

INTRODUCTION

There is an ever-increasing amount of data available to users of services and their carers and that is a welcome situation. However, finding information is time consuming and, very often, not available to the majority of the elderly who cannot access the internet. In this Directory, there is a substantial amount of relevant local and national information. We welcome suggestions as to how future editions can be improved.

THE DIRECTORY IS USED BY MANY IN THE STATUTORY AND
VOLUNTARY SECTORS AS A REFERENCE DOCUMENT.

We are indebted to Macmillan, who made a donation towards printing costs so that the Directory can be distributed as widely as possible.

The **WESTERN ISLES COMMUNITY CARE FORUM** was established in 1992 to give the community and voluntary organisations involved in care a voice in community care planning. Management Committee members are drawn from throughout the islands and they represent the Forum on a wide range of Committees and Working Groups.

Many matters which were the subject of prolonged discussions between Forum members and senior Statutory Sector personnel since the Forum was established are now accepted as standard practice.

Improvements in the lives of service users and their carers are due, in no small measure, to the efforts of voluntary organisations such as the W.I.C.C.F.

The Forum publishes the Directory of Care Services, a 'flier' of emergency services, a quarterly Newsletter and is involved in the compilation of a Disabled Access Guide. Work on a Register of Carers is ongoing.

The Western Isles Forum is a member organisation of the Scottish Community Care Forum and an associate member of Carers Scotland

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