

FAMILY CARERS BOARD MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 12th 2025

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN POINTS

1. Future Family Carers Board arrangements

It was recognised that the Carers Board had been very well supported initially but attendance had reduced substantially in recent years. This was taken as a sign of the increased level of satisfaction as the quality of service had improved and was therefore perhaps inevitable. The Open Day event held in June 2024 had attracted only a very small level of extra interest and it was decided that this would not be repeated.

Work had been done to identify other potential meeting venues more convenient to the five geographical groupings of homes (Washington, Sunderland North, Sunderland Central, Sunderland South and Coalfields). It was reported that the Day Services Carers Board, with similarly low attendance at its main meetings, had held successful coffee mornings at the Washington and Fulwell Community Resource centres. The indications from this and similar events held by the Carers Centre were that most family carers were not interested in more formal events.

It was agreed that coffee mornings would be arranged on a trial basis, starting with the Washington and Fulwell centres in April and June, with a meeting of the Board in May to review the April event.

2. Future Meetings

- Informal coffee morning at Fulwell Community Resource Centre
10-12am on Wednesday 2 April 2025
- FCB meeting to review of April coffee morning event at the Leechmere Centre
3.30pm on Wednesday 7 May 2025
- Informal coffee morning at Washington Community Resource Centre
10-12am on Wednesday 11 June 2025
- Family Carers Board meeting at then Leechmere Centre
4pm on Wednesday 15 October 2025

The FCB meeting on 15 October will have the option of remote attendance using Microsoft Teams Software.