

Briefing Paper: CARERS ACT TRANSFORMATION GRANTS PROGRAMME

- Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) were the successful provider chosen via a Scottish Government Procurement process to manage and administer the Carers Act transformation grants programme.
- A budget of around **£0.5 million** has been set aside to provide funding to third sector organisations to allow them to gear up for supporting the implementation of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 (“the Act”) in 2018/19 through help with funding for **transformation costs**.
- **Third sector organisations** with a role in local implementation of the Act will be invited to bid for small grants to improve their capacity to do so. SCVO will manage the transformation grants programme for 2018/19.
- The main purpose of this short term funding (as described in the Financial Memorandum to the Carers (Scotland) Bill¹) is **developing local capacity/systems** etc. rather than delivering support (which is funded locally). It is expected that transformation costs will centre around **systems** (such as IT (hardware/software) accounting, data collection, data protection and recording and associated templates, paperwork and procedures).
- The allocation is around £500,000 for 2018/19. For example, this could help support about 50 providers at £10,000 each. Some of these providers might work across local authority boundaries as some third sector organisations do this in any event. As stated, the funding **would not be to deliver carer support** but to ensure that providers have the technical, data collection and IT capacity to support their role in implementation of the Act.
- SCVO will work with stakeholders (including NCO reps) to develop a light tough grant application process and criteria and establish an assessment panel.
- We are aiming to have the programme open for applications **around end of June 2018**. A mailbox has been set up carers@scvo.org.uk
- Details will be communicated by SCVO with NCO support through their networks.

¹ Carers (Scotland) Bill Financial Memorandum, para 112 (page 53)
[http://www.parliament.scot/S4_Bills/Carers%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b61s4-introd-en.pdf](http://www.parliament.scot/S4_Bills/Carers%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b61s4-introd-en.pdf)