**Background Information** 

This document contains background information on:

* The Organisation
* Our Location
* Equalities
* The Project
* Key Terms & Conditions

**About Carers Link**

For every eight people living in East Dunbartonshire, one person is a carer. A carer is a person who, without payment, provides regular help and support to a partner, relative, friend or neighbour, who could not manage without their help because of an illness (including mental health), addiction, frailty or disability. This includes parents of children with a disability or additional needs.

Carers Link began service delivery in September 2004 after several years of development. A history of our development can be found on our website www.carerslink.org.uk - our most recent Annual Report is also available to download. Since starting, we have supported over 5000 carers. During the course of the last year over 1,489 carers received support through at least one of our services. These services comprise of Advocacy, Information, Training and Support (both 1-1 and through a range of Groups) for any Carer. We also work with Young Adult Carers and Young Carers from age 8 upwards.

A Board of Management manages Carers Link through the Chief Executive Officer. The current Board comprises of 10 members and three-quarters of our Board Members are either carers or former carers in their own right. At time of writing there are 14 members of staff and almost all have current or former experience of caring. We are also supported by a team of over 50 volunteers.

Further information on Carers Link, our staffing structure, services and caring can be obtained from our website – [www.carerslink.org.uk](http://www.carerslink.org.uk)

**Our Location**

Carers Link is located in Milngavie Enterprise Centre on Ellangowan Road. The offices are less than five minutes’ walk from the pedestrian precinct of Milngavie centre and less than a ten-minute walk from the Railway Station and main bus stop. Milngavie itself is north of Glasgow and less than 5 miles from Glasgow’s Anniesland Cross.

Very limited parking is available at the Enterprise Centre; however there is a large car park immediately opposite the offices. The rail service runs through Glasgow (including Partick, Anniesland, Westerton) and operates 3-4 times per hour. A train timetable is available from: www.scotrail.co.uk

The Enterprise Centre comprises 3 floors connected by lift, the upper 2 consisting of office space. Carers Link is based within 3 rooms on the first floor, consisting of the main open plan office, the CEO’s office and our own meeting/training room. The rest of the ground floor features meeting rooms, offices, washrooms (including wheelchair access) and reception area.

All staff, volunteers and board members are currently working/volunteering from home in line with current Government guidelines.

**Equalities**



Carers Link is registered as being Positive About Disability. The Enterprise Centre and Carers Link’s own offices are accessible to wheelchair users. There is a lift to all floors and wheel-chair accessible washroom on the ground floor.

Carers Link endeavours to hold all events in public buildings that are accessible to people with mobility problems or who use wheel chairs. However, our services are offered on an outreach basis and sometimes require visits to other offices of organisations that may not be fully accessible.