

<b>Organisation Name</b>	<b>Reference</b>	2021-05-YC002
Angus Carers Association		

<b>Visit Date</b>	<b>Visited By</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Jim Marshall

### Grant Summary

We will employ our first full-time Young Carer Development Worker who will be our lead contact with each schools carers champion. The worker will build relationships with teaching and non-teaching staff in school communities across Angus. This will work towards a greater understanding of what being a pupil in the school with caring responsibilities is like. We will make the referral pathway for adults in the school as simple as possible, building on systems which they already use to encourage young carers to seek support from us, as well building a community of support for young carers in school and in the community. We will build a strong monitoring & evaluation thread throughout our work find out if it has made a difference to young carers.

#### Year 1

Young Carers Development Worker (F/T 35 hrs per week)- £26,496  
Travel, Training, Agile working Support (Laptop & Mobile Phone) - £3,504

#### Year 2

Young Carers Development Worker (F/T 35 hrs per week)- £26,496  
Travel, Training, Agile working Support (Laptop & Mobile Phone) - £3,504

### Visit Details (People met, premises visited etc.)

Call was via Zoom, although internet problems meant that most of call was done via voice rather than video.

Meeting was with:

Laurie Epsom – Young Carers Service Manager  
Morag Mackenzie – Educational Development Worker

### Information about the Organisation

Angus Carers is a charity based in Arbroath. It has been in operation for a number of years, although the increased focus on young carers seems to have been more recent.

TT grant was designed to support and pay for a new role working with schools and young carers. Morag is filling that role.

Charity has a relatively new CEO (mid 2022) replacing someone who had been in role since 2013.

### Issues and Comments

Laurie and Morag are clearly both very enthusiastic about their roles, the charity and the difference they are making.

They both talked very eloquently and with passion about their progress over the last few months. This is also reflected in their End of Year 1 Report prepared at end on January 2023.

The background to the last year has been one of building the profile of the group with all 8 secondary schools in Angus, and starting to build a profile with the 51 primary schools (Youngest carer is 6 years old). Now all 8 secondary schools have a nominated YC champion and 2 of the YC in Angus attended the Scottish Parliament to meet with MSPs and discuss the challenges on being a YC.

In terms of the measures for achievement that were set out in the grant application, Laurie and Morag explained they were well ahead of target, eg increase number of YC being formally recorded on recording system by 30%. Actual increase at end of December 2022 is 140%.

The target for YC Statements was to have completed 28, an increase of 30%. Actual numbers are 54, an increase of 116%.

The charity has also generally raised its profile in the community eg being chosen as nominated charity by a local secondary school.

Laurie and Morag felt that the change of CEO had actually helped the YC to be an equal part of the charity with more focus on YC than before.

Next steps include the following:

- Set up on-line discussion group between the YC Champions in the secondary schools
- Build relationships with primary schools. Possibly by “clustering” primary schools with the local secondary schools
- Help YC transition from primary schools to secondary schools
- Support schools in their preparation of evaluation and identification of YCs

Laurie also commented on support she received from Cranfield and the mentoring she had benefited from. Laurie was very positive about this and is sorry that her next session will be her last. She strongly believes it has helped her develop into a better leader.

#### **Other Feedback**

A very positive call with 2 individuals who are clearly passionate about the charity, their roles and the difference they are making. Obviously, and justifiably, upbeat about progress over the last year and what