

**CARERS: UPDATE**

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**Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update regarding the Carers Information Centre at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff.

**Background**

2. At this Committee's meeting on 1 April 2015, Members considered a report on progress in delivering the agreed recommendations from this Committee's Inquiry into the provision of services to adult carers of adults in Cardiff.
3. As part of this scrutiny, Members discussed the Carers Information Centre based at the University Hospital of Wales. The progress report stated that Cardiff Council had withdrawn support for the centre as the number of carers accessing the centre was disproportionate to the time given. At the meeting, Members heard that the low footfall had led to the Centre closing. This discussion was reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

**Update**

4. Health and Social Care officers have contacted scrutiny services to advise that the Carers Information Centre has not closed. Third sector agencies and volunteers are operating the Centre, with the University Health Board's Patient Experience team overseeing the work. In the last 12 months there have been nearly 1,000 visitors to the Centre.

**Way Forward**

5. As this item is for information only, there are no witnesses. Members are requested to note the update information.

## **Legal Implications**

6. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

## **Financial Implications**

7. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is recommended to note the update information provided in this report.

MARIE ROSENTHAL

County Clerk and Monitoring Officer

22 May 2015