

Southwark Council and NHS Southwark CCG Joint Carers Strategy 2013 – 2016 - Pledges

Set out below are the pledges that Southwark council and NHS Southwark CCG will be undertaking along with key strategic partners, such as the voluntary and community sector, to support carers in the borough and ensure that they have a life outside of their caring role. These pledges have been developed in response to the engagement programme completed following the publication of the draft carers strategy in July 2013. Over the next 3 years we will ensure that these pledges are delivered and that the outcomes achieved are monitored and any improvements required put in place. There is a more detailed version of this plan which can be viewed here:

Priority area	How carers will benefit	Timescales	Lead agencies
<p>Developing an outreach programme</p> <p>To ensure that carers are reached at an early stage so they know about the services and support available and are able to make choices about what help they receive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will work with key health and social care professionals and the voluntary and community sector so that all carers including young carers are aware of the services that are available and are able to access support through a range of methods and approaches. We will ensure that carers are able to access the support they need through GP's and hospitals. This will include developing a carer register by GP's and the recruitment of carers health development workers. We will ensure that there is much greater awareness of the role and needs of young carers amongst health, social care and education professionals 	April 2015	LBS / SCCG
<p>Ensuring carers have access to information and advice</p> <p>To provide carers with the necessary information and advice so that they are fully informed about the caring role and their rights as a carer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will improve access to information for carers about services, the conditions they manage and their rights, developing a range of approaches and methods to ensure they have the information they need. This will include training and education and online information We will ensure that there is much greater awareness of the role and needs of carers including young carers amongst health, social care and education professionals We will ensure that carers are able to exercise greater choice and control about the services that they receive by improving access to mainstream services, ensuring a robust and quality assured assessment, support plan and review process, developing and implementing a policy on carer budgets, personal budgets (both health and social care) and enabling access to training, education and work opportunities 	April 2015	LBS / SCCG

<p>Health and wellbeing programme</p> <p>To support carers to look after their own health and wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We aim to improve access to services that can support the mental and physical health of carers such as access to counselling, health checks at GP surgeries and access to mainstream services • We want to enable carers to have a life outside of the caring role, whether that is to participate in leisure activities, or to return to training, education or the workplace • We want carers to have access to services that offer them support and peace of mind such as telecare 	<p>April 2015</p>	<p>LBS / SCCG</p>
<p>Emergency response services</p> <p>To ensure that carers are able to access the support that they need in an emergency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will ensure that carers know where they can get support when there is an emergency • We will ensure that services understand the role of carers and can respond to their needs in an emergency 	<p>April 2015</p>	<p>LBS / SCCG</p>
<p>Young carers programme</p> <p>To support young carers so that they can have the same life experiences as their peers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will work closely with young carers to design support services that reflect their needs and reach out to young carers across the borough 	<p>April 2015</p>	<p>LBS / SCCG</p>
<p>Short breaks provision</p> <p>To ensure carers are able to take a break from their caring role through the provision of short breaks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will ensure that carers have access to flexible approaches to short and longer breaks that allow them to have a life outside of their caring role 	<p>April 2015</p>	<p>LBS / SCCG</p>
<p>Policy development and alignment</p> <p>To work to align the policies of the council and the NHS to reflect the needs and aspirations of carers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will ensure that our services and policies are designed and evaluated by carers so that their needs and aspirations are met as far as possible • We will ensure that health and social care services are joined up and ensure that the role of the carer is fully recognised and that the transition from childhood to adulthood is fully supported 	<p>April 2016</p>	<p>LBS / SCCG</p>