



The New Carers Act – *How does it affect me?*

What is the new Carers Act?

It is really important that you are aware of what new changes the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 are bringing in from **1 April 2018** which will affect all unpaid carers of all ages. These changes may affect you now, in the future, or someone you may know. This is a new piece of law that introduces a new way of carrying out carers assessments. There is also a new duty on your local authority to give better support to carers to carry on caring if they want to.

What is an unpaid carer?

It has been widely recognised that carers provide a vital contribution to society. An unpaid carer is someone who looks after, or intends to look after, someone else without being paid to do so. The person they look after may have an illness, disability, mental health problem, or a substance misuse problem. A carer can be a child or an adult.

What changes might affect me?

1. The carers assessments will be replaced by **Adult Carers Support Plans** for adult carers, and **Young Carers Statements** for young carers still at school.
2. In these new assessments, you and your support worker (or another appropriate professional) will agree on your **needs** as a carer and your **personal outcomes**.
3. Perth & Kinross Council has a duty to draw up a **local carers eligibility criteria** framework. This is a framework which your support worker and you will use to agree on the **level of support** you should be given to meet your needs and outcomes.

How will the level of support be determined?

Perth & Kinross Council has a duty to support a carer who has significant support needs. The impact or risk of caring on the carer will be 'high' or 'critical'. This means the council must provide support to the carer.

Perth & Kinross Council has the power to support a carer who has some support needs. The impact or risk of caring on the carer will be 'low' or 'moderate'. This means the council can use its power to provide support where support is needed.

Why should I get involved?

Perth & Kinross has a duty to set the local carers eligibility criteria framework before 1 April 2018. We are running a consultation on this framework from **30 October 2017 to 11 December 2017**. This gives you a vital opportunity to have a say on the changes that may affect you and the support you get as a carer in Perth & Kinross before the framework is set.

We invite you to give us your views on the framework. You may view the framework and take part in the consultation by visiting:
www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SupportForCarersConsultation

If you would prefer to obtain a hard copy of the consultation paper, please contact us or attend one of our consultation drop-in events.

Your views will play an essential role in shaping the framework and ensuring it is effective. All responses to the consultation will be taken into account after the consultation closing date and will tell us whether you are happy with the draft framework, or if there are things that needs to be reviewed.



Have Your Say Now!

As part of the legal requirements of the new Carers (Scotland) Act 2016, which will come in force on 1 April 2018, Perth & Kinross Council is consulting on the upcoming changes to the support given to carers. Your input will help inform the framework relating to the support that will be given to carers.

The consultation will run from 30th October 2017 and will close on 11th December 2017.

To take part in the consultation, please visit
www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SupportForCarersConsultation

We are also running a number of informal drop-in events around Perth & Kinross for you to obtain a copy of the consultation paper and to have a chat about any questions you may have about the consultation or the new Carers Act.

1

10am – 12noon, Monday 6th November
Loch Leven Campus, Lathro,
KINROSS KY13 8SY

5

11am – 3pm, Friday 17th November
Crieff Community Hospital, Kings Street,
CRIEFF, PH7 3HR

2

2pm – 4:30pm, Tuesday 7th November
PKAVS, The Gateway, North Methven
Street, PERTH PH1 5PP

6

10am – 1pm, Thursday 23rd November
PKAVS, The Gateway, North Methven
Street, PERTH PH1 5PP

3

9am – 12noon, Thursday 9th November
Rattray Community Hall, Balmoral Road,
Rattray, BLAIRGOWRIE PH10 7AB

7

11am – 3pm, Wednesday 29th November
Aberfeldy Health Centre, Taybridge Road,
ABERFELDY PH15 2BH

4

9:30am – 3:30pm, Thursday 16th November
Carers Conference (*pre-booking required*)*
Dewars Centre, Glover Street, Perth, PH2 0TH

8

1pm – 4pm, Tuesday 5th December
PKAVS, The Gateway, North Methven
Street, PERTH PH1 5PP

For more information about the consultation or to receive a copy in the post, please contact:
Christine Tse at christine.tse@pkavs.org.uk or 01738 567076.

*To book your place at the Carers Conference on 16th November, please contact:
Marlena Nowaczyk at Marlena.nowaczyk@pkavs.org.uk or 01738 567076.