Carers (Scotland) Bill

RCGP Scotland

The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) is the academic organisation in the UK for general practitioners. Its aim is to encourage and maintain the highest standards of general medical practice and act as the ‘voice’ of general practitioners on education, training and issues around standards of care for patients.

The College in Scotland came into existence in 1953 (one year after the UK College), when a Scottish Council was created to take forward the College's interests within the Scottish Health Service. We currently represent over 5100 GP members and Associates in Training throughout Scotland. In addition to a base in Edinburgh, the College in Scotland is represented through five regional faculty offices in Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Inverness, Dundee and Glasgow.

Answers to Questions

1. Do you support the Bill?

The principles which underpin this legislative process, to comprehensively support both adult and young carers, are supported by RCGP Scotland. The following link is offered as evidence of RCGPs policy to support carers and to provide resources which align to the content of this Bill: RCGP policy.

2. What do you feel would be the benefits of the provisions set out in the Bill?

The clear direction to local authorities on the duty of care to carers as set out within the provisions of the Bill would be a benefit. Carer support plans, which meet clearly identified needs of carers, offered to, and at the request of, carers, would be a second benefit. The opportunity for carers to contribute to decisions on the delivery of services would be a third obvious benefit.

3. How do you feel the Bill could be amended or strengthened?

RCGP Scotland has no specific recommendations for amending this Bill.

4. Is there anything that you would add to the Bill?

RCGP Scotland has no specific recommendations for adding to this Bill.

5. Is there anything that you would remove from the Bill?

RCGP Scotland makes no specific recommendations to remove anything from this Bill.

Dr Elaine McNaughton
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