

Carers strategy made simple 2017 - 2022

Supporting the health and wellbeing of carers in North Yorkshire

This document sets out a summary of our strategy for promoting the health and wellbeing of carers. It has been produced by the Health and Wellbeing Board for North Yorkshire, working on behalf of local residents. The document is intended for all those who come into contact with carers or who commission and deliver services locally including a wide range of voluntary and independent organisations.

Our vision

We have set out a vision that people in all communities in North Yorkshire have equal opportunities to live long, healthy lives. For carers, this will mean that:

Carers themselves can live long and healthy lives and be able to continue to care as long as possible and as long as they would want to. We want to encourage more carer friendly communities, and promote carer issues across wider society.

The themes and priorities for improvement

The six themes that have come through clearly when talking to carers and organisations who are supporting our carers are in line with themes that have been identified nationally:

- Improving identification of carers
- Improving information and advice
- Enabling carers to take a break
- · Improving carers health and wellbeing
- Enhancing financial wellbeing
- Involving carers as experts

Our key commitments for 2017 – 2019

As well as considering all the aims set out above, we will be focussing on the following twelve actions for the next two years.

- We will involve carers of all ages in developing services.
- We will make sure that carers feel involved in the treatment of the person they care for.
- We will make sure that personal budgets are embedded in the adult carer offer.
- We will work with employers to raise awareness of flexible working polices to help carers combine their caring role with paid employment.
- We will help carers take a break from caring.
- We will make it easier for carers to get the right information they need at the right times for them.
- We will listen to what carers say is important to them and look at solutions involving friends, family and the wider community when planning carers assessments.
- We will work with schools to raise awareness of flexible policies to help young carers do well.
- We will encourage schools to participate in the Young Carers in Schools Award scheme.
- We will support schools to recognise young carers and offer additional support.
- The Disabled Children and Young People's Service will assess the needs of disabled children and their parent/carers to ensure they receive the right support.