

Dudley carers hub

Preparing for your carers assessment factsheet

This factsheet has been put together to help you prepare for your carers assessment.

It is always helpful if you have considered your caring role, the impact it has on your life and relationships and what help and information you feel you need to make your caring role easier, prior to the assessment.

Please let us know before your assessment if you feel you may need help to communicate your wishes and feelings, so we can arrange support.

Where will the assessment take place?

Your assessment can take place either over the telephone or face to face depending on your needs and wishes. If face to face is preferred, the assessment can take place in your home; at the Dudley carers hub in Dudley, or an agreed location in the community (such as Brierley Health and Social Care Centre).

You are a carer if you provide regular, unpaid care to a family member, friend or neighbour, whether you are a child, parent or adult.



Supporting people who care for a family member or friend



What is discussed at the assessment?

During your assessment your allocated worker will talk to you about;

- what kind of support the person you care for needs
- what care and support you are providing
- how this is impacting on your own health and daily life
- whether you are able to provide the support
- what might improve your situation

You will have an opportunity to discuss any worries or concerns you may have and any concerns you may have about the future.

The worker can explain some of the different support options available and help you access the right support so you can carry on in your caring role (if that is what you want).

What happens after the assessment?

Following your carers assessment we will be able to provide you with information on:

- how to access care and support
- local carer support groups and activities
- emergency planning
- how to obtain financial advice and support
- how to access preventative services
- signposting to voluntary and health services

Also following your assessment, a decision will be made as to whether you have eligible needs using the national carers eligibility threshold (please see our carers national eligibility threshold factsheet). If you do have eligible needs your worker will work with you to see how these needs can be met, this will usually involve developing a support plan, which will:

- identify which of your needs are eligible for support
- identify the outcomes you wish to achieve
- provide information on how your needs can be met
- provide information about personal budgets which may be available to you

The type of support offered may include:

- support provided directly to the person you care for if they consent; such as referral to preventative and community services / home care support / respite / direct payments

If your needs cannot be met through the provision of support to the person you care for, the local authority may support you through:

- a directly provided service, including preventative services,
- support from external providers such as voluntary organisations and charities
- a carers direct payment to enable you to achieve your identified outcomes, if your needs cannot be met through the above. (NOTE: A carer's direct payment CANNOT be used to purchase replacement care for the person you are caring for).

If you do not have any eligible needs, your worker will still be able to provide information, advice and guidance on services and support available to you and the person you care for.

Remember

The assessment is a discussion of your needs, not a test of how well you care.

You are entitled to a carer's assessment even if the person you care for refuses help.

You can go to our web site for more information see below

If you have any questions before your assessment please contact the person that has arranged the assessment appointment.

Get in touch

Pop in and see us at the hub between 9.30am and 3pm or ring to book an appointment (evening appointments available)

Queens Cross Network, Wellington Road, Dudley, DY1 1RB

Call us on 01384 818723

email us at carers.network@dudley.gov.uk

www.dudley.gov.uk/carers

