

## **CABINET – 18 JANUARY 2018**

Written Response to Councillor Question 9

9.

**Questioner:** Councillor Janet Mote

**Asked of:** Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools

**Question:** “Can you tell me how many young carers there are in the borough?”

**Full Written Response:** The Children’s Services Mosaic database records 117 young people under the age of 18 who have been assessed as having some caring responsibility over the last 3 years. Young carers are identified through local services including schools, GPs and social care but it is recognised that, both locally and nationally, many young carers are not identified. Support for young carers who are identified is provided mainly via the Council’s Early Support, Social Care services and local schools.

A more comprehensive picture of unpaid care is provided every 10 years in the national census. Data from the 2011 census is published in age bands - 552 under 16 year olds were providing unpaid care in Harrow, of which 102 were providing more than 20 hours per week. For young people 16 - 24 years, the numbers were 1756 total carers and 394 over 20 hours per week.

If comparator data is required, according to 2011 census data, Harrow’s rate of u16 young carers is in line with both London and England averages at 1.1%. Harrow’s 16-24 young carers is higher at 6.3% compared with 5.4% London and 4.8% England. Most of Harrow’s additional 16-24 young carer are in the ‘less than 20 hours’ category. See census data follow the hyperlink below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/characteristics-of-children-in-need-2016-to-2017>

**Supplemental Question/Written Response:** Can we hold a meeting to cover the issues raised?