

10.11.2022

Media Response to announcement by HSC of reduction of the level of domiciliary support available in the Community

“Carers Guernsey is disappointed by the recent announcement by HSC of cuts in the level of domiciliary care support and is very concerned at the likely impact upon those who provide informal and unpaid care in the community, especially family members. However we are not surprised by the announcement. Carers Guernsey has been very aware of the extreme pressures under which the very dedicated team within the Adult Community Services have been working in recent months and years. We have repeatedly drawn attention to the need for the States of Guernsey to address the pressing issues associated with the demands placed upon those who support care in our Community.

“The latest announcement merely serves to under-line the importance of the role and support of those informal and unpaid Carers upon whom we rely to ensure that care can be provided at home in the Community. We estimate that there are between 4,000 and 6,000 informal and unpaid carers in our Community. However fewer than 600 qualify for any direct financial support through Carers Allowance

“There is unlikely to be any growth in the number of beds available within the nursing or residential homes sector. If HSC are unable to cope with the demand of providing the level of care required in the Community, then it necessarily falls upon the informal and unpaid carers within the family to provide that care, with little or no financial support.

“In order to address the present issues, HSC and the Committee for Employment and Social Services need as a matter of urgency to accelerate the delayed review of the Long Term Care Insurance Fund and the associated review of carers allowance and severe disability benefit.”

Carers who may be affected by the cuts announced by HSC are invited to make contact with the out-reach team at Carers Guernsey on 07781 444488.

Peter Harwood

**Chair
Carers Guernsey LBG**



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