

Warwickshire County Council ~ Carer and Customer First Team  
**'Who cares? Changing perceptions and values around caring & carers'**  
**Workshop Programme**

### **Workshop Introductions**

- Importance of raising awareness of carers issues is reflected in the:
  - HM Government Carers Strategy 2008
  - Warwickshire County Council Carers Strategy 2009-2012
- Objectives of the workshop:
  - To raise awareness of the issues and experiences carers encounter in connection with a wide range of public services
  - Reflecting on how we recognise and identify carers in our day-to-day working roles
  - Improving the types of support and levels of information we offer to carers of all backgrounds
  - Supporting participants to disseminate the messages and information from the workshop to their colleagues

### **Making the role personal for everyone**

- Statistical reflections:
  - 1 in 7 of the workforce are also in caring roles
  - In our lifetime 60% of us will take on a caring role of some kind
  - So, statistically how many workshop participants, and how many of your work colleagues may already be carers?
  - Carers save the economy approximately £87billion/year
- The analogy with the birth of a first child:
  - What is the immediate impact on the lives of the parents?
  - How does this situation equate to and differ from the impact of the caring role?
- Warwickshire Carers MP4 ~ *I'm Fine*

### **Personal testimony from a local carer**

- 5 minute presentation with further option for audience Q&A
- Outlining the impact of the caring role on a main carer and wider family
- Raising awareness of the additional resource provided through the podcast by Barbara Pointon

### **PowerPoint Slides** (optional use or simple reference)

- Identifying the broad range of issues through using quotes from the Carers Strategy 2008 consultation events and other sources
- Importance of the integration of some of the messages on slides with the previous testimony and discussion
- Highlighting the reasons why we need to improve on how we identify and support/inform carers

- Last slides to outline the Government Strategy definition of a carer, and the issues 'definition' can present... to include identifying the range of categories of carer (i.e. by age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, disability and working carers)

### **Identifying Carers**

- Small group exercise: reviewing a 'checklist' of pertinent points and questions to act as prompts in helping to identify who is a carer and what caring role do they play
- Feedback and discussion... participants noting the main checklist that emerges from the flipchart onto a pre-prepared worksheet

### **Break (10 minutes)**

### **How can we work more effectively with carers?**

- Large group discussion of the value and impact of the 'personalisation agenda'
- Warwickshire Carers MP4 ~ *Working in Partnership*

### **Supporting/Informing Carers**

- Small group exercise: developing a checklist of good practice in working with carers
- Large group discussion of outcomes and application to participants job roles
- Handouts to list some of the main local and national resources for signposting... focus of attention is drawn to how best to scrutinise and use resources rather than to be seen as an authoritative list

### **Cascade Training**

- Raising the expectation that participants will distribute the workshop materials pack (including their notes) to work colleagues... exploring the potential for using 30 minutes in team meetings, for example, to discuss the main messages
- Warwickshire County Council intention to audit the dissemination of the materials, and any comments arising
- Availability of the workshop materials electronically through Warwickshire County Council on the following webpage...

### **Workshop evaluation & close**