**Youth Advisor: APPG on Young Carers and Young Adult Carers inquiry**

**Role Description**

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**What is the project?**

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Young Carers and Young Adult Carers is a group of MPs (Members of Parliament) and Peers (members of the House of Lords) who are interested in making things better for all young carers and young adult carers.

They are holding an inquiry into the life opportunities for young carers. This means they will be asking young carers, and organisations whose job it is to help young carers (like young carer projects, schools, local councils etc) how being a young carer affects the opportunities you have.

This will include ‘short-term’ opportunities such as whether young carers are able to access education in the same way as young people without caring responsibilities, and whether young carers can access support or breaks away from caring. It will also look at ‘long-term’ opportunities – such as whether young adult carers have the same access to employment, training or higher education, and what support looks like when they become an adult.

**Role Purpose**

To be involved in designing, reporting, and disseminating the APPG Inquiry report into life opportunities for young carers and young adult carers.

**Working with Others**

In this role, you will be working as part of a group including: other young carers/young adult carers, Carers Trust staff and members of the APPG. In particular you would work with:

* Andy McGowan, Policy and Practice Manager (Young Carers and Young Adult Carers), Carers Trust
* Beth Neale, Research and Engagement Officer, Carers Trust
* Duncan Baker MP
* The Communications team at Carers Trust

**Who Can Take Part?**

This role is for young carers/young adult carers aged up to 25 living in England.

A young carer is anyone aged under 25 who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who, due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction, cannot cope without their support. Anyone could be a young carer – a 15-year-old girl looking after a parent with an alcohol problem, a 7-year old boy who helps support his autistic brother, a 12-year-old supporting their parent with fibromyalgia.

**Details of how to get involved are at the end of this role description. Please read the rest of this information, and we would love to hear from you if you’re interested!**

**What will I Be doing?**

There are a number of ways for you to be part of this work. The APPG on Young Carers and Carers Trust want the advice and expertise of young carers at every stage of the inquiry. You can be part of every stage, or join for just one or some of the stages.

An overview of all the stages of the inquiry are provided in the table below. If you express interest in being involved, we will ask you which stages of the inquiry you would be interested in taking part in.

All workshops will be online using either MS Teams or Zoom. The launch event in November would be in-person at an event in the Houses of Parliament. Carers Trust would arrange your travel for you and someone to come with you. Please talk to us if any of this will be difficult for you. You will receive training and support to do this role.

**How to Apply**

If you’re interested in taking part, please e-mail Andy McGowan on amcgowan@carers.org stating:

* Your name
* Your age
* Contact number and e-mail (including parent if young carer is under 13)
* What young carers service you are part of (if you are not, then which part of the country you live in)
* Why you would like to be a Youth Advisor

**If a young carer is younger than 13, then they will need parental consent to put themselves forward and so the e-mail should come from the parent’s e-mail account, or with them copied into the e-mail.**

**Thanks for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you! If you have any questions or need more information, or some help to apply, please let us know by emailing Andy McGowan on** **amcgowan@carers.org**

**Lived Experience Advisor - APPG Inquiry - Timetable**

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| Activity | Date  | Description |
| Introductory meeting: 30 minute workshop | Week commencing **Monday** **15** **May** | This will be an introductory workshop to introduce ourselves and everyone to each other and the project.  |
| Stage 1: Drafting the inquiry questions: 1 hour workshop | Week commencing **29 May** | You will be invited to a workshop with Andy and Beth to be part of designing the survey questions. We will also prep for the inquiry launch event |
| Stage 2: Inquiry launch: 1 hour webinar | Week commencing **5 June** | You will be invited to join the launch and share your experiences as a young carer. |
| Stage 3: Interpreting survey results: 1 hour workshop | Week commencing **24 July** | You will be invited to a workshop on interpreting the survey results, with a focus on data analysis.  |
| Stage 4: Survey findings: 1 hour workshop | Week commencing **11 September** | You will be invited to a workshop to look at the survey findings and decide which are the most important to include in the survey report. |
| Stage 5: Recommendations from the survey: 1 hour workshop | Week commencing **25th September** | You will be invited to a workshop to sense test the recommendations coming out of the survey. |
| Stage 6: Providing feedback on the draft report | Taking place over 3 weeks starting the week commencing **16 October** | There will be quite a few drafts of the report before we agree on the final one. We want your feedback on each version, and you will be invited to give your feedback by email, first on the content of the report and then the design of it. |
| Stage 7: Involvement in sharing and presenting the final report | Week commencing **Monday 20 November** | The APPG will launch the report during the week commencing 20 November, and there will be many ways to be involved in this, speaking at the launch event in Parliament, to doing interviews for the media. If you are interested in this, we will discuss it with you more. |