

2024

DONCASTER'S CARERS JOURNEY

CO-PRODUCED BY

Carers Action Group and Carers Oversight Board
City of Doncaster Council



www.doncaster.gov.uk/CarersJourney

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Team Doncaster

About this journey

The Doncaster Carers Journey is a collaborative effort by Doncaster carers, structured around the six themes from Doncaster's All Age Carer's Strategy (2022 – 2025).

The document has been put together by the Carers Action Group and Carers Strategic Oversight Board, with half of its members being carers who have directly experienced or are currently relying on care and support services in Doncaster.

The groups reflect a commitment to transparency, genuine engagement, and the aspiration to make a positive impact for carers. The document presents the voices of carers sharing their experiences, offering an overview of the progress made so far and the current priorities that carers have identified for 2024.

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“We didn't realise that we were carers. We thought we were just a family.”

“As a carer you can feel isolated and mentally and physically tired.”

“I looked after my dad and daughter and then I took ill and now my husband became the carer. We all care for each other.”



Introduction

Councillor Sarah Smith

As a carer and a passionate advocate in the new-ish role of Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care for City of Doncaster Council, and the Co-chair for the Carers Strategic Oversight Board; I am thrilled to be part of our shared journey of designing & creating support that truly values and uplifts the incredible works of carers across Doncaster.

This is the first Doncaster Carers Journey report and whilst it reveals that there is still a lot of progress to be made, I believe report provides us with a roadmap of your priorities. This isn't what the City of Doncaster Council thinks is important – it's what you and the people of Doncaster say is important.

This isn't merely a statement for the future; it's a commitment. I commit to championing co-produced policies that prioritise your well-being, ensuring access to the resources, training, support and breaks that carers deserve. I am committed to helping people know that they are a carer – and that you know your rights. Your unwavering dedication does not go unnoticed, and I am resolute in ensuring that all carers have a voice in the decision-making processes that shape our lives, communities, and surroundings.

I'm excited to join Bal, Debbie, and others, actively promoting co-production and working with our partners to have these priorities embraced by organisations throughout Doncaster. Your experiences and ideas are not just valued; they are indispensable. Together, let's collaboratively create a culture that supports and thrives on the active engagement of carers in shaping our shared future. Join me in making life better for all carers - of all ages, areas, backgrounds, cultures and interests – in Doncaster.

With dedication: Enthusiastically, Councillor Sarah Smith.
(Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care, City of Doncaster Council)

Bal Mohammed

I am pleased to introduce myself as the newly appointed Carers Strategic Lead, Co-chair of the Carers Strategic Oversight Board and Co-chair of the Carers Action Group at the City of Doncaster Council.

With a deep commitment to carers' welfare and personal experience as a carer, I bring a unique perspective that informs my work. Having been a carer, I understand a number of the challenges, enhancing my dedication to this role. This first-hand experience not only fuels my passion for the cause but also serves as a guiding force in shaping policies and initiatives that are not only empathetic but also practical and effective. I am eager to lead our efforts in providing comprehensive support to carers. My mission is to ensure to that carers receive the recognition, assistance, and resources that they deserve, fostering a caring and supportive environment. I am excited to collaborate with all partners, mostly importantly, carers, to make a meaningful difference in the lives of carers.

Your experiences and ideas are not just valued; they are indispensable!

Debbie Osborne

I am very pleased to be the newly elected Co-chairperson for the Carers Strategic Oversight Board and also Co-chair of the Carers Action Group.

I have been a carer for over 30 years for various members of my family and have had to navigate services in mental health, physical disabilities, social care, education, older people's, and children's services. I know how being a carer can be lonely and frustrating as well as being very rewarding. I have also worked at Doncaster Carers Centre for 25 years, firstly contacting them as a carer. I became a volunteer and I then moved on to a paid position from which I retired a few years ago. I am passionate about improving the lives of carers in Doncaster and whilst I have seen many improvements over the years, we still have a lot of work to do and I am looking forward to working with Sarah, Bal and all partners on the Carers Strategic Oversight Board and the Carers Action Group to ensure that carers receive the recognition, assistance, and resources that they need both now and in the future.

Am I a carer?

A **carer** is a person who supports someone close to them who needs extra help as they grow older, or due to a disability or health condition.

Carers are sometimes referred to as '**unpaid carers**' because they are not paid for their caring role. People who receive Carers Allowance are still unpaid carers. You are not classed as a carer if you have a paid job like a care worker or a support worker, or you work as a volunteer in a caring role.

If you support a partner, family member, friend or neighbour who relies on you for help to live their life, you are a carer.

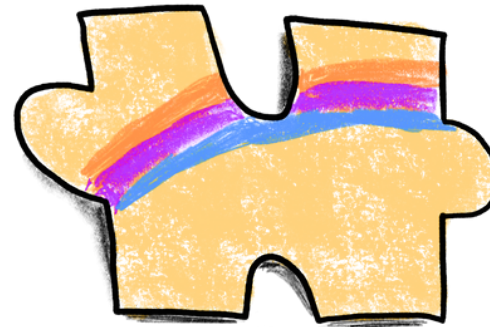
A **young carer** is a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person (of any age) with a disability, illness, mental health requirement, or use substances (e.g. drugs or alcohol). They may look after one of their parents or care for a brother or sister. They may also give a lot of physical and emotional help to a parent, brother, or sister who is disabled or ill.

A **parent carer** is someone who provides care and support to their child or adult child who has a physical, mental, or emotional disability, illness, or addiction that prevents them from living independently.

The care provided by carers is vital, as it significantly contributes to improving the wellbeing and quality of life of the people they support. Without the help and support that carers provide, many children and adults would face more challenging circumstances, and some could even be at serious risk.

Do all these pieces fit together?

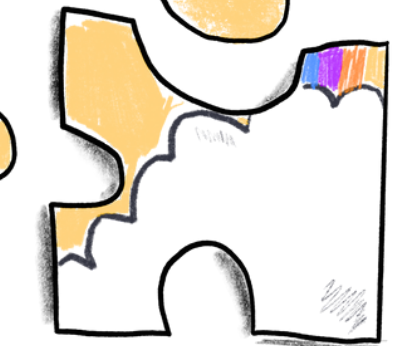
Do you spend time caring for someone, adult or child?



Does this involve support with everyday life like eating, washing, shopping, managing money, appointments etc?



Is your caring work unpaid?



Does this person need extra support due to their age, disability or a health requirement?

Identification

The All Age Carers Strategy (2022 – 2025) aims to identify carers early on, so that they can access support sooner and reduce the risk of reaching crisis point.

The strategy also helps address health disparities through health check-ups and vaccinations and allows carers to be involved in decision-making about the care they provide. Partners in health, social care, education, and housing will proactively identify carers as soon as possible and will have the ability to engage in conversations with them about their caring responsibilities.

Information technology (IT) systems will support joined up working and the clear documentation of carer identification. Furthermore, carers will be encouraged to identify themselves and register with carer support services to ensure timely access to the support they require. During the transition from being young carers to adult carers, carers will receive additional support.

“

“It wasn't until I spoke to someone from Doncaster Parent Voice at a school parents coffee morning that I realised I wasn't just my daughter's mother but also her carer (she has special educational needs due to her being Autistic, she is 9 years old).”

“

“I moved in with my nanna when my grandad died. She has Dementia and could not cope by herself. My colleague told me about Doncaster Parent Voice. I had been living with her for 18 months and the people at the DPV supported me to realise I was my nanna's carer.”

“

“I didn't class myself as a carer, I just got on with it. I married for sickness and health, and in my mind, I wasn't a carer, I was his 'wife'. It wasn't until I spoke to the the Carers Wellbeing Service they advised me that I was an unpaid carer for my husband. I care for my husband 24/7: I have looked after my husband for many years not knowing I was a carer.”

“

“If I didn't have to help at home I would like to watch TV and text my friends. My friends think it's nice that I help out at home because my mum and dad wouldn't be able to do things with me. I feel sad that my mum and dad aren't well enough to do things but I feel proud that I am there to help them.”

Progress

- The Young Carers Service have implemented training courses such as 'improving the identification and support of young carers training' which will support professionals to identify young carers.
- St Leger Homes/City of Doncaster Council's housing department created a feature on how to identify carers and the support available which was distributed to 20,000 homes across the city in order for its readers to understand/identify themselves as carers.
- RDaSH (Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust) has identified and supported staff who are also carers through their staff Wellbeing Passport and their staff supervision and PDR process.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital has added the Nursing assessment information to the Clinical system in May 2023 to facilitate identification of carers.
- Integrated Care Board has hosted the Commitment to Carers Programme "Commitment to Carers", delivered by the South Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce & Training Hub, which is part of Primary Care Doncaster's team. The Commitment to Carers Programme has provided webinars and events to help GP practices identify and code carers.



Recognition

Carers often feel unheard and underappreciated by services, such as benefits, where the carer's income is often lower than many unemployment benefits.

Better recognition means that carers are acknowledged and valued as skilled care partners, actively participating in care planning and shared decision-making processes. Young carers are recognised and supported to balance their caring roles and education.

“

When I contacted Doncaster Carers Wellbeing Service, I had no idea who or what was out there to support me. My support worker provided me with all the up-to-date information and advice to enable me to continue in my caring role, this was really helpful as I was unaware of what services were out there. They made me feel valued and recognised my worth as a carer.”

“

Being interviewed by carers/people with lived experiences was a truly empowering experience. Their warmth and hospitality created an environment allowing me to showcase my best skills and qualities”.

“

I joined Doncaster Parents Voice last year and have since been involved in co-production work with council and health services; this has made me feel valued as a parent carer.”

“

Now I am with Doncaster's Young Carers Service I do think some recognise I am a Young Carer and I get support, but I don't think school really help with it”.



Progress

- The Council have invited carers to be actively involved in the recruitment and selection process of council workers. We co-produced the job description and job advert for our Carers Strategic Lead with carers, who were also fully involved in the shortlisting and interviewing. We also involved an equal mix of senior leaders and people with lived experience in the interview panels for the recruitment of the Assistant Director – Integration and Partnerships, and two Heads of Service.
- Arrangements have been strengthened so that the Carers Wellbeing Service and the Doncaster Young Carer Service work closely together for young carers to be appropriately recognised and supported as they approach adulthood.
- The Council have expanded its training programme for managers. An example of this is the recent introduction of training to support managers to have ‘good conversations’ with council workers who are also carers.
- RDaSH (Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust) has respected and listened to carers as expert care partners and has actively involved them in their care planning and shared decision-making. The trust has also had a Carers Charter in place since 2019.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital trust has been reviewing its policies to ensure carers are recognised at all points of contact with DBTH. It has also launched its Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals Quality Strategy 2023 – 2027, which recognises patient experience and carers.

Information & advice

Carers need personalised, high-quality information and guidance to address their own needs effectively.

Better information and advice will mean that carers will have better access to timely, high-quality information and advice, designed specifically for them, presented in a clear and understandable way.

JANE'S STORY

Jane cares for her father Frank, who has Alzheimer's. He is in his late 90s and was a war veteran, a wise and witty man. But his memory and cognition have deteriorated, and getting a diagnosis and support was a struggle. Jane felt ignored and overwhelmed by the system, and had no one to share the burden with.

She contacted Doncaster Partnership for Carers (DPFC) and found a lifeline. They listened to her, advised her, and supported her. They also invited her to the Open House, where she met other carers who understood what she was going through. She found a sense of community and comfort in a time of isolation and despair.

Jane says: "DPFC was a godsend. They were the only ones who treated me like a human, not a case number. They helped me cope with the challenges of caring for my dad, and connected me with people who knew what it was like. They were my angels."

“

As a parent carer, I have found the information and advice I have received from Doncaster Parent Voice has been useful when navigating education and health services.”

“

I received an up to date information pack from the Carers Wellbeing Service in an easy read format, with details of services that are relevant to my caring requirements.”

“

They (Doncaster Carers Wellbeing Service) took the time to talk through things slowly and in a way that I could understand. I feel more confident now. I know I can contact them anytime for advice and support.”

“

The Young Carers Practitioner helps me and my family with any information that we ask for, they provide advice to help us understand our situation and quality of living.”

Progress

- The Council offers free courses to carers, including First Aid, Moving and Handling, and supporting autistic people, people living with dementia, and more. Bite-sized sessions have been conducted in collaboration with carers social groups, such as the Asian Ladies group, a mental health peer support group and more.
- The Council has improved its carers section of the website in collaboration with carers to make information and advice clearer and consistent. Doncaster Parents Voice who are a partner organisation have increased their online presence, including the popular Doncaster Autism page on Facebook (that has been accessed by carers), providing up-to-date information, advice, and guidance to carers.
- RDaSH (Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust) has launched a new 5 year clinical and organisational strategy and 28 promises, with a specific promise to carers: "Support unpaid carers in our communities and among our staff, developing the resilience of neighbourhoods to improve healthy life expectancy". (October 2023)
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital has updated its website and patient advice and liaison office to provide information and sign posting to carers organisations. The trust also includes analysis of feedback by groups including carers.
- Integrated Care Boards have offered access to digital resources and guidance to GP practices and carers through the Commitment to Carers Programme. The Commitment to Carers Programme also holds monthly strategic meetings.



Rights

Carers are not often aware of their legal entitlements.

Access to information and advice centred on their rights would provide a clear understanding of their entitlements and expectations as carers. Better rights will mean that carers are well-informed about their rights and have access to advocacy services, enabling them to confidently communicate their needs and exercise their rights.

“

I spoke to a support worker at the Carers Wellbeing Service, and they pointed me in the right direction of who to contact regarding my rights.”

“

My mum and dad have 'looked it up' and we would speak to a Young Carers Practitioner if we needed to know more.”

“

Doncaster Parent Voice hold workshops for parent carers about the rights of parents and young people these have been a source of valuable information for me and my family”



Progress

- The Council's young carers champion programme has been reintroduced, providing young carers with the opportunity to discuss and gain knowledge about their rights in the education.
- Carers Rights Day 2023 was celebrated by the Council, the Carers Wellbeing service, and carers. The event enabled carers to gain insights into their rights from multiple representatives, covering aspects such as accessing services, maintaining their health and wellbeing, and obtaining crucial information and support. A key focus of this year's occasion was to unify carers from all backgrounds to collaboratively shape the future outlook of the Carers Wellbeing Service
- RDaSH (Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust) has appointed a Deputy Director for Patient Experience and Involvement, and a new Patient Experience and Involvement Team, including an Expert by Experience Lead, who will lead strategically on their carers promise. The trust has also committed to a range of national programmes, such as the Triangle of Care, to ensure a quality and therapeutic inpatient environment for carers.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital will launch its Carers contract and relaunch John's campaign on the 26th of February 2024, to respect and uphold the rights of carers.

Connection

Most carers often prioritise the needs of the person they support over their own, delaying their own support and putting their caring responsibilities first.

To alleviate the stress of caring and enhance their understanding of the system and available support, carers often seek connections with people who share similar experiences. Engaging in conversations with people facing similar challenges provides a sense of understanding and diminishes feelings of loneliness for carers.

To better connect carers with a community of people with lived experience, carers will be supported to join local networks and groups with like-minded carers. They will receive formal support from peers to enhance their overall caring experience. Carers will be confident in articulating their opinions, communicating their lived experiences, and ensuring their voice is acknowledged. They will be recognised in the context of their family and local community and will be able to meet their own cultural and spiritual needs.

To prevent isolation, carers will sustain social connections and be provided with opportunities to engage in peer-focused support (for connection and advice).

“

The coffee mornings and family days out with Doncaster Parents Voice help me stay connected with other parents of children and young people with special educational needs / disabilities.”

“

I have put off an operation that I was in desperate need of, but I put this off due to my caring role as I didn't know what was out there, it wasn't until I had spoken to Doncaster Carers Wellbeing Service that I realised that home care and breaks were available for the person that I care for.”

“

I can't always do the things I want after school and at night because I am caring, like spending time with my friends. I would like to just go out and ride my bike, but I wouldn't see my family struggle”, (Doncaster Young Carers Service) groups help me to spend time away”.



Progress

- More carers are joining different groups, such as the Carers Action Group and a carers and autism art club. This helps carers to connect with each other better.
- The Council's partners have expanded a range of new groups available for carers. For example: Doncaster Parent Voice have initiated online coffee and chat sessions for working carers, counselling for parent carers, and a newly established walking club. These groups provide carers with opportunities to come together, exchange experiences, and build connections.
- The Council's young carers council has integrated with the youth council to incorporate young carers into the youth segment of these groups, fostering a more comprehensive overall approach.
- The Head of Patient, engagement, experience and involvement at Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital has begun making connections with local community groups to foster collaboration and support for carers.
- Integrated Care Boards have fostered collaboration and involvement of carers through the Commitment to Carers Programme, which has featured the South Yorkshire Unpaid Carers Event in June 2023 and the Carers Ambassador role.

Independence & Wellbeing

Carers require a life beyond their caring roles. It is common for them to feel as if their own identity is overshadowed by their caring role, where all discussions revolve around the person they support.

Taking time to work, learn, socialise or pursuing simple interests or enjoying simple pleasures like a peaceful bath, positively impacts the wellbeing of carers. Small measures, such as early Covid vaccinations, make a significant difference by reducing worry and supporting the physical health of carers.

This will mean that carers will have improved wellbeing and the opportunity to have a life of their own, with more opportunities for one-to-one and group support available to them. They will also have access to sufficient training and support to instil confidence in their caring roles and have equal access to substitute care for the people they support. They will also have access to impartial advice about tools and equipment to make daily living easier.

AVA'S STORY

Ava, aged 15, is a young carer for her brother and sister, who have special needs. She wakes up early every morning to help her mum care for them, and then goes to school. When she comes back, she makes tea, sorts the washing, and cleans the house. At night, she helps with bathing and bedtime, before she can do her school work or something she enjoys. She says: "Some of my friends know that I'm a young carer but only my close friends. I'm proud to be a carer as I wouldn't be the person I am today without it, caring does get me down but I know that I'm needed. I couldn't watch them struggle and looking after them makes me feel like a good person."

Progress

- The Council have developed and delivered wellbeing sessions tailored to different carers groups across the city, providing carers with opportunities to pursue hobbies and interests.
- The Council has compressed some of its carers training courses from full day to half day sessions, intending to boost carer attendance and enhance participation by providing added flexibility.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital has launched its Peoples Strategy with a focus on staff wellbeing, which also benefits carers who work for the trust.

“

My call to [Carers Wellbeing Service] was my very first as I navigated supporting my parents, and I actually opened up with 'hello, my name is XX and I don't know where to start'. Despite my vague and overwhelmed introduction, the worker was lovely: she really listened to my situation in supporting my parents, asked me about their needs, signposted me to various places, registered all the necessary details, offered to send me lots of information and was sensitive and professional listening to some of my worries and frustrations.”

“

I have joined the Carers Walking Club which gives me the chance to meet new people and keep fit at the same time.”

“

I've had fun getting to go out and meet new friends and do different things (with Doncaster Young Carers Service) we would not normally do because getting out for us is a very rare thing with my brother and his conditions.”



Key facts and figures

Source: Census, 2021

On Census Day 2021 (March 2021) there were approximately **28,130** unpaid carers in Doncaster; this equates to 9.7% of the usual resident population, aged 5 years and over.



In Doncaster, the ward with the highest percentage of people providing unpaid care was **Sprotbrough (11.0%)**

The ward with the lowest percentage was **Town (6.8%)**

Proportion of Carers who find it easy to locate information about services



Doncaster	Regional	National
51.9%	56.3%	57.7%

The percentage of people providing unpaid care was higher in females than males



11.3%
Female



8.0%
Male



There are approximately **625 young unpaid carers** aged between 5 and 17 years in Doncaster. This equates to **1.3% of 5 – 17 year olds**



Of those carers surveyed in the biannual national survey of adult carers in England 2021/2022 – the proportion of carers who find it easy to find information about services, 51.9% lower than the regional and national average.

How carers spend their time

65% stated they did not do enough with their time on things they value or enjoy and a further **29%** stated they did nothing they value or enjoy. [4% spend time doing things they value/enjoy and 2% did not respond]

These figures encapsulate the diverse experiences of carers, shedding light on the multifaceted nature of their roles and the need for support to enhance their overall wellbeing.

Support services accessed by carers

74% had accessed support services that helped them in their role as a Carer. [48% information and advice, 20% support from carers groups/talking in confidence, 5% carer training and 1% employment support]

These figures reveal the profound influence of support services on the wellbeing of carers, underscoring the vital role of personalised support.



The Proportion of Carers who report that they have been included or consulted in discussion about the person they care for **Doncaster is 65.1%** (Regional is 64.7% National is 64.7%)

21/22 - The proportion of carers who reported they had as much social contact as they would like fell to **23%** in Doncaster, as it did both nationally, to **28%** and regionally to **31%**



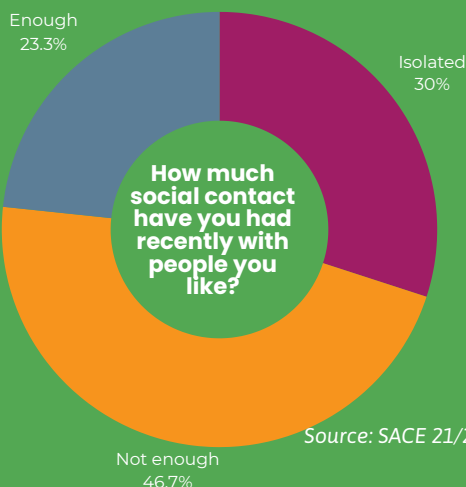
Source: SACE 21/22

9,094 Carers are entitled to Carer's Allowance in Doncaster

If you're aged 16 or over and spend at least 35 hours a week supporting someone, you may be eligible for Carer's Allowance.



End of Q4 22/23 Source: DWP



Source: SACE 21/22

Health impact on carers

Carers face various challenges, including **61%** experiencing health issues (31% worsened existing conditions, 30% developed new issues). Notably, 32% consulted a GP, and 38% endured physical strain; over **62%** faced emotional struggles, with **80%** experiencing sleep disturbances and 25% reporting a loss of appetite.

These figures highlight diverse health challenges for carers, emphasising the need for holistic support.

"SACE, A BIENNIAL SURVEY BY COUNCILS, FOCUSES ON CARERS AGED 18 OR OVER, ASSESSING THEIR OPINIONS ON LIFE BALANCE ALONGSIDE CARING. KEY TO THE DHSC AND CQC, IT EXPLORES SERVICE IMPACT ON CARERS' WELLBEING. OF 342 SURVEYED VIA CITY OF DONCASTER COUNCIL, 35% (121) RESPONDED, EMPHASISING THE CRUCIAL ROLE AND CHALLENGES FACED BY UNPAID CARERS."

Everyone's caring journey matters.

Priorities for 2024

1. Identification

- Based on carer feedback, the Council will work closely with Doncaster Healthwatch and Primary Care Networks to enhance the utilisation of GP resource packs in GP surgeries throughout the city. This aims to improve the identification of carers and provide better support.
- Health services are planning to deliver webinars for health practitioners that focus on GP resource packs, Workforce Offers from Carers UK, and Carer Ambassadors to further support the recognition of carers that access primary health care services.
- The Carers Wellbeing Service will increase its visibility by setting up pop-up stands at various community locations, including the one-stop shop at the Council's Civic offices, to make the service more accessible and responsive to the needs of the community.
- The Council are working with Carers UK towards achieving the Carer Confident Accreditation which will help staff members to identify carers better.
- Primary Care Doncaster will survey GP practices' patients and ask them how practices can remove barriers to identifying carers accurately and serve them better. They will work with Integrated Care Boards to take the findings forward.

2. Recognition

- The Council's Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care is working towards carers being recognised (locally) as a 'protected characteristic' to prevent any unfair treatment of carers and allowing them opportunities to thrive.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital will embed patient, family and carer involvement in its policies, procedures and governance, to recognise and value the contribution and expertise of carers.

3. Information & advice

- The Council will realign its communication and marketing strategy to ensure that all partners (including Carers Wellbeing Service, St Leger Homes / housing, Young Carers Service and so forth) which will enable a joined up approach in communicating key and up-to-date information and advice relating to carers.
- Doncaster's Carers and Wellbeing Service will undergo a relaunch. This involves a rebranding initiative aimed at improving the service's accessibility and visibility.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital will increase options for feedback from carers, by establishing a Carers Working Group and using various channels and methods to collect and respond to carers views and suggestions.
- Primary Care Doncaster will run patient engagement events on various topics, and devote one of them to the carers agenda. This will provide information and advice to carers and GP practices.

4. Rights

- The Council will use carers feedback (including from events such as Carers Rights Day 2023) to shape our approach and better advocate for carers' rights.
- The Council will use various communication channels, including intranet pages and newsletters, to raise awareness of carers' rights. This is in response to feedback indicating that carers and their line managers do not have a complete understanding of these rights, despite the presence of established key policies, procedures, and guidance.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital will launch its Carers contract and relaunch John's campaign, to ensure that carers are treated with dignity and respect, and have access to the support and services they need.

5. Connection

- The Council will expand opportunities for carers to access broader peer support i.e., through group sessions, social media platforms, or one-to-one connections based on shared experiences and values. This will be done through working closely with partner organisations and carers to improve access and create more networking chances.
- Doncaster Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital will hold community events with carers groups in collaboration with Health-watch and Voluntary section organisations, to increase engagement and awareness of carers issues and needs.
- Primary Care Doncaster will involve carers in how to plan primary care services going forward, by inviting them to the patient engagement events and the strategic meetings.

6. Independence & Wellbeing

- The Council will reassess the provision of recreation and leisure activities available to carers. This is based on feedback from carers who have noted that participating in such activities can provide opportunities for exercise, relaxation, and connection with nature independently. The Council will explore avenues for targeted funding to support this initiative.
- The Council will provide the 'AskSARA' service, an online tool offering advice about equipment to make daily living easier. By responding to specific questions, people, we people receive personalised suggestions for equipment and simple home modifications, creating accessibility, safety and wellbeing.



Would you like impartial advice about tools and equipment to make daily living easier?

Over 90 topics to choose from

Make life easier in three easy steps...

- 1 Choose a topic
- 2 Answer simple questions
- 3 Get tailored advice

AskSARA

AskSARA is an online tool with impartial personalised help and advice that you might find useful in your daily life.

Let's begin

Partners and Support Networks

In Doncaster, there are several Partnership Boards and networks that consist of representatives from diverse groups that draw on care and support in Doncaster. These forums empower members to actively contribute to shaping care and support tailored to specific groups.

- Carers Action Group
- Carers Strategic Oversight Board
- Making It Real Board
- DonMentia
- Commitment to Carers
- Learning Disability Partnership Board
- Autism Partnership Board
- Mentally Well Alliance
- Doncaster Parents Forum (VOICE)
- SEND Partnership Board
- Carers All Together group

If you are interested in joining or learning more about the Partnership Boards and networks in Doncaster, please visit:

YourLifeDoncaster.co.uk

Get Involved

Team Doncaster is committed to ensuring that all carers in Doncaster have a voice and are represented. By getting involved, you can help make a difference in the lives of carers in your community.

Doncaster carers have supported with identifying key priorities for 2024. To make these priorities a reality, we are seeking more people with lived experiences to get involved. This is an opportunity for you to help shape care and support across Doncaster and make a difference in the lives of carers in your community.

If you are interested in participating in the Carers Action Group, please e-mail:

Ba.Mohammed@doncaster.gov.uk 

If you are interested in finding out more information about support for carers and carers rights, please contact:

Carers' Wellbeing Service.

Website: morningspace.co.uk/doncastercarers-wellbeing-service

Email: DoncasterCarers.WellbeingService@morningspace.co.uk

Telephone: 01302 986 900





You care.



We care.

www.doncaster.gov.uk/CarersJourney

