



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Carers Action Plan

2018 to 2020

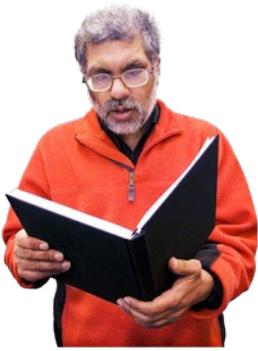
A report about the main work we have
done so far



Supporting carers today

July 2019





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About this report

We are the Government.

This report is about carers and what we are doing to make their lives better.

Carers are very important. They look after someone they know who needs extra support. They do not get paid for this.

Last year we made a plan about what we will do to support carers in England from 2018 to 2020.

The plan is called the **Carers Action Plan**:

<https://tinyurl.com/Carers-Action-Plan>

The Carers Action Plan is a year old now.

This report is about the main work we have done on the plan so far.



Department of Health & Social Care

Carers Action Plan
2018 to 2020
Supporting carers today



June 2018



What the Government has done so far



We are working with many people on the Carers Action Plan.

For example, carers, health and care organisations, groups that support carers and other local groups.



1. Health and social care services that work for carers

Social care is support that people can get to look after themselves.



We have been helping health and social care staff know who carers are, listen to them more and give them the right support.



For example, there are now some questions and ideas that doctors' surgeries can use to check how well they support carers.

This will help doctors' surgeries to:

- Find out who carers are
- Listen to them more when making decisions
- Give them better support



We are making sure that local councils understand what they must do by law to support carers.



Different parts of the country are looking at the best ways to follow the law.

There is new information to help councils with this.

This is helping more people know about carers, the work they do and their rights.



Caring can be very hard. It is important that carers can take breaks when they need to.



There is now some information for councils and people who decide about services to help them make sure that:

- Carers get the breaks they need
- The breaks are right for them



Carers helped to make some information for social workers about the best way to work with carers.

Social workers work for the council. They help people get the support they need.

2. Work and money



Carers should be able to work as long as they want to. They should not have to give up work because they are a carer.



A new project has started to help organisations make their work places better for carers.

The project will help organisations to:

- Support carers to stay at work and do well.



For example, carers might need extra support at work or to work different hours or days.

- Check how well they are supporting carers.



There will soon be a course that carers can do on the internet to help them think about their skills and how to use them.



There is now a website to help carers look for jobs that suit them and get advice about jobs:

<https://www.timewisejobs.co.uk/>



We have given money for 16 projects that help carers who want to go back to work.

For example, the projects might:

- Create new jobs for carers
- Solve problems that stop carers going back to work



We have started projects to help carers go back to work if they have been out of work for a long time and want to go back.

3. Support for young carers



We have been helping services for young carers, schools and local councils find out who young carers are.

This will help young carers get the right support more quickly.



There have been training events for staff who work in health, social care, education and other jobs.

The training helped them know how to find out who young carers are.



There will soon be a report about the best ways to find young carers and give them support.



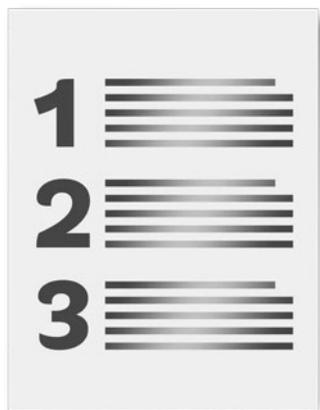
Young carers helped with a project to get better support for young carers aged 16 to 24.

For example, the law says that young carers should have a meeting with the council about their support.

But this does not always happen.



There will be information for young carers and councils about the rights of young carers and the support they should get.



There is also a report about the project and what can be done to help.

We will look at the report and see what to do next.



There is some new mental health support for young people. This includes young carers.

For example, there will be people to support young people at school or college if they feel stressed or worried.

4. Helping everyone support carers



We will soon be giving money for exciting new ideas and projects that support carers when they need it.

For example, the projects might help carers to be healthy, enjoy life or go to work.



We are now giving much more money for the new ideas and projects. We are giving £5 million instead of £0.5 million.

More and more people are now using Carer Passports.

A Carer Passport shows that someone is a carer. It helps carers get support at work or from services in the local area.





We know that many carers can feel lonely.

In 2018 we made a plan about how to stop carers and other people being lonely.

There will also be new information for councils to help people who may be lonely.

5. Better information about carers



We have started a project to give carers better and clearer information on the internet.



This will help carers make the right choices for them when they become a carer.

For example, good information might help carers stay at work instead of leaving.

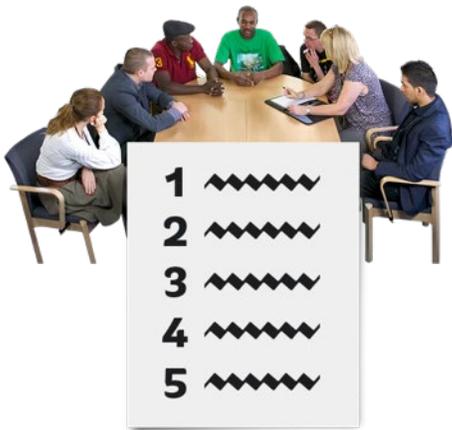
What next?

Extra work we will do

In the next year we will also work on:

- Better support for parents who are carers of young people
- Better support for young carers who might find it harder to get help.
For example, young carers from some cultures and religions
- Making sure people in the community and people who make laws for the country know more about young carers
- Finding out what life is like for carers
- Helping more people have a Carer Passport
- Helping more organisations know how to make their work places better for carers





We have set up a group of people to make sure the Carers Action Plan happens. Carers are part of this group.



At the end of the Carers Action Plan in 2020 we will write another report to say what we have done and what we will do next.



There is more information about everything we have done so far in a document called the Progress Update.

It is on this website:

<https://tinyurl.com/Carers-progress-update>

It is not in easy words and pictures.

Most pictures by Photosymbols