

Doncaster Carers Charter



Doncaster's commitment to improving support for informal carers

Introduction

This document sets out the commitment, agreed by organisations across Doncaster to support a joined up approach to meet the health and wellbeing needs of carers.







Background

There are approximately 33,000 carers in Doncaster of all ages, who are vital to the health and social care system. Together, individual carers make an invaluable significant contribution, improving the wellbeing of the people the care for therefore reducing the demand on a range of services.

Vision

Our vision is that “ Carers of all ages in Doncaster are recognised for the vital contribution they make, have a strong voice that influences improvement, are respected as partners in care and are able to tap into the support they need, when they need it in way that they choose. Young and adult carers will not be expected to provide care but if they choose to do so they will be supported to prevent negative impact on their life chances.” There is a shared commitment that all children in Doncaster are given opportunities even though they may have caring responsibilities.

To realise this vision we will:

-  Help carers to be healthy encouraging carers to improve or maintain their physical and mental wellbeing
-  Encourage carers to have friends and take part in social activities in the community and beyond
-  Support time away from caring
-  Promote choices so carers with different needs are able to tap into the right support at the right time in the way that they choose
-  Value carers in their caring role, ensuring they are recognised, heard and are encouraged co-design services?
-  Encourage opportunities for carers to learn or work and/or to feel supported in the workplace

This commitment

- Outlines the vision for carers in Doncaster
- Defines the principles that reinforces how this will be done
- By signing this commitment, organisations agree to work in partnership with each other and beyond to support carers effectively across Doncaster.

Key principles

- We will support the identification and recognition of carers in all organisations
- Carers will be identified through a joined up approach in order to maintain their physical health, mental health and to reduce social isolation that can occur as a result of caring.
- Carers will be empowered to make choices about their caring role and access appropriate support for them and the person they look after.
- The workforce of those signing up to this agreement will be 'carer aware' through organisational training and development programmes to enable them to meet needs of carers and value what carers do in our communities
- Carers will be respected and listened to as expert care partners, and will be actively involved in shared decision-making, consultation and co-design
- The support needs of carers at key transition points will be identified early to improve the experience of this process
- Platforms such as local and national campaigns will be used to celebrate carers within organisations and across the partnership in Doncaster

Moving forward

This partnership commitment seeks to ensure carers are identified and supported well to meet their outcomes at the earliest opportunity wherever the touch points are within services or the wider community.

This will bring increased understanding of carers in Doncaster through partners and their carer interventions. The partnership will work together to develop carer friendly policies within their own organisations.

Signatories on behalf of the partnership:



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