

COUNTY COUNCIL CARER SUPPORT FUNDING CHANGES – 13June 2019

Nottinghamshire County Council have been looking at ways of using their budget for carer support to support those with the greatest need. The Carers' Council have a number of its committee and other members involved in a working group to help the Council with their plans.

NEW CARERS SUPPORT OFFER PRINCIPLES

The new approach the Council will take is to provide 3 levels of support for carers based on some principles which are intended to use an integrated approach to developing and delivering services, considering all support available including wider community resources as well as those services directly delivered or commissioned by the Council. The principles are:

1. make use of existing resources, including carers' own capacity for supporting each other, and provide opportunities to share experiences.
2. help carers to navigate a complex health and social care system to better understand and meet the needs of the person that they care for and to plan for the future, including planning for a crisis.
3. consider carer's own wellbeing and life aspirations and enable carers to access activities or resources to promote this.
4. use a personalised approach to assessment and support planning.
5. consider the varying situations and requirements of all family carers at differing stages of life with different health and social care needs.

THE CARERS SUPPORT OFFER

This is a new model that outlines a different way of supporting carers based on their level of need rather than a standard payment. A carer's discussion with the Council will depend on what the carer wants and will focus on how best to support the carer there and then and what they need for the future. A three tier approach will mean funding will be focussed more towards those with greater need.

- **Tier 1 – Help to help yourself – Information and advice** – Tier 1 focuses on information and advice with carers having their needs met on that first contact. Carers might come back to this point as and when further information, advice and support is needed.
- **Tier 2 – Help when you need it – short term interventions.** Tier 2 focuses on providing further short term help to carers when they need it. In addition to information and advice, it could be that a carer would benefit from some face to face support or equipment or a therapy referral is needed. Support could be provided by a 'Carers Hub' or other forms of Council Adult support teams.
- **Tier 3 – Ongoing help – Long term support with ongoing review.** Tier 3 is aimed at additional support for carers who need ongoing long term help in order to live their lives and continue in their caring role and would include assessment, support planning and review. It may also include

support for the cared-for through a range of other services such as carer direct payments or access to respite care.

The intention is to make the process simple; that it works well; and is as flexible as possible to ensure carers and their families don't get lost in different systems. It is early days yet for the new services and a lot of detail about how the new systems will work has to be developed. Carers will be involved in giving views and working with the Council to develop services that will meet a whole range of needs.