

Warrington Carers Strategy Introduction

The 2021-2024 Carers Strategy sets out our commitment to carers and describes how Warrington's Carers Partnership Board will support carers of all ages during 2021-2024.

The strategy covers young carers, young adult carers, adult carers and parent carers. It sets out how we respond to our responsibilities and duties to carers. This strategy has been produced in close collaboration with carers of all ages to ensure that their voice is heard and that their priorities become our priorities. In particular, we have recognised the additional burden placed on carers during the 2020-21 pandemic and our action plan reflects the ways in which we will meet needs in a supportive and sustainable manner.

A carer is someone who spends a significant proportion of their life providing unpaid support to family or friends. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or substance misuse issues. A young carer is a child or young person aged 18 years or under who helps to look after a family member who has a disability, mental health condition, illness or a substance misuse problem.

For the purposes of clarity a parent carer is someone who provides support to children with additional needs, including grown up children, who could not manage without their help. The child/adult could have a disability (permanent or temporary), suffer with a mental health condition, or have alcohol or substance misuse problems.

Warrington Carers Partnership Board

The Warrington Carers Partnership Board has a strategic role in overseeing the development, joint commissioning and implementation of services for people who are unpaid carers irrespective of their age. The purpose of the Carers Partnership Board is to promote the interests and wellbeing of carers by:

- Promoting a culture where carers are expert partners in care and where the needs of carers are considered by all statutory, third sector and independent organisations in planning and delivering services.
- Supporting and promoting the involvement of carers in the design and commissioning, redesign and delivery of services.
- Overseeing the implementation of Board action plans derived from national and local carers priorities.
- Directing and supporting the work of Board subgroups formed to deliver objectives set by the board.

Membership is made up of representatives from key agencies and a third of the members are carer representatives. The Carers Partnership Board reports to the council's Health and Wellbeing Board which is the strategic joint commissioning board for all health and social care.

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/warrington-carers-strategy-introduction>