

Carers Network

The focus since April 2023

January 2024

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Chair of the Regional Carers Network



General feedback from people at the 2022/23 event -what's going well and not so well from 2022

What worked well?

- Sitting services have been available
- Services that are not just Monday to Friday 9-5 (needs to continue)
- There was more support in relation to mental health but for the person being looked after
- Information and support from local carers organisations was good – varied online support
- Good connections and information during the pandemic
- Peer support a lifeline

What could be even more effective?

- Not enough Mental Health Support for Carers
- Services were not available for the full range of ages – people can fall through the net if they don't fit
- More support and investment needed from councils into local voluntary services
- Good balance between virtual and in person support required
- More advice post college/prior to work
- Early identification of carers and delivery of personalised accessible information as soon as possible



What have we been focusing on in 2023?

- New chair of the carers network commenced in June 2023
- Meetings generally every 6-8 weeks
- Well attended by regional leads and representation from Carers Organisations, Carers and health partners
- Continue to learn from **data and influence national collections**/reports
- Continue to share practice and learn from one another in relation to **CQC assurance and improving support to unpaid carers** - [See here](#)
- Understanding and responding to “No Wrong Doors” – **supporting younger carers**
- Joining up work on **transitions from Children’s to Adult social care** – learning from the Carers Trust and regional SEND work – more to do
- Learn from the **yearly regional challenge** event – No significant issues raised this year
- Focus on listening and responding to people (**Co-production**)
Over a Brew - [See here](#)
Regional report - [See here](#)
- Focus on **improving information and advice** for people for example work closely with Mobilise and have a number of pilot sites in the East of England
- **Shared practice in relation to carers breaks** regionally and also joined a national webinar to learn more which has helped us shape local practice
- Signed up to the **national carers challenge** - [See here](#)
- Supporting the **Accelerate Reform programme** which is focused on innovation and has four areas in relation to carers - [See here](#)
- **Carers Annual event** (running since 2021) – planning for today

Already on
forward view
for next
meeting
(February
24)

- Explore forward view following today's event
- Sharing work in relation to Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and learning from people and communities in order to shape future services
- Learning and reflections from safeguarding concerns in relation to carers
- Building on work to ensure improvement to transitions

