cannot go to university or enter employment because of their caring responsibilities. Through our Transition assessments and planning we will consider how to support young carers to prepare for adulthood and how to raise and fulfil their aspirations.

When a young carer reaches the age of 16, any re-assessment, or new assessment will consider the following issues:

- Is the young carer willing to care now and will continue to after 18
- Is the young carer in or do they wish to participate in education, training, work or recreation
  - The stage they have reached at school and any upcoming exams;
  - Whether the young person or carer wishes to enter further/higher education or training;
  - Whether the young person or carer works or wishes to do so
- Whether the young person is planning to move out of their parental home into their own accommodation;
- The time it may take to carry out an assessment;
- The time it may take to plan and put in place the adult care and support;
- Any relevant family circumstances;
- Any planned medical treatment.

### **1.13.3. Young Adult Carers aged 18-25 years.**

The council is committed to ensuring *Young Adult Carers* are offered assessments and are supported. The assessment of this group will be carried out by Adult Social Care. Please look at the Assessment and Eligibility Policy for Carers for further details.

## **1.14. Children's Service Referral Pathway for Young carers**

If a young carer is already in contact with services and has received an assessment then a new assessment will be offered if it appears that the needs or circumstances of the young carer or the person cared for have changed since the last assessment.

*The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is a single point of referral in Barnet covering all levels of need from Early Intervention to Children's Social Care.*

A young carer may be referred to the MASH <sup>10</sup> for an assessment if it would be of benefit to them. Individuals can also refer themselves to MASH.

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<sup>10</sup> Further information about the MASH available on the [Working with Children in Barnet web page](#)

MASH will screen the referral, which will either be managed by Children's Social Care, or by Early Intervention Services, through a CAF assessment.<sup>11</sup>

- (i) If there are safeguarding concerns raised at this stage, or if the child has been identified as a *Child in Need* there will be a referral for a Single Assessment/Social Work intervention.
- (ii) If the MASH screening assesses that the referral does not reach *the threshold* for social work assessment and intervention, then it will be referred for a CAF to be completed to ensure appropriate support is put in place. Frequently, the lead provider will lead these CAFs, or work alongside schools in supporting these young carers with a CAF.

Practitioners will be able to refer to a detailed referral pathway jointly agreed between Family Services and Adult's Social Care to ensure that a young carer is identified and supported whichever service they are in contact with.

## 1.15. Young Carers Support Services

Barnet Children's Services are committed to ensuring a Young Carers Support Service is provided for young carers. Up until 2016 Barnet Young Carers and Siblings (BYCAS) is our lead provider for the provision of support services for young carers aged 5-17 years. They offer a range of services delivered across the borough, some of which are commissioned by the council.

### **Services include:**

- three respite clubs which each meet twice a month at a number of venues across the borough, as well outings when possible
- mentoring to young carers from two support officers and play staff
- signposting to other services (internally and externally) for the family
- counselling
- support through the Schools Liaison Officer at school including help to increase attendance, as well as provision of group support in schools for to up to 90 young carers
- the Time 4 Us service to provide help to young carers affected by drug or alcohol misuse by parents or siblings
- the Time 4 Change service provides specific assessments and focus on transitional issues such education, training and work, as well as well-being as the young person approaches adulthood.

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<sup>11</sup> Further information about the CAF available on the [Working with Children in Barnet web page](#)

- after-school support and tuition sessions provided by volunteers work in partnership with other agencies in relation to children known to Children's Social Care
- work in partnership with other agencies in relation to children supported by a CAF, with the lead provider sometimes taking on the [CAF Lead Professional role](#) and/or being part of the 'Team Around the Child'
- awareness raising of the needs and issues of young carers as well as the services available to support them to a wide range of professionals, such as social workers, school-based staff, GPs and other voluntary agencies.

### **1.16. Measuring the impact of our work**

- We are committed to improving information about young carers in Barnet.
- We will monitor the work of the commissioned Young Carers Support Service.
- We will monitor the numbers of referrals and outcomes of referrals for young carers at the stages of (i) MASH (ii) Single Assessments (iii) CAF

## 4. Useful Contacts

### **BYCAS- Barnet Young Carers and Siblings (run by Barnet Carers Centre)**

Tel: 020 8343 9698

Web: [www.carers.org/local-service/barnet/barnet-young-carers-and-siblings-bycas](http://www.carers.org/local-service/barnet/barnet-young-carers-and-siblings-bycas)

Offers range of support for young carers, aged 5-18yrs, including a school liaison service, one-to-one mentoring, respite clubs, counselling, home-work support and CAF lead professional role.

### **Young Carers Trust**

Tel: 0844 800 4361

Web: [www.youngcarers.net](http://www.youngcarers.net)

### **Children's Society**

Tel: 020 7841 4400

Web: [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)

### **Carers UK**

Web: [www.carersuk.org](http://www.carersuk.org)

Tel: Advice line 0808 808 7777

### **Carers Direct**

Web: [www.carersdirect.com](http://www.carersdirect.com)

### **Working with Children in Barnet website for practitioners**

[www.barnet.gov.uk/WorkingWithChildrenInBarnet/info/30125/working\\_with\\_young\\_carers](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/WorkingWithChildrenInBarnet/info/30125/working_with_young_carers)

## 5. Related Policies and Information

- Carers Policy 2015
- Assessment and Eligibility Policy for Carers
- Carers Strategy Refresh 2014-15
- Carers Strategy Action Plan 2014 – 15
- Draft Carers Strategy (incorporating Young Carers) 2015-2018
- Young Carers Strategy and Action Plan 2012- 2015
- Working Together to Support Young Carers and Their Families: A *Memorandum of Understanding between Adults and Children's Services*
- [Young Carers in Barnet – LBB web page](#)
- [Information for Practitioners – Working with Children in Barnet web page](#)  
[https://www.barnet.gov.uk/WorkingWithChildrenInBarnet/info/30125/working\\_with\\_young\\_carers](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/WorkingWithChildrenInBarnet/info/30125/working_with_young_carers)

## 6. Appendix 1 - Parent carers' needs assessments

### Children and Families Act 2014 Section 17ZD

The Act also included an amendment to ensure that Parent Carers with the following conditions (3) and (4) had a right to an assessment of needs for support on appearance of need, or on request. This is of particular interest for parent carers of children who have needs but who do not meet the threshold for a Children's Social Care assessment.

*'(1) A local authority in England must, if the conditions in subsections (3) and (4) are met, assess whether a parent carer within their area has needs for support and, if so, what those needs are.*

*(2) In this Part "parent carer" means a person aged 18 or over who provides or intends to provide care for a disabled child for whom the person has parental responsibility.*

**(3)The first condition is that—**

*(a) it appears to the authority that the parent carer may have needs for support, or*

*(b) the authority receive a request from the parent carer to assess the parent carer's needs for support.*

**(4)The second condition is that:**

*- the local authority are satisfied that the disabled child cared for and the disabled child's family are persons for whom they may provide or arrange for the provision of services under section 17.'*

**END**