



Our Carers' Strategy on a page

Our Carers' Strategy is a public commitment that sets out how the Trust will work together with our local population to improve the role of carers . It is based upon the views of carers, patients and staff themselves.

Who is a carer?

A carer is a person who provides unpaid care or support for a partner, parent, child, sibling, family, friend or neighbour who has a disability or long-term health condition they can be of any age. Carers are not always recognised for the support that they provide.

What do we want to achieve ?

We want to value the important role of carers and aim to support them better to provide the best care they can and help them balance their caring responsibilities with their life as well as maintaining their personal health and wellbeing .

We will do this by ...

- Treating carers with dignity & compassion & recognise the issues they face
- Respecting the role of the carer and recognising their needs & involving them
- Being better at identifying , valuing and working with carers including colleagues who are carers
- Increasing staff awareness of the carer's role and the impact this has on patients, families, friends and colleagues
- Developing policies and decisions that take into consideration the needs of carers
- Developing a Bridgewater Carer Charter
- Providing Carers with more information to support them in their role
- Including the voice of the carer in our patient records
- Celebrating the role of carers during National Carers week
- Publishing and promoting our commitment to carers
- Ensuring that the needs of carers are recognised in relevant Trust policy and decision making
- Carer awareness training available to all staff
- Include importance of carers into Trust clinical induction
- Work alongside our partner health and social care providers to provide a more joined up approach to meeting carers needs
- Involving carer organisations in service planning and development groups