

Unpaid Carers Resolution

Notice of Motion

Motion received in terms of Standing Order No 19 on 11 May 2021, proposed by Councillor Margaret Walker, seconded by Councillor Joe Fagan, as follows:-

“A recent research study carried out by the Charity Carers Scotland has highlighted that the majority of unpaid carers (87%) in Scotland had taken on more care since the start of the COVID19 pandemic in March 2020. The findings also indicated that the work of unpaid carers in caring for older, disabled or seriously ill relatives is worth £43billion a day during the COVID pandemic and that 77% of unpaid carers are suffering from depression, anxiety and are exhausted and worn out. These findings have been reflected in surveys carried out by the Social Care Institute for Excellence published by the Scottish Government Social Care online

The closure of Day Centre provision exacerbated this situation and we call upon the Scottish Government to ensure robust support is in place to support unpaid carers as we move out of the pandemic

The enormous contribution of unpaid carers must be recognised by the Scottish Government. Their health and wellbeing must be prioritised. Appropriate support including increased respite opportunities, greater financial support and robust community services should be made accessible and available to unpaid carers

In the longer term greater investment in services for carers will lead to a healthier and happier population that is better able to balance important aspects of their lives, including personal relationships, work and family.”