

Resident Impact Assessment

Islington's Carers Offer

Service Area: Peoples

1. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, function etc?

The objectives of this procurement are to

- Ensure the wellbeing of carers with a strength-based approach in mind
- Identify more carers and link them up with services
- Offer a variety of opportunities, support and services to meet differing needs
- Encourage greater partnership working in the borough for the benefit of carers
- Provide carers with the right support at the right time to prevent escalation of carer needs and to prevent breakdown of caring relationships

2. Resident Profile

		Borough profile	Total number of Carers registered with ICH as of March 2021
		Total: 206,285	Total: 3877
Gender	Female	51%	2646 (68%)
	Male	49%	1214 (31%)
	Unknown		16 (0.4%)
	Transgender		1 (0.03%)
Age	Under 16	32,825	7
	18-29	29,418	150
	30-39	87,177	359
	40-49	38,669	502
	50-59		963
	60-69	18,036	845
	70-79		570
	80-89		334
	90-98		84
	99+		2
	Unknown		61

Disability	Disabled/Long-term	16%	2211 (57%)
	Non-disabled	84%	No data
	Data not known/reported		1666 (43%)
Sexual orientation	LGBT	No data	No data
	Heterosexual/straight	No data	No data
Race	BME	52%	1345 (34.7%)
	White	48%	2232 (57.6%)
	Prefer not to say		300 (7.7%)
Religion or belief	Buddhist		11 (0.3%)
	Christian	40%	964 (24.9%)
	Hindu		25 (0.6%)
	Jewish		10 (0.3%)
	Muslim	10%	238 (6.1%)
	No religion	30%	259 (6.7%)
	Pagan		2 (0.05%)
	Sikh		2 (0.05%)
	Other	4.5%	No data
	Religion not stated	17%	2366 (61%)

3. Equality impacts

With reference to the [guidance](#), please describe what are the equality and socio-economic impacts for residents and what are the opportunities to challenge prejudice or promote understanding?

We are procuring a carers hub in line with the statutory requirements set out in the Care Act 2014.

Carers, also known as informal carers, family carers or unpaid carers, look after an adult in their life who would not be able to manage without their support. Carers may look after an ageing partner, a disabled adult child, support an elderly neighbour or a friend with substance use issues. These carers are not paid for the support they offer. While some caring roles are limited to several hours a day or week or for a temporary period of time, other caring roles become all-consuming with carers having to relinquish paid employment or give up their own interests to be able to care for someone else.

Nationally, 6.8 million people provide unpaid care for a disabled, seriously-ill or older loved one in the UK, saving the state £132 billion a year – close to the cost of a second NHS.¹ 1 in 7 of the workforce across the UK are juggling caring responsibilities with work. However, the significant demands of caring mean that 600 people give up work every day to care for an older or disabled relative.

While the support that carers provide, on an individual and national level is high, this can have devastating impacts on them. Many carers are themselves disabled, experiencing long-term health conditions or mental health problems.

¹ Statistics taken from Carers UK

It is estimated that that there are 18,700 unpaid carers (9.2% of the population aged over 16) in Islington, based on the 2011 Census. However, with the multiple waves of Covid-19 and lockdowns, this number will have risen significantly since March 2020. Carers UK estimates there are around 13.6 million people caring nationwide through the pandemic.

Expectations of the new carers' hub will centre around building strengths, ensuring wellbeing, and addressing inequalities. Inequalities may be due to being a carer or inequalities or due to the protected characteristics of some carers. The carers hub will be tasked with working with partners to challenge and reduce discrimination, harassment and victimisation of disabled carers; and, by providing support for the caring role and for carers' own wellbeing including the provision of mental health support and assistance with their own disabilities or health conditions. Furthermore, the contract will require that the provider incorporate a broad range of ways for carers to access support, reducing discrimination caused as a result of inaccessibility to resources and support.

Moreover, the intention to procure a carers hub which offers core services, such as information and advice, Carers Assessments and financial support, alongside a responsibility for developing partnerships with other organisations that provide more specialised support, the contract will ensure a focus on an inclusive offer that considers and develops services that respond to the strengths and needs of carers with a range of protected characteristics. The contract will include a requirement to consider the negative impacts of discrimination, harassment and victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity.

Beyond this, it will also encourage partnership working between the Council and Voluntary and Community Sector organisations and allow us to draw on the expertise of a range of community groups which will foster good relations across the borough while the enhanced peer support opportunities enabled by partnership working will provide significant benefit to carers' wellbeing.

Many carers struggle to make ends meet and are not gainfully employed due to their caring role, leading to a loss in income and pension while Carers Allowance is the lowest benefit of its kind. The impact of socio-economic disadvantage on carers' wellbeing will be mitigated through the carers' hub, which will include provision to enable carers to access opportunities for their own development, fulfilment and economic wellbeing as well as to maintain their overall wellbeing. The carers hub will promote carers' rights and carers' needs across local public services.

4. Safeguarding and Human Rights impacts

a) Safeguarding risks and Human Rights breaches

There are no anticipated safeguarding risks attributed to this contract. All providers are contracted to work within Islington's Safeguarding Procedures for Adults and Children's and are required to ensure that all Staff complete both internal and LBI safeguarding training every three years which is monitored as part of contract monitoring. There are no anticipated Human Rights Breaches as a result of this contract as the proposal is not to change the current service offered to clients.

If potential safeguarding and human rights risks are identified then **please contact equalities@islington.gov.uk to discuss further:**

5. Action

How will you respond to the impacts that you have identified in sections 3 and 4, or address any gaps in data or information?

For more information on identifying actions that will limit the negative impact of the policy for protected groups see the [guidance](#).

Action	Responsible person or team	Deadline
N/A		

Please send the completed RIA to equalites@islington.gov.uk and also make it publicly available online along with the relevant policy or service change.

This Resident Impact Assessment has been completed in accordance with the guidance and using appropriate evidence.

Staff member completing this form:

Signed: Lisa Koduthore

Date: 03/03/2021

Head of Service or higher:

Signed: Nikki Ralph

Date: 16/03/2021