

Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb i ymgynghoriad y [Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol ar Gwella mynediad at gymorth i ofalwyr di-dâl](#)

This response was submitted to the [Health and Social Care Committee consultation on Improving access to support for unpaid carers.](#)

UC04 : Ymateb gan: Cyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru (CGGC) | Response from: Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA)



Improving access to support for unpaid carers

A RESPONSE FROM WCVA

- 1) Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) is the national membership organisation for the voluntary sector in Wales, Our purpose is to enable voluntary organisations to make a bigger difference together. WCVA's [Health and Care Project](#) aims to better connect the voluntary sector with the health and social care system.
- 2) We thank the Committee for the opportunity to respond to this consultation on improving access to support for unpaid carers.
- 3) We believe organisations working directly with carers are better-placed than ourselves to respond to most issues this consultation wishes to discuss. However, we would like to make a few points on one area the consultation highlights: the role of Regional Partnership Boards in the provision of support for unpaid carers, and the effectiveness of current commissioning practices for services.
- 4) The recently-refreshed [Code of Practice for Funding the Third Sector](#) sets out principles showing how funding delivered by Welsh Government, and Welsh Government funding delivered by other public sector bodies, should fund the

voluntary sector in a more long-term, sustainable and impactful way.

- 5) When commissioning services that support unpaid carers, it is crucial commissioners follow the five principles of the Code of Practice to achieve the best possible outcomes for those accessing said services. These principles are:
 - Early and continuous dialogue – ensuring meaningful and regular engagement between funders and voluntary sector bodies
 - Valuing and outcomes – ensuring funding decisions are based on a broad consideration of social, cultural, environmental and economic value outcomes.
 - Appropriate funding mechanism – ensuring funders consider all options and choose the appropriate mechanism(s) to effectively deliver agreed outcomes.
 - Flexibility – Ensure that if evidence of circumstances support the need, funder and funded organisations can suggest adjustments to agreements and delivery.
 - Equity – Ensure fairness of access for all, creating a funding environment that is proportional, removes barriers to inclusion and builds support.

- 6) Commissioners should also adhere to the National Framework for Commissioning Care and Support. This framework aims to reduce complexity in commissioning, facilitate consistency in commissioning practices, and rebalance commissioning to focus on quality and outcomes.

- 7) This framework demands commissioners embed seven principles into their practices. These are:
 - Caring, compassionate and equitable relationships borne from inclusive coproduction.
 - Effective, inclusive, transparent and honest leadership.
 - Collaboration by sharing risks, resources and assets.
 - Consider value through the lens good quality, safe, care and support that delivers outcomes that matter and enhance social value.
 - Sustainable care and support built on fair work and fair pricing.
 - Planning for current needs and future generations.
 - Evidencing what works through stories and numbers.

- 8) We recommend that:
 - to meet population need and achieve better outcomes for unpaid carers that the National Framework for Commissioning Care and Support is adhered to, and
 - that the Code of Practice for Funding the Third Sector is utilized to ensure that services provided by the voluntary sector are sustainable and able to meet the long-term needs of unpaid carers

WCVA Health and Social Care Project Officer



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