

# Caring Matters October 2018 – policy updates from Carers Trust

## Policy team update

- Carers Trust response to NHS long term plan
- New research shows significant increase in number of young carers in England

## Policy Development

- Care Quality Commission (CQC) – State of Care
- CQC – an extension of the local system review programme
- Government releases its Loneliness Strategy

## Get Involved

- Launch of Talk Health and Care

## Best Practice

- Launch of StaySafe.Support
- Renewed Making it Real launched

## Policy team update

### Carers Trust response to NHS long term plan

Carers Trust submitted our [response to the NHS long term plan](#). In our response, we outlined the need to integrate support for carers across the NHS, to make the identification of and support for carers a priority for the NHS and the need to treat carers as equal partners in care so that carers are able to maintain their own health and wellbeing.

### New research shows significant increase in number of young carers

Early findings of research from the BBC and the University of Nottingham has found that one in five (22%) secondary school children in England, around 800,000 children and young people were providing care to family members. A comparable survey undertaken by the BBC in 2010 found that one in 12, or 700,000, secondary school pupils were acting as young carers to family members. The figure of 800,000 is also significantly higher than the figure provided by the most recent census (2011), which stated that there were 166,000 young carers aged 5-17 in England and Wales. Carers Trust [issued a response](#) when the new figures were released on 14 September, saying that the figures were “shocking, but not surprising.” Our response also called on Government to ensure young carers’ rights in law are being delivered by local authorities by making sure councils have the financial resources to do so.

# Carers Trust

## Policy Developments

### CQC – State of Care

The CQC released their [State of Care report](#) for 2017/18. Carers Trust [released a media statement](#) on the day outlining that CQC's findings echo what Network Partners and carers tell us about the shortfall in social care impacting on carers, the lack of integration of health and social care and its consequences on unpaid carers and the need to align the NHS long term plan with the social care green paper.

### CQC – an extension of the local system review programme

CQC are [extending the local system review programme](#) into three new areas and re-visiting three areas reviewed in 2017/18 to follow up on progress. The new areas are Staffordshire, Leeds and Reading. The [Local System Reviews](#) explore how older people move between health and social care services and will build on their [Beyond Barriers report](#).

### Government releases its Loneliness Strategy

The government have released their [Loneliness Strategy](#). Carers are mentioned throughout the document, and the government have pledged funding to combat loneliness amongst vulnerable groups – including carers. Some of the aspects covered in the strategy include social prescribing, an employer pledge, volunteering, and children being taught about loneliness in schools.

## Get Involved

### Launch of Talk Health and Care

Secretary of State for Health and Care, Matt Hancock MP launched 'Talk Health and Care'. The DHSC describe this as “a space for you [professionals] to talk about what matters to you about working in social care.” [Find out more.](#)

## Best Practice

### Launch of StaySafe.Support

Staysafe.support is a [website which aims to become a one stop hub](#), signposting older people, unpaid carers of older people, and paid care support workers to information and resources about getting older, and caring.

### Renewed Making it Real launched

Think Local Act Personal launched renewed packages of their Making it Real resource. [Making it Real provides a framework for personalised care and support for people with support needs and their carers – and sets out what good looks like.](#)

**If you have any questions or would like any more information, please contact the Carers Trust Policy Team at [policy@carers.org](mailto:policy@carers.org)**