



Carers Strategy

CONSULTATION



*We want to know YOUR
opinions on these proposed
changes*

Your views count



CARERS CONSULTATION

The City of London Corporation is revising its Carers Strategy. We need your help to shape the carers strategy and actions going forward.

The City of London recognises the significant contribution that carers make to the wellbeing of service users and residents. The City aims to support carers to continue to provide care and protect their quality of life.

Who is a Carer?

A carer is someone who is unpaid and provides care to a spouse, partner, parent, relative, friend or neighbour. A carer assists a person on a regular or substantial basis, with care that helps them to remain living in the community. They can be of any age and may or may not live with the person they care for. The role and experience of each carer will be different, influenced by a variety of factors such as age of cared for/carer, culture, and needs of cared for.

A few Facts

- At any one time 1 in 10 people in Britain are a carer.
- Currently 3 million people in the UK juggle paid work with unpaid caring responsibilities.
- This number is set to increase by 50% in the next 25years.
- In the 2001 Census, 562 City residents identified themselves as carers.
- There are currently 57 known Carers of adult clients within the city.
- It is estimated that, if a live-in Carer was not available 60% of City residents currently supported would require residential or nursing home care.

Draft Carers Strategy

A draft Carers Strategy has been written based on conversations with some Carers, previous reports and national guidance. The full draft Strategy is available on the 'Help for Adults' section of the City of London website www.cityoflondon.gov.uk. Hard copies can be requested by leaving your name and address on **020-7332-1573** or emailing adultconsultation@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

DRAFT CARERS STRATEGY

The main themes and actions of the Carers Strategy are outlined briefly below. **Please let us know what you think.**

STRATEGY THEMES AND ACTIONS

1. Identifying and Referring Carers

Before the City of London can help support Carers we need to know who they are.

Suggested Actions

- Greater partnership working and information sharing with partner organisations
- Outreach to Bangladeshi community
- Refresh the information on the Council website

2. A Personalised Approach to Looking after Carers Health and Wellbeing

Carers should be able to design their own support and be engaged in the support plan of those they care for, to ensure that support is tailored to their specific needs.

Suggested Actions

- Carers to be offered assessments and individual budgets with which to plan personalised support
- Clear information regarding the assessment process provided to Carers
- Annual reviews provided
- Discussions with existing and new provider organisations to develop a diverse menu of options available to carers as part of their individual budgets

3. Providing specific services as part of Individual Budget options

Suggested Actions

- Respite Care – Provide adequate breaks for Carers, including developing specific support for carers of Alzheimer sufferers
- Relevant Training – Organise training for Carers in relevant subject areas, such as welfare benefits, first aid, lifting and handling.

- Offering Financial Guidance as part of assessment process. To help carers access relevant benefits.
- Helping Carers to Plan for Emergencies - Encourage completion of an emergency respite plan and carers cards.

4. Involving Carers

Recognise the contribution that carers are making, value them, respect and listen to their views. Carers should be involved in the design of service provision - as experts and care partners.

Suggested Actions

- Appoint a Council Carers' Champion within the Department of Community and Children's Services
- Hold an annual Carers meeting to provide opportunity for all carers to contribute their experience and views, ask questions and be involved in the design of service provision and actions
- Adults Advisory Group will monitor the Carers Strategy actions. The Group should always have Carer representative members.

5. Embedding Accurate Recording Processes

Suggested Actions

- Providing support for Carers should be explicitly referred to in Departmental Indicators and Strategic Documents
- Improvements should be made in recording systems

If you would like more information about support for carers Please leave a voicemail on 020-7332-1573 or send an email to adultconsultation@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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